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Here's the News: Talking Points with Kurt Kolka

Comic books are super popular! They're now in movie theaters and on TV. Big comic conventions are held in major cities. Your comic book already has found lots of friends at "Comic Cons." You've got some of those photos in a special video, which we can link to. Tell us about the support you've gotten at these big events.

Professional humorists often tell stories about bullies. Did you find a lot of the comic strip artists in this book had personal stories about bullying?

Not everyone you contacted was a victim of bullying. And, it's amazing to see three dozen comic strips all coming together in one book to promote this cause. What made these artists and writers want to be in this book?

Comics have been popular for more than a century in newspapers, but now newspapers are shrinking. Are these comic strips going to disappear? You've got 36 great comic strips in your book. Where do people go to find them today?

Your super hero the Cardinal is a compassionate young guy. He doesn't solve every problem with his fists. He's a college student, isn't he? Tell us about him.

Not to spoil the Cardinal story that makes up a big part of this book, but one of the surprising plot twists is that a major character suffered from the same physical disorder as a real-life girl who tells her story in your book. What is that disorder? And how does that lead to bullying of kids like this girl Camille?

Adults are bullied, too. And, for years, we've laughed at bullying on TV and in the movies. Remember the Three Stooges? And, in the comics, think about poor Beetle Bailey and the way Dagwood Bumstead's boss treats him. Both of those popular cartoon characters are in your book. If adults read your comic book, what questions is this going to raise about how we treat each other as adults?

What is bullying? A lot of us were picked on by some bigger kid when we were little. But there's actually a national definition of bullying, now, that teachers and other adults who work with kids follow. You actually put the definition into a video featuring the Cardinal, which we can link to. Tell us: What's bullying?

Your wife is a teacher in the public schools and you present programs on dealing with bullying. You're parents of a teen-age daughter. What advice do you have for parents?