

THE HEIGHT OF INANITY

"But why do they want to intimidate you?" [3GAB]

Bullying is nothing new.

Amid the latest anti-bullying campaigns, it's instructive to note humans have been dealing with bullies and aggressive behavior since our earliest days.

Even in the animal kingdom, we see instances of alpha male behavior and even exclusion of some weaker members of tribes by certain groups.

A quick glance at the Sherlock Holmes Canon will turn up any number of mentions of bullies:

- *Ronder was remembered as "A huge bully of a man" and "a coward as well as a bully." [VEIL]*
- *"A more perfect compound of the bully, coward, and sneak than Master Silas Brown I have seldom met with" was how Holmes referred to a suspect. [SILV]*
- *Moriarty was perhaps even more intimidating than a bully, as his conversational style had "a conviction of sincerity which a mere bully could not produce," according to Holmes. [FINA]*
- *Jack Woodley was "a dreadful person, a bully to everyone else," according to Violet Smith. [SOLI]*

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"But why do they want to intimidate you?" [3GAB] (continued)

- *When cornered by a victim, Charles Augustus Milverton, one of the greatest bullies-by-blackmailing London knew, countered with a weak and eventually ineffective "Don't imagine that you can bully me." [CHAS]*
- *When instructed one of his officers may have allowed a citizen into a crime scene, Inspector Lestrade demonstrated his authority: "a few moments later his bullying voice sounded from the back room." [SECO]*
- *Very effective at keeping visitors away, Colonel Emsworth" was sometimes a bully." [BLAN]*
- *And we can't forget Watson himself, who*

in his schoolboy years, participated in the bullying of Percy 'Tadpole' Phelps, the nephew of a great conservative politician. Watson admitted "it seemed rather a piquant thing to us to chevy him about the playground and hit him over the shins with a wicket." [NAVA]

Because children are pretty much the same all over the world, it should be no surprise we find some bullies at Baker Street Elementary.

But we may also find their protectors there as well.

MASTER CHRIS, I
UNDERSTAND YOU
WERE PICKED ON
BY AN OLDER
STUDENT TODAY...

TOO TRUE
WIGGINS... I GUESS
IT MAKES THEM
FEEL BIGGER TO
BELITTLE A
YOUNGIN' (PUN
INTENDED)



THERE ARE
CERTAIN PERKS TO
BEING SMALLER...

I GUESS I AM TOO
SHORT TO SEE
THEM... THE PERKS
MUST BE ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF
THIS WALL, BRAD...



**OH FOR EXAMPLE, WE MAY BE THE LAST
TO KNOW IT'S RAINING, BUT WE'RE
THE FIRST TO KNOW ITS FLOODING...**

**THERE'S A LOGIC
TO THAT PETER...**



**AND MY MOTHER SAYS YOU CAN
ALWAYS HEM LONG PANTS, BUT YOU
CAN'T MAKE TOO SHORT PANTS LONGER**



I CAN WALK UNDER ALMOST ALL
THINGS WITHOUT DUCKING...



**NOT TOO MENTION I CAN WIN EVERY
GAME OF HIDE AND GO SEEK BECAUSE I
CAN FIT IN ALL THE SMALL PLACES.**



**IN A CROWDED
SCHOOL HALL, WE DO
HAVE TO WATCH OUT
FOR KNEE-CAPS !!**



*THE SCHOOL DANCE IS COMING UP...
ALL THE GIRLS ARE TALLER THAN US...*



RATS !

**I DIDN'T SAY
SHORTNESS WAS
ALWAYS GREAT...**

**MAYBE THEY
CAN PROTECT
US FROM
BULLIES...**

