



BELGIUM

TITLE: "Bullying"

CREATOR: Matt Mahurin

COUNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Artists' collection, California, USA



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

The older (taller) girl is threatening the younger girl.

You can see the older girl is the bully because she has tight fists. It seems that the older girl has driven the younger girl with verbal aggression towards the edge of a cliff.

The shades show that there are at least 5 bystanders

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

This illustration leaves no doubt: you can see clearly there is a bullying action happening here!

It is difficult not to see the anger and the consequences.

The victim is literally driven to the edge...

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

You immediately feel compassion for the young girl, and would like to save her from falling down.

It's hard to tell whether the older girl was forced to do this by other bullies in the back (the shades) or that she really is the bully herself. The tight fists would define she actually is mean.

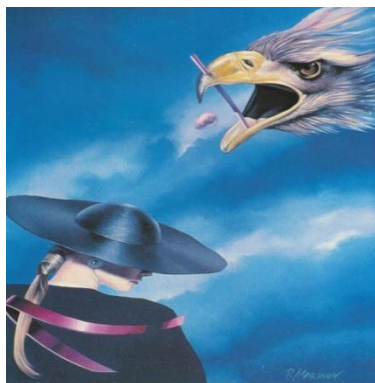


BULGARIA

TITLE: "Birds of prey"

CREATOR: Petyo Marinov

COYNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Varna, Bulgaria



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

The picture represents the endless fight between the good and the evil. The young woman shows kindness and purity. She is beautiful and humble. On the other hand, a bird of prey is depicted which directs aggressively to the woman.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

The bird is ready to attack but its intention is frustrated. It makes a threat presented by the falling stone but is not capable of any more serious actions because its beak is stuck. The woman is protected – her hat presents this idea.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

The picture is colourful and the images are clearly drawn. It makes you feel a bit scared at first but then you realize there is always something stronger than the aggressor, which can stop it.

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

We chose this picture because it was made by an artist from Varna. This summer, when he was 65, he had a big exhibition in our town, which was placed in an old closed restaurant in the sea garden. Most of his pictures are vivid and he often uses images of animals to show human relations.



FINLAND

TITLE: "The Wounded Angel", 1903

CREATOR: Hugo Simberg (1873-1917)

COUNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Finland, Ateneum Art Museum, Helsinki



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

Two sullen-looking boys are carrying an angel dressed in white on a stretcher between them. There is a badge over the angel's eyes and one of the wings is injured. When the symbolist painter Hugo Simberg displayed the painting for the first time, there was simply a long dash instead of a title. His intention was clearly to leave room for different interpretations.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

We can only guess what has happened to the angel, but most probably she has been the victim of both physical and verbal bullying. The two boys carrying the angel on a stretcher between them could be seen as upstanders helping a friend, but on the other hand they look very guilty and might have been bystanders witnessing the bullying and not giving a helping hand until later.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

We feel sad for the wounded angel and wonder what might have happened to her. We were also wondering about the role of the two boys; they definitely look guilty. However, there is a hint of optimism in the picture as the angel is carrying a bunch of flowers in her hand, which could be interpreted as a symbol of recovery.

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

Hugo Simberg is a well-known artist in Finland and this painting was voted Finland's best-loved work of art in 2006. We think this painting is intriguing because there are as many interpretations as there are viewers.



GERMANY

TITLE: "Pieta"

CREATOR: Käthe Kollwitz

COUNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Berlin – Germany



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

A seated, cross-legged woman envelops the body of a child. The limp child, head tipped far back, is clutched to the figure we assume is the mother. Her features are mostly hidden by the child's body-except we see one closed eye and her nose nestled into his skin. Also visible are her expressive eyebrows, which silently communicate her explosive feelings. With her strong arms-especially a strong, thick hand-she draws the child toward her even more tightly. Her embrace is all-consuming. The mother's muscular leg forms the base of the monolithic shape that confronts the viewer. Most of the lines the artist uses to shape and shade the forms are aggressive, taut and meaningful, contributing energy to the surface. As a bit of relief from the overall grief.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

This etching is one of a series of drawings, charcoals, and etchings titled "Woman with Dead Child," all produced in 1903. Kollwitz began the series with works she called "Pieta"-Mary mourning her dead son. The subject Kollwitz focused on, the mother mourning for the dead child, is not based on any direct life experience: "Great piercing sorrows have not struck me yet" she wrote in her diary (The Diary and Letters of Käthe Kollwitz, Northwestern University Press, Evanston, 1988), but she was not to escape "great piercing sorrows" much longer. Her son Peter, who at age seven posed for the dead child in this etching, was killed in World War I at the age of twenty-one and a grandson, Peter, was killed in World War II.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

It makes me get strong emotional feelings and motivates me to help ...

