

## School Violence: What's Really Going On?



### Did You Know?

- A multi-hazard emergency operations plan based on four phases
- Mandatory drills for staff and students
- School safety security audits
- Criteria and standards for new facilities and major renovations
- Understanding of NIMS, ICS, and NRP

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## What's Lacking?

- Lack of *Discipline*
- Lack of *Direction*
- Lack of *Positive Value System (Saggin)*
- Lack of *Spiritual Foundation*
- Lack of *Nutrition* (poor diet)



## An Overview Of School Violence

- *When did it (school Violence) start?* The 1950's
- *The differences* between the youth of today, and youth of 50's & 60's
- *Their Influences*
- *The Prom*
- *How they handle conflict*



## Overview Continued

- The (*National School Boards Association*) in 1994 did a survey of 1,216 administrators: 54% of suburban & 64% of urban school officials reported more violent acts in their schools than the previous five years.
- *Big Cities and Small Towns*- This issue affects us all.
- The 80-15-5 Rule (Curwin & Mendler, 1988)

## Threats and Injuries

- **In 2003, 9%** of students reported being threatened or injured with a weapon.
- **2003- 12% of males threatened or injured compared to 6% of females.**
- The **higher** the grade level, the **lower** the percentage of these types of threats.

## Violent Deaths at School 2004-2005

- Total Deaths 39, Including 3 in Texas
- 24 shootings
- 4 suicides
- **2 murder/suicide**
- **2 fight related**
- **6 stabbings**
- **1 other**

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## School Related Shooting Not Resulting in Death

- Total of 52
- Including 5 in Texas

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## 272 Other Reported High Profile, School Crime, Violence and Crisis

15 of these took place here in the  
Lone Star State.

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659,000 students had been victims of  
violent crimes

- **Rape**
- **Robbery**
- **Aggravated assault**

*All occurring while at school in 2002.*

*An additional 1.1 million students said they  
had been victims of theft at school that year.*

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## Bullying at School

*The percentage of students who reported that they had been **bullied at school** increased from **five percent in 1999** to **eight percent in 2001**.*



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## 2003

- **7 percent of students** said they had been bullied while at school.
- **21 percent of high school students** reported the presence of street gangs in their schools.
- **5 percent** had at least one drink of alcohol on school property in the last 30 days.
- **22 percent** had used marijuana
- **29 percent** had been approached with offers to give or sell them illegal drug on school property within the past year.

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## What Are The Factors?

- *The Media*
- *Parenting Practices*
- *Peer Pressure*
- *Drugs and Alcohol*
- *Bias*



## Who Are The Victims?

- **Students**
- **Teachers**

From 1999 to 2003, annually teachers were victims of approximately 183,000 total nonfatal crimes at school, including 119,000 thefts and 65,000 violent crimes (rape, sexual assault, aggravated assault, robbery, and simple assault).

## More Teacher Statistics

- From 1999-2003, senior high school and middle/junior high school teachers were *more likely victims of violent crimes than elementary teachers*.
- Urban teachers were *more likely to be victims of violent crimes than rural and suburban teachers*.
- *Male teachers more likely to be victims of violent crime than female teachers.*



## Statistic continued..

- Among the violent crimes committed against teachers during this 5 year span, there were about 7,000 serious violent crimes annually, including rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.
- Averaging about 39 crimes per 1000 teachers, including 25 thefts, and 14 violent crimes.

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You will see these children again

The very one's we were so frustrated with.

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## Life is Fleeting

- And has a way of leveling the playing field
- We're getting older, Nursing Home?
- You might need Triple AAA

What they are going to remember is how you treated them.

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## On Positive Side

*From 1993 to 2003 the number of high school students who reported carrying a gun or a knife to school dropped to 6 percent from 12 percent.*

*Among students 12-18 years old who reported being bullied in 2003, the highest rate, 10 %, was at schools in rural areas. 7% at urban and suburban and 5% at private schools.*

*Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Department of Education and the National Crime Victimization Survey*

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## 5 Myths About Youth Violence and School Safety

1. Juvenile violence is increasing
2. Juveniles are more violent than adults
3. School Violence is increasing
4. School homicides are increasing
5. There is a realistic possibility of a student perpetrated homicide at your school

*Source:* The Virginia Youth Violence Project

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## School Violence: Where does it Happen?

- Under staircases
- Unsupervised classrooms
- Restrooms
- Gymnasiums
- Lockers
- Cafeterias/Lunchrooms
- Parking lots



## The Perpetrators: Who Commits the crimes?

There are two types of violence committed by perpetrators in schools.

- Violence by trespassers
- Violence by enrolled students

**What Causes A student to behave in a Violent manner?**

- \* An accidental bump
- \* To think someone is weak or a nerd
- \* A look or stare
- \* Dislike for A person
- \* Gossip

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## What Else?

- ***Peer Pressure***
- ***Dating Violence*** (Jealousy & Control Issues)
- ***Feeling slighted*** or “dissed” (disrespected) *Actually a Common denominator in extreme cases of violence that have occurred in the country*

## School Safety Strategies

- *Staff Monitoring and Guards*
- *Parents as Monitors and Teachers' Aides*
- *Discipline & Dress Codes*
- *Counseling Programs*
- *Conflict Resolution Programs*
- *Crisis Centers*
- *Teacher Crisis Meetings*
- *Teacher Team Meetings*
- *Extended School Hours*
- *Classes for Parents*
- *Additional Strategies*

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## Classroom Strategies

- Behavior Standards
- Academic Expectations

### Strategies For Individual Students

- \* Tutors & Mentors
- \* Employment
- \* Youth Collaboratives



## Conclusion

**Practice makes Improvement (Improve our work efforts)**

**Don't make an excuse, make an effort**

**Improve children while you have a chance**

**We've got to go into the orchard!**

**Never Give up on a Child**

## Resources

- National Crime Victimization Survey
- National Center for Education Statistics
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Justice
- Center for Disease Control
- The Virginia Youth Violence Project
- Visionary Leaders Institute



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