

The Research on Lowering Violence in Schools and Communities (ReSOLV) study is a nine-year study of relationships between school safety and student outcomes with community and school-based factors in California.

ReSOLV's results demonstrate the need to involve all stakeholders in the school and community to create safe places to live, work, and learn.

What You Can Do

Organizing Sector

- Help stakeholders recognize that risk and need in the community has a substantial impact on student educational and behavioral outcomes and student success in school will result in lower community violence.
- Bring all of the stakeholders, diverse organizations and entities together, to develop multiprong strategies to attack poverty and alleviate its consequences.
- Make demands of the political establishment and private sector to help solve the institutional desert problem affecting low income neighborhoods, which results in the absence of institutions that more affluent communities take for granted, such as health clinics and hospitals, banks, and full-service grocery stores.
- Work to reweave the social fabric in communities struggling to thrive and by doing that serve as catalysts for increased collective and individual well-being as well as improved quality of life.
- Engage more directly with responsible research organizations who understand how to best use research as a tool for change to support safe and thriving communities.

The Research on Lowering Violence in Schools and Communities (ReSOLV) study is a nine-year study of relationships between school safety and student outcomes with community and school-based factors in California.

Principal Investigators: Patricia Campie, Ph.D., AIR & Anthony Peguero, Ph.D., ASU

Co-Investigators: Jonathan Scaccia, Ph.D., Dawn Chorus Group, Allyson Pakstis, Ph.D. & Roger Jarjoura Ph.D., AIR

Team: David Osher, Ph.D., Brittany Cook, Ph.D., Kenya Roy, Caleb Perlman, Shoshana Rabinovsky, Daniel Tei, Felice Trirogoff

STUDY GOALS

- To help schools understand how risk and need factors in the community influence student engagement and outcomes in school, while helping community leaders understand how violence prevention efforts in the community may benefit educational outcomes for youth, which in turn can prevent future violence.
- Provide insights on building the readiness for individuals, organizations, and the broader community to work together to address violence and safety issues using inclusive, equitable, and comprehensive strategies that are rooted in evidence of effectiveness.

STUDY HYPOTHESIS

Schools operate within a broader ecological framework and risk factors in the community can negatively affect student and school outcomes if schools are not actively working to recognize and mitigate these influences.



STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

- Study period: Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2022
- Study sites: Hanford, Mendota, and Los Angeles
- Study design: Three independent case studies
- Study methods: Mixed, quantitative (census, crime, geo-spatial, survey, achievement, discipline), and qualitative (documents, focus groups, interviews, observation, social media)

STUDY RESULTS

- Crime and concentrated disadvantage had an influence on higher chronic absentee rates, lower graduation rates, higher suspension rates, and lower percentages of students scoring at or above the median on standardized test results for English Language Arts and Math.
- Community risk factors explained school and student outcomes much better than did measures of the internal school climate, including feelings of safety, relationships, engagement, and learning supports.
- School climate was universally worse in schools surrounded by the greatest amount of community risk and need.

STUDY IMPLICATIONS

- It is not sufficient to simply “fix schools” in otherwise disadvantaged areas and expect to produce better safety and educational outcomes.
- To create safe and supportive learning environments within schools, equal attention must be paid to creating safe and supportive living environments using equitable strategies that engage a broader set of stakeholders.
- To this end, ReSOLV has developed an alternative response model for organizing school and community collective action. The model is forthcoming in the Journal of School Violence.

Contacts: Patricia Campie pcampie@air.org & Anthony Peguero anthony.peguero@asu.edu
Disclaimer: ReSOLV is funded by the National Institute of Justice through award 2016-CK-BX-K001. Points of view in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of NIJ or the United States Government.



Scan the QR code to learn more about ReSOLV