

Research: Do armed cops make schools safer?

Do campus officers with guns in schools make our students and schools less safe?
([link to this google doc here](#)) or campuscopswithguns.com

=====Quotes, data and news on cops on school campuses =====

Dec 11, 2014 - Portland State [Board of Trustees](#) gave unarmed campus cops new guns

June 28, 2018 - Campus cops killed an innocent Black man: Jason Washington

""For someone to suggest that SROs prevent school shootings is absolutely unfounded in in terms of science. There's no support for that statement at all," ([link](#))

"1.7 million students are in schools with police but no counselors.

- 3 million students are in schools with police but no nurses.
- 6 million students are in schools with police but no school psychologists.
- 10 million students are in schools with police but no social workers.
- 14 million students are in schools with police but no counselor, nurse, psychologist, or social worker.

"a recent evaluation of the impact of North Carolina's state grant program for school resource officers (SROs) concluded that middle schools that used state grants to hire and train SROs did not report reductions in serious incidents like assaults, homicide, bomb threats, possession and use of alcohol and drugs, or the possession of weapons. In fact, there is some evidence suggesting that these measures actually harm youth. Research has indicated that having school-based police contributes to less inclusive school climates, and this makes students less safe" [Link](#) to the 2019 ACLU Report "Cops and no counselors"

"There is no empirical evidence that an armed SRO has any effect. Nor is there any evidence that gun-free or gun-restricted setting attract shooters." ([link](#))

"black students accounted for 16% of students enrolled in U.S. public schools, but 33% of arrests in those schools" ([link](#))

""no evidence suggesting that SRO or other sworn law-enforcement officers contribute to school safety" ([link](#))

“Research shows that the mere presence of police officers in school increases the likelihood that a student will be referred to law enforcement for adolescent behavior. School-based arrests, which fall more harshly on students of color” ([link](#))

“Disabled students...are three times more likely to be arrested than their peers. School policing is still very disproportionately harming students of color, students with learning disabilities, and the students who identify as LGBTQ” ([link](#))

"It is undisputed that Blacks are disproportionately represented among the victims of police shootings. In a comprehensive review of the literature on police use of deadly force, James Fyfe reports that **“every study that has examined this issue [has] found that blacks are represented disproportionately** among those at the wrong end of police guns.”⁹

In the span of six years "30,467 children under the age of 10 were arrested in the United States. And the numbers skyrocket for children between the ages of 10 to 12 with 266,321 arrested during the same six-year time span...analyzed more than 2.7 million student suspensions handed out at U.S. public schools in the 2015-'16 academic year. The study found that students with disabilities are at higher risk of being suspended than their peers, and black students with disabilities lost approximately 77 more days of school due to exclusionary discipline than their white peers ([link](#))

3 paragraphs above were noted by Dave Stieber, Public School Teacher from Chicago who created a thread of police abuse in news media ([thread here](#))

"The Counted project—a database of documented killings by U.S. law enforcement—showed that black males, ranging from ages 15 to 34, were 9 times more likely than any other racial/ethnic group to be killed by police officers in 2015 (The Guardian, 2017)"
American Psychiatric Association 2018 ([link](#))

“In the old days, the cops simply shot their black victims and [planted] a weapon the officers carried for such emergencies. **Nowadays, weapons need exist only in the mind of the policeman** in firing position.” –Les Payne, Journalist for Newsday" - ([link](#))

"data shows there was a **clear disproportionality** between the averages and rates at which Whites were being killed when compared to African Americans and Hispanics. " ([link](#))

"Almost all of the dead were men, nearly 80% were black or Latino. More than 98% were shot to death. Criminal charges are rare. In nearly all cases, the use of force was deemed legally justified"
[Link](#)

"Those in **political power have used police to enforce the macro-political policies** and laws of the land, which have always catered to the political elite (Hahn & Jefferies, 2003)."

