

Dangerous Words

When responding to a complaint, be careful on how you choose to address it.

Do not say...

- It's just teasing – no big deal.
- No one in our school would ever do that.
- I know he / she didn't mean anything like that.
- It's your fault for dressing so provocatively.
- You need to learn to handle these things.
- Just ignore it.
- He puts his arms around everyone.
- Why can't you learn to accept a compliment?
- You must have wanted it, otherwise you would have told him no.
- That's how they do things where he comes from.
- It's just a joke. Lighten up.
- No one's filed a charge so our hands are tied.
- We've never had a complaint, so we don't have a problem.
- This kind of behavior is all part of growing up.
- It's a matter of hormones, we can't control that.
- If we had to discipline every student who used bad language we'd never get anything else done.
- It's just a prank that got out of hand.
- Oh well, boys will be boys.