

## A Five is Against the Law by Kari Dunn Baron

This shows the scale found in the 5 is Against the Law book. It is often difficult for some youth to understand the different expectations in different settings. Review the descriptions. Are they clear? What details are highlighted that might help a person understand? How could you use this scale for self-management?

5

**Physically hurtful or threatening behavior.** These are behaviors that are against the law. For example, hitting someone or grabbing them in a private place. You will get fired from a job, suspended from school and maybe even go to jail if you engage in these behaviors.

4

**Scary Behavior.** This could include swearing or staring. You would probably get fired from a job for this behavior or suspended from school. This behavior could also end up being against the law.

3

**Odd Behavior.** This behavior could make other people uncomfortable. It might include sitting too close to someone or putting your face too close to someone who wasn't expecting it. It could also include showing up at a party you weren't invited to. You might get fired from a job because this behavior makes other people nervous. This is not against the law.

2

**Reasonable Behavior.** This type of behavior is like going to a party you have been invited to and talking appropriately to someone you know. It might be playing a game with someone, working with someone in a group at school or eating lunch with someone. People are enjoying each other's company at this level. This is where people get to know each other better.

1

**Very Informal Social Behavior.** This is like waving to someone or smiling at someone in the hallway at school. If you just say "Hi" and keep on walking it is also a 1. This is totally OK and is the way most people first notice each other.