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

It's strongly related to our history.



GREECE

TITLE: "On a burnt piano"

CREATOR: Vasilis Alexandrou

COUNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: North Greece, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki.



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

This piece of art is very innovative and relevant to the subject of bullying because of the creative idea of the artist. He used the elements of a burnt piano in a music hall after the attack of fanatic demonstrators as elements for a new piece of art, that will show the power and the greatness of art. So, he created a sculpture, which is now exhibited in the building of Macedonian University in Thessaloniki, North Greece.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

Vandalism is a powerful form of bullying against society and its values. Breaking your peer's personal belongings does not differ much from the destruction of a piano belonging to an educational establishment. It makes us think that if bullying is not dealt with successfully in early years, it can deteriorate.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

We felt sorrow, anger, shock, wonder. We also admired it because it reminds us that art is not only something material but it is more a spiritual, holy element that can inspire every person and culture all over the world. This makes us feel very optimistic.

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

The burnt piano and its story symbolizes for us the timeless and deeply humanitarian power of art -especially music- that like a phoenix can be reborn from its own ashes and it gives a clear message: culture and art can win over hatred, bullying and violence.



ITALY

TITLE: " Card players"

CREATOR: Michelangelo Merisi (Caravaggio) 1595 Italy

COYNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Kimbell Art Museum-Fort Worth (Texas)



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

In this painting, the players are engaged in a game of "primero", a forerunner of poker. Engrossed in his cards on the left is the dupe, unaware that the older cardsharp signals his accomplice with a raised, gloved hand (the fingertips exposed, better to feel marked cards). On the right, the young cheater looks expectantly toward the boy and reaches behind his back to pull a hidden card from his breeches.

- **What made you like it so much?**

Caravaggio has treated this subject not as a caricature of vice but in a novelistic way, in which the interaction of gesture and glance evokes the drama of deception and lost innocence in the most human of terms

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

Choosing a painting that can describe "bullying" was very difficult for us, because actually there are a lot of masterpieces about this topic, but, incredible to say, none of them are made by an Italian author! But, fortunately, there is an Italian painter who was a very bully: Angelo Merisi (well known as Caravaggio 1571-1610): he was a violent man and, in the last years of his life, he was persecuted because he had killed a man during a brawl. His being a "bully" allowed him to paint his wonderful masterpieces where he represented his desperation and sadness.



POLAND

TITLE: "The Battle Of Grunwald"

CREATOR: Jan Matejko

COUNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Poland, National Museum in Warsaw



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

In this image I can see what the battle of Grunwald in 1410 looked like. This battle was fought between the Teutonic knights and the Polish-Lithuanian Kingdom. In this battle The Polish-Lithuanian Kingdom won. Władysław Jagiełło was a Polish king who commanded the army.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

We all know the battle is full of violence. In this event a lot of soldiers died and above all, soldiers from Teutonic order. The Polish-Lithuanian Kingdom also suffered a loss, less than Teutonic order. The painting shows how cruel and horrible violence is. We can see a lot of suffering, death and fear.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

When I am looking at this image I feel anger for these people. It's sad that people want to kill each other, no matter what reasons. I think it was a very bloody battle. It shows callousness and brutality of people.

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

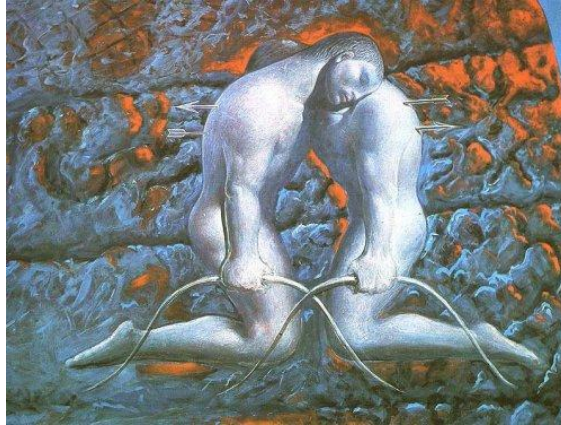
I like this image because it shows an important battle of my country, Poland. Also, this image was painted by a Pole. This man perfectly showed us the outline of the battle of Grunwald.

