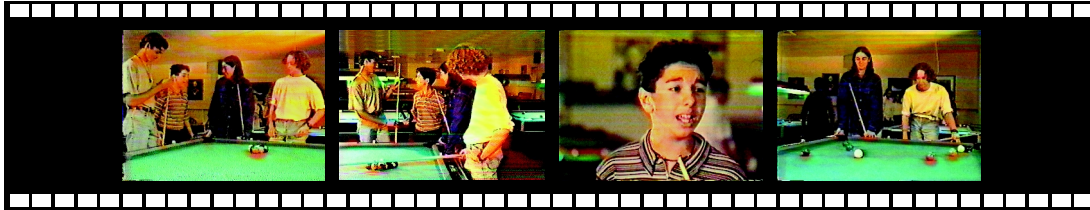


## Hard Time

**Approach:** One to one

**Level:** Year 8 only

**Resources:** Video of a shorter boy who wants to play pool with taller boys.



"I'm really good now."

"You really want to play?"

"Yeah."

"Here hold onto this, its the rack, its a really important part of the game."

"Listen kid, if you really want to play you've to be at least higher than the cue." "That doesn't really matter."

"You've got to be at least as high as the pool table."

"Come on guys, don't you need four to play?"

"We need four, not three and a half."

"Tomorrow bro, maybe if you get out of that hole in the ground you can come play with us."

Questions/instructions	% responses
Sometimes people are given a hard time by others because they are different. This video shows an example.	18
<b>Show video</b>	
One boy in this group was given a hard time because he was different.	
1. How might people feel when they are given a hard time because they are different?	
2. <b>Why</b> do some people like to give those who are different a hard time?	
to feel superior by putting down	35
being "cool"	33
for fun / entertainment	27
to annoy / hurt other person	7
lack of awareness	3
3. If you were being given a hard time, what might you do to help solve the problem, so that you wouldn't be made to feel really bad or unhappy? Try to think of 3 different things you could do.	
As the student says each strategy, write it down in the recording book (abbreviated where appropriate). Where 2 or more ideas are given as one, suggest that they be written separately.	
ignore / avoid	86
negotiate / be assertive	56
tell others	54
be aggressive	21
improve skills	8

Questions/instructions	% responses
4. I want you to look at the things you've said and I want you to choose the one you would try.	18
ignore / avoid	57
negotiate / be assertive	17
tell others	13
be aggressive	7
all other responses	6
<b>Tick the chosen strategy.</b>	
5. Do you think it would work?	
6. Why?/Why not?	
not reported here	
<b>Commentary</b>	
A very substantial proportion of year 8 students see putdowns as serving the function of entertaining or status enhancing for the perpetrators. The preferred strategy for dealing with putdowns is to ignore them or try to avoid the situations where they are most likely to occur.	