

Little People of America Press Release June 2023

LPA was appalled to be made aware of a series of online and in-person bullying events in Chico, CA. An LP student in Chico is another victim of bullying and harassment, this time on the social media platform Tik Tok. The safety of our community is of utmost importance and this disturbing example of unwanted public stalking and harassment is alarming. Bullying and intimidation towards any little person is inexcusable and has consequences like any other minority community subjected to this abuse. Little people have the same civil rights to live free from fear, harassment, and discrimination.

LPA rejects any social media platform that allows users to produce content meant to promote bullying, harassment, and violence. Users that instruct their followers to do the same adds a complex layer of fear to these victims which social media platforms should wholly reject. These companies have a responsibility to protect users and follow their community guidelines. LPA would like to acknowledge those platforms committed to ensuring each user, irrespective of their disability, is able to enjoy a fun and interactive experience.

We must all work together to create a society that values diversity and promotes inclusion. It is crucial that our allies speak up and speak out when witnessing the victimization and exploitation of little people or viewing content online that engages in these actions. It's simple – Flag it! By *not* reporting this content or these accounts to platforms, we are passively allowing this discrimination to continue. As a society, we should be doing better.

Take Action: Flag it - Report it - Unfollow it.