ROMANIA

TITLE: "The warriors"

CREATOR: Sabin Balasa

COUNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Military Museum, Bucharest, Romania



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

Sabin Bălașa's painting takes us into a fantastic world, full of metaphors. With a touch of romance, his creation tries "to bring the past and future together", dealing with topics inspired by legends and history. His art is crossed by the myths of life and death, childhood and youth, the fear and terror of disaster and the hope for revival, the creative human force and the mysterious power of the universe. In the center of his creation, there lies the poetry and the fabulous, not only through the topic addressed by the artist, but also by the way of painting.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

In our opinion, this painting suggests putting an end to all violent acts between people and it is a call to peace and understanding.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

Blue, the colour which dominated Bălașa's creations, had a powerful significance for the artist: "It represents us, the people who managed to get in space." Ultramarine blue uniformly and homogeneously spread on his canvases makes us think about a world without ending, from another galaxy. The fantastic world he proposes is "populated by strange beings with cold beauty", especially female characters of inaccessible beauty.

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

We believe that this painting is representative for Romanian contemporary art, a strong urge to peace, understanding, cooperation, friendship.



SPAIN

TITLE: " Cain and Abel"

CREATOR: Tiziano Vecellio-Titian

COUNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Santa Maria della Salute, Venice



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1542-44, oil on canvas, 298 x 282 cm

- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

Titian executed three ceiling paintings (Sacrifice of Isaac, Cain and Abel, David and Goliath) for the ceiling of the church Santo Spirito in Isola (now they are in the sacristy of Santa Maria della Salute in Venice). These paintings are characterized by the spiraling movement of the figures, the counterpoised poses and the strong intersecting diagonals. In these canvases we see Titian's Mannerism at its height.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

The artwork clearly show the fight for the power, the envy, the violence among peers, as they were brothers.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

It makes us think that violence has always existed, from ancient times... and it really made us feel a bit pessimistic...will all this finish? It also made us think of Religions that forgive this kind of sins, how, in a way, cannot they be part of the problem. " I can be guilty, I am human...so I can be forgiven"

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

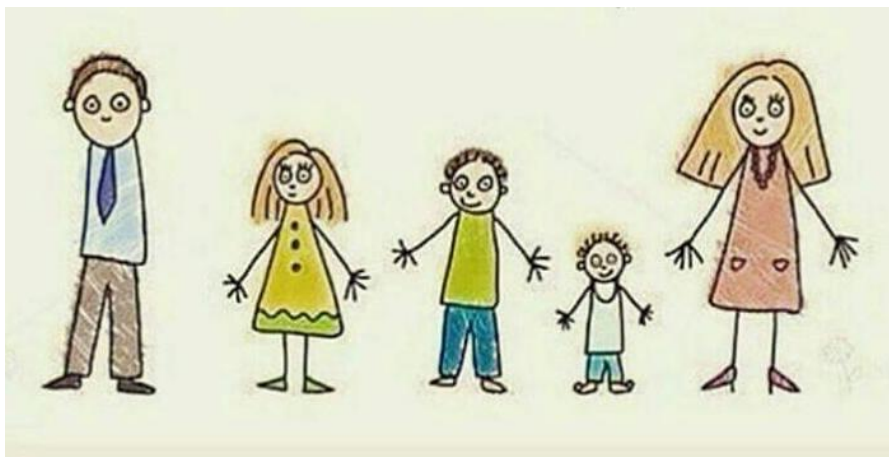
Because it represents the fight in its most absolute cruelty

TURKEY

TITLE: "Family picture"

CREATOR: Primary School Student, Mehmet

COYNTRY AND LOCATION OF DISPLAY: Turkey



- **Describe the work of art giving some information for its background.**

Teacher wants Ss to draw a picture and Mehmet draws a happy family picture but he doesn't draw the mouth and arms of his dad, as his dad used to swear and beat his mom.

- **How does it relate to the issues of bullying, isolation, discrimination or violence?**

Daily life events reflect our psychological mood.

- **Describe different emotions you have when you see this work of art.**

We got so sad and speechless when we saw this picture and read the story about that.

- **Why did you choose this piece to represent your country? What made you like it so much?**

We chose it because it shows what is inside of us.