Spreading hate, fear, pain, harm vs. just joking? Who’s Laughing?

1. Are the words, looks, gestures, jokes, actions or rumours something you would...
   ♦ Welcome?
   ♦ Want?
   ♦ Enjoy?
   ♦ Invite?
   ♦ Like repeated?
   ♦ Have to pretend to enjoy?

2. Are the words, looks, gestures, jokes, actions, rumours used to...
   ♦ Show respect?
   ♦ Make someone feel better?
   ♦ Encourage or support?
   ♦ Compliment?
   ♦ Empower, praise and honour? ..... OR....

3. Do the words, looks, gestures, actions, jokes, rumours ....
   ♦ Putdown, trash & hurt?
   ♦ Humiliate & embarrass?
   ♦ Degrade, demean & devalue?
   ♦ Mock, shame & belittle?
   ♦ Cause stress, worry & fear?
   ♦ Threaten, torment & terrorize?
   ♦ Shun & exclude?
   ♦ Spread hate, stereotypes, or untruths about people who are not like you?

4. If a person has to pretend to enjoy what’s being said or done to him or her, that person is being abused. Abuse violates a person’s human rights.

5. If you said YES to any in #3, you maybe seeing, hearing, experiencing or spreading hate. All of these violate a person’s human rights.

6. Schools and employers are required by law to protect the human rights of all students, school employees, visitors or volunteers. If necessary, legal action may be taken. [See LDSB Human Rights Policies AP214, AP 139, AP139A]

Meri Marja-terttu MacLeod, Human Rights Education Advisor
Limestone District School Board
LeadStaff: STEP UP Action to Refuse Violence