Quote Above from Hernandez (2017) Perceptions of Male Urban College Students of Color: Police, Policing, and the Impact on Their Educational Experiences Hernandez, David. The University of Texas at San Antonio, ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2017. 10685561. ([link](#))

"Agencies that reported a **higher emphasis of community-policing goals** and strategies actually **reported more lethal force incidents** compared to departments with little to moderate emphasis. Even when controlling for agency type, given that many municipal departments are transitioning to community-oriented departments, **the effects were still statistically significant.** " ([link](#))

"“People with untreated mental illness are 16 times more likely to be killed during a police encounter than other civilians approached or stopped by law enforcement,” (Treatment Advocacy Center) ([link](#))

"a report commissioned by the ACLU that exposed a pattern of discriminatory policing... San Diego police are 219% more likely to stop black people than white people and 25% more likely to search and 59% more likely to use force against black people during these stops.... in some places more than 10 times more likely to be stopped" Samuel Sinyangwe San Diego Union Tribune ([link](#))

"Armed vs. unarmed security: Security Coordinator Farmer noted that our district policy is not to allow weapons on campus. Some have armed security (Saddleback), some don't (Santa Ana). In his estimation, **there have been no events in his 27 years where having armed officers would have helped.**" ([link](#))

"To be unable to see their peers as Others, in other words, makes it easier for students to perpetrate a specific type of violence against them. Keehn and Boyles suggest that current popular policy responses to gun violence in schools (such as **increased security, zero-tolerance policies**) **are approaches that, at best, fail to address the root cause of gun violence in schools and, at worst, are themselves branches of that root: namely, a homogenizing corporatism** that creates an ethical vacuum in the schoolhouse.

.... The relevant chapter of the report lists the United States as having the highest number of firearms in civilian possession per 100 people at 88.8. The fourth highest on the list was Finland, with 45.3. Sweden and Norway ranked tenth and eleventh, with 31.6 and 31.3, respectively..." 2015 Gabriel Keehn, Deron Boyles ([link](#))

"OPB: Hours after a public statement about [#JasonWashington](#)'s death, PSU issued a statement saying it offers its "deepest condolences" to the family. **The family says no one from the university has contacted them** a full week after the death, however" ([link](#))

"They are also caught up in some of the same crises of race, abuse, and use of force that have beset other police departments in recent years. **Protesters pepper-sprayed at the University of California at Davis, a black professor tackled at Arizona State, a black student detained at gunpoint at Yale. In July the University of Cincinnati came under national scrutiny when a campus officer fatally shot a black motorist during a routine traffic stop.**"

..."Today, 92 percent of public colleges and 38 percent of private institutions -- mainly larger ones -- have sworn officers, according to a survey of campuses with 2,500 or more students by the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics. Nearly 95 percent of campus officers carry guns, a fact that has sparked debate in some places. Over all, colleges employ nearly 15,000 sworn officers and another 17,000 support personnel."

Carlson, Scott. "Campus Cops' Contested Role." Chronicle of Higher Education, vol. 62, no. 8, 23 Oct. 2015, p. 1. ([link](#))

More info on the Portland State University vote in 2014:

"eleven ayes and two nays. Voting aye were Bestpitch, Campos-Palma, Castillo, Dozono, Imeson, Kirkpatrick, Levin, Miller, Stott, Vernier, and Chair Nickerson. Voting nay were Adarkar and Hines" Absent was Fariborz Maseeh - This vote leads to the murder of Jason Washington June 28th, 2018

<https://www.pdx.edu/board/sites/www.pdx.edu.board/files/Approved%20Minutes%2012-11-14.pdf>

As of 2020 the aye votes who remain are 7 members: Dozono, Imeson, Kirkpatrick, Levin, Stott, Vernier, and Chair Nickerson.

"English professor Maude Hines, a past president of the Faculty Senate, and Swati Adarkar, president of a local advocacy group for young children" ... **"In overwhelmingly white Portland, 40 percent of PSU freshmen are students of color and there is genuine fear of police violence, several trustees noted"**

https://www.oregonlive.com/education/index.ssf/2014/12/portland_state_trustees_vote_t.html

"analyzed 990 police fatal shootings using data compiled by The Washington Post in 2015. After first providing a basic descriptive analysis of these shootings, we then examined the data for evidence of implicit bias by using multivariate regression models that predict two indicators of threat perception failure: (1) whether the civilian was not attacking the officer(s) or other civilians just before **being fatally shot** and (2) whether the civilian was unarmed when fatally shot.

