

Dear S.E.Hinton in 3-4 grade I was struggling with bullying issues like I could not come to school without the expectation of getting pushed around by other students that often times said they were in a gang kind of like the greasers and the socs in your book "The Outsiders" and for the longest time I felt vengeful and angry but then I read your novel "The Outsiders" and as I read chapter after chapter I began to realize what is truly going on in these lives. I stopped being so hateful against them in fact I personally went to see the conditions they are living in damage to the houses, rats all over the place and on some of their parents are bragging about their drug issues immediately I felt more sympathy I started to participate in more charity organizations and nonprofits and soon I would run for the 6th grade student council and get elected to represent my grade and even some of the kids that were members of the gangs.

The rest of the student council and I would make many events to help the students that struggle with poverty and drugs because it wasn't their choice to get into gangs, that is their way of survival. Even still I get upset when they say something mean or punch me but now I know that these students aren't bullying other kids because they think it is fun but because we have more than them. I hope in the future we can all have the comfort of having a full stomach and being able to pay the rent and even the simple things like having enough money to buy possibly the most simple things such as clothes for the winter. Thank you for helping me understand this.

sincerely-Alden M. Hartpence.