

LINKS 2000
SELECTED SCHOOL VIOLENCE RESEARCH LINKS

- **Annual Report on School Safety October 2000**

A collaborative effort between the Department of Education and the Justice Department produced this study on school safety. This study describes the efforts made over the previous year to make schools safer.

Questions addressed in this study include:

What is the nature and scope of school violence?
What can communities do through collaboration?
What are some model programs dealing with school safety?
Where can one find resources on school safety?

The 1998 and 1999 versions are also available.

- **Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2000**

This report presents data on crime at school from the perspectives of students, teachers, principals, and the general population from an array of sources.

Questions addressed in this study include:

What type of crime is occurring at school?
When are crimes committed at school?
How prevalent is school crime?
Where does school crime take place?
How comparable is school crime to crime in society?

The 1998 and 1999 versions of this report are available.

- **Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act -School Year 1998-1999**

The number of firearms found on school campuses and the punishment the possessors received are described.

Questions addressed in this study include:

How many students were expelled for possessing a firearm (by type of firearm and school level)?
How many expulsions were modified on a case-by-case basis?
How many expulsion cases were not modified for students with disabilities?
How many expelled students were referred to an alternative school or program?

The 1996-1997 and 1997-1998 versions of this report are available and the law enacting the report is available

- **School-based Surveillance of Violence, Injury, and Disciplinary Actions**

This report examines how data from student self-report surveys and other sources can be used to assess the weaknesses in current school incident reporting systems and improve the validity of surveillance data on school violence. Particular attention is paid to assessing the validity of data from Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA) reports on the number of guns in schools in light of nationally representative student survey data and data from state-level student surveys.

Questions addressed in this study include:

How accurate are school violence incident reporting systems?
How many guns are reportedly brought on to school campuses each year?
How many students bring guns to school each year?

- **Initiation Rites in American High Schools: A National Survey**

This report focuses on hazing in high schools and its effects on group and student behavior. In the past hazing has been thought to be solely a college problem, but this report shows that hazing begins long before college.

Questions addressed in this study include:

How prevalent is hazing among American high school students?
How does hazing affect students?
At what age does hazing begin?

- **Youth Gangs in Schools**

This report seeks to give the reader an understanding about gang presence in schools and the effects of having such a presence.

Questions addressed in this study include:

What are the characteristics of gangs in schools?
What are the reasons for greater gang prevalence in schools?
What is the impact of gangs on victimization at school?

- **The National Study of Delinquency Prevention in Schools**

This report is a large-scale study of problem behavior and of what schools do to prevent or reduce problem behavior and promote safe and orderly environments.

Questions addressed in this study include:

What is the nature of problem behavior in schools?
What activities are available to create and maintain safe and orderly schools?
How intense do delinquency programs have to be, and what are some best practices?
What are some predictors of quality of program implementation?
What are the school-level correlates of implementation quality?

- **Order in the Classroom: Violence, Discipline, and Student Achievement**

This report shows the correlation between student achievement and school discipline.

Questions addressed in this study include:

- What are the links among school discipline, delinquency, and achievement?
- What are the trends in school disorders?
- What are some of the recent developments in policy and practice?

- **The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher 1999: Violence in America's Public Schools - Five Years Later**

Opinions and experiences of students, teachers, and law enforcement officials are presented.

Questions addressed in this study include:

- What are the overall trends in school violence?
- What are the causes of school violence?
- Is school violence an urban problem?
- Is school violence a high school problem?
- Is school violence related to gender?

The information presented in this study is presented as a follow up to Met Life's 1993 study.

- **Violence and Discipline Problems in U.S. Public Schools: 1996 -1997**

The first comprehensive study done by the Department of Education on the topic of school violence. The school violence survey was conducted with a nationally representative sample of 1,234 regular public elementary, middle, and secondary schools in the 50 states and the District of Columbia in the spring and summer of 1997.

Questions addressed in this study include:

- How serious a problem are crime and violence in U.S. public schools in the 1996-1997 school year?
- What types of schools were likely to have more serious problems with crime and violence?
- What measures are schools taking to deal with problems of crime and violence?

- **Students' Reports of School Crime: 1989 and 1995**

Students give their impressions of the crimes that exist in schools and how often they occur.

Questions addressed in this study include:

- What is student victimization, and how often does it occur?
- How available are drugs on school campuses?
- How common are street gangs at school?
- How often are guns brought to school?

- **The Fifth Phi Delta Kappa Poll Of Teachers' Attitudes Toward The Public Schools**

This survey seeks to find out what teachers think of the public education system in America. It is a comprehensive look at the education system covering topics such as safety, climate, and discipline.

Questions addressed in this study include:

Do teachers' opinions differ from that of the general public on how our schools are advancing?

What are teachers' biggest concerns for the future of education?

How big of a problem do teachers see school violence being and becoming?

The four previous surveys are also available.

- **Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report**

This is the fourth report in this series, and it provides information on the following topics: juvenile crime, violence, victimization, and the juvenile justice system.

Questions addressed in this study include:

What characteristics are present in today's juvenile population?

How many juveniles become victims each year?

How many juveniles become offenders each year?

What does the juvenile justice system look like in America?

How many juveniles are in jail today?