

There is nothing worse than a bully.

It's no secret that '13 Reasons' started this project of mine, and a recurring theme, particularly in the second season, is bullying. It wouldn't be untrue to say that some of the acts I saw committed even startled me, which isn't saying just a little. I've seen and heard of some fairly foul things happening, but watching one teenager sexually violate another...

*It was a new level of awful.*

I've seen bullies in the work place. Heck, my own brother is a bully. I can remember the high school bully spitting on me, and I can remember explaining to a five-year old that he was being a bully after he hit my wife repeatedly.

If a bully has a redeeming quality, it's seeing them get knocked off of their throne by an even bigger one.

*Unfortunately, that doesn't happen nearly often enough in modern society.*

I think it's possible that some people are born without the ability to feel empathy. There's probably some bigger, fancier word from the American Psychological Association or some such, but I really don't think it's as complex as people say.

Or maybe they don't feel empathy because they're never taught empathy. I just saw the documentary about the life of Mister (Fred) Rogers – the famous child educator from PBS. I was struck by many things in his life, but in particular, the fact that he more or less came out of retirement because he felt there was more to be done to help send children down the right path from a young age.

I can't help but wonder if we didn't do this to ourselves – create the epidemic of bullies in modern society.

Whatever the case – I hate bullies.

Period.

That's another round for the bad guys. Literally. For those of you keeping track, the score is now seven to three with the bad guys making a serious rally.