

---

## Lukash Kowcz

is a seventh grader at Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School. He would like to become an automobile designer. He travels to the Ukraine, the homeland of his parents and stepmother, twice a year. Lukash enjoys singing, playing guitar, snow skiing, swimming and horseback riding.

Walking to the cafeteria for lunch one day, I was in a happy and good mood. I saw a table that had a few empty chairs and some friends were sitting there. As I was getting ready to sit down, Rob, a known bully, came up to me and said, "You'd better not sit at this table". I asked him why? He said, "Duh, because you are a stupid idiot". No one at the table reacted to what he said. I ate lunch at the back of the cafeteria all by myself.

As I sat there, I remembered a quote by Edmund Burke that Mr. Goodman told us in class. "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is that good men do nothing". With these wise words on my mind, I nervously walked back to the table where Rob was sitting. I stood tall and told him "You might feel strong now by being a bully, but in the long run you will end up with no friends". When I was walking away I heard whispers among the other boys at the table.

On the way to my next class, I noticed that my strides were longer and that I was holding my head high. I felt good about what I had done. Rob had gone out of his way to make me feel bad. If I had done nothing in response, he might do that bullying to someone else. But deep inside I felt a little scared. Was it worth it? Did I make the right choice in confronting Rob? Later, when leaving school, Jim, who was sitting at that table, came up to me and patted me on the back. He said, "We all thought of saying what you said, and we are glad you did it". I hope Rob learned something that day. Maybe good will triumph over evil.