



# INDIVIDUAL, INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY SOURCES OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE: What Six Decades of Research Tell Us



## About this Symposium

Tragedies like those at Columbine, Sandy Hook, and Stoneman Douglas force us to admit that our schools are not always safe places. And yet stacked on top of these events is also the daily task of keeping youths safe from the full spectrum of violence—including bullying and intimidation, harassment, fighting, and carrying weapons—in the school environment. Yet creating effective, evidence-based policies to address violence in school would first require knowing what the sources of school violence are. Accordingly, with the support of the National Institute of Justice, the current study presents a meta-analysis of nearly 700 studies of school violence. The strongest and most consistent risk factors for various forms of violence perpetration at school at school were antisocial behaviors, deviant peers, victimization, peer rejection, and antisocial attitudes. For victimization at school, the strongest predictors were prior victimization, low social competence, peer rejection, violent school context, and negative school climate. LGBT students and those with disabilities were also found to have high risks of being victimized at school. Target hardening practices, such as installing security cameras and metal detectors, or having a school resource officer or school security guard present, were among the weakest predictors and had virtually no association with any form of violence or victimization at school. Thus, reducing most forms of school violence will require an approach that focuses less on traditional law enforcement strategies, and more on the nature of peer relationships among students.

This symposium is part of the Homeland Security Symposium Series focused on addressing supplemental education/training needs with different homeland security enterpriser related domains requested by out stakeholders. There are no attendance fees associated with this symposium. Attendees or their respective agencies are responsible for applicable travel costs.

### PRESENTER

#### **Dr. Travis C. Pratt**

University of Cincinnati and Harris County  
Community Supervision and Corrections  
Department

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Federal, State, Local, and Tribal law enforcement supervisory personnel who are interested in learning more about the topic.

### DEADLINE TO RSVP:

Tuesday, Sept 24, 2019

### WHEN:

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

### TIME:

9:00AM – 12:00PM

### WHERE:

The University of Texas at El Paso  
Blumberg Auditorium (UTEP Library)

### FEE:

No fee is associated with this symposium

### HOW TO REGISTER

To RSVP for this event register online at <https://www.utep.edu/clhb/>

Seating is limited  
95 Seats Available  
RSVP soon!

For more information,  
please contact:  
[vmmanjarrez@utep.edu](mailto:vmmanjarrez@utep.edu)



### About the Center for Law and Human Behavior

The University of Texas at El Paso's Center for Law & Human Behavior (CLHB) develops and conducts the series. The CLHB strives to develop relationships with government and non-profit stakeholders in areas such as criminal justice, behavioral health, substance abuse, and program evaluation to help improve the delivery of service to citizens in the El Paso Del Norte region and beyond.