The results indicated civilians from "other" minority groups were significantly more likely than Whites to have **not been attacking the officer(s) or other civilians** and that Black civilians were more than **twice as likely as White civilians to have been unarmed.** ([link](#))

The PSU graduate student population is 72% white in 2017

<http://tableau.services.pdx.edu/Students/Graduate%20Student%20Profile.html>

For 2018, Undergraduates (Full Time) the white students number between 48% and 52%

This is because 4% of students declined to answer.

<http://tableau.services.pdx.edu/Students/Student%20Profile.html>

Portland state has 9 armed security staff. Ken Ma (503) 725-4407 kenma@pdx.edu

<https://www.pdx.edu/cpsa/campus-public-safety-org-chart>

Video - Brother of murderer victim - 2018 Andre Washington Speaking on July 1, 2018 Pioneer Square Portland Oregon- ([link](#))

Teaching Resources for students on SRO's

[Link](#) to Video - Jefferson Students testifying against PPS SRO board resolution 5771 only 3 people from the public were allowed to speak. Dec 11, 2018

[Link](#) to the transcript on 5771 full statements by Leland, ACLU and Sarah and Isabelle of Jefferson

[Link](#) to all board documents Dec 11, 2018

[Link](#) to fabricated summary of Leland, ACLU and Sarah and Isabelle of Jefferson

[Link](#) to one sided safety assumptions in the board agenda Dec 11 2018 on SRO RESOLUTION No. 5771

2018 November - Richard Barry is killed after an encounter with PSU police that leads to Portland police on video **kneeling on his neck**. The medical exam ignores this and states the cause of death was drugs and In the video are Portland Police Officer James DeAnda and Jared Abby along with 4 PSU security staff: Michael Anderson, Danae Murphy , Nichola Higbee and sworn officer David Troppe (only one required to have a camera) . Barry goes silent at 7:57 in the [video](#) and 5 minutes pass without any of the six checking on his health. The video is then terminated as the paramedics arrive and talk is heard about a gurney. It is unknown how much time passed from the point of discussing the gurney, to actual placement on the gurney. The medical report states: "as they were placing him on the gurney, they noticed that he was no longer fighting." and "they found him in a slow pulseless electrical activity arrest," ([link](#))

Mario Craig of the PSU Sentinel Magazine reported on the death of Richard Barry ([link](#))

"In the wake of mass shootings at schools and colleges around the country and the recent tragedy right here in Oregon at Umqua Community College, many people are asking difficult questions about how to make our campuses safer and more secure. Among the solutions often discussed is the use of armed campus police. The purpose of this guide is to provide a starting point to exploring the issue of armed campus security. If you have suggestions for additional resources or questions about this guide, don't hesitate to contact Rachel Bridgewater, Faculty Librarian at Cascade." ([link](#))

The Lethal Question: To Arm or Not to Arm?

These eight considerations can help college and university officials rethink this age-old dilemma. ([link](#))

Common Misconceptions About Armed Officers at Schools

Placing an armed police officer has the potential to deter or transfer risk, but policing a school does not necessarily correlate with protecting a school. ([link](#))

"As regards the disparate effect that arming campus police would have on students of color, both historical and empirical data have spoken to the lack of trust in police and the criminal justice system in communities of color. Surveys have shown that Blacks are less likely than Whites to trust the police and Whites are more favorably disposed toward law enforcement (Gallup, 1999; Harris, 1999; Jacob, 1971). Carr, Napolitano, and Keating (2007) indicate that variation exists along neighborhood context in terms of the likelihood of police using force: Police are more likely to use force on suspects or engage in misconduct in disadvantaged neighborhoods. "

https://campus.purdueglobal.edu/DocumentStore/Docs11/pdf/CJ/PICJ_V6N12_Wilson.pdf

It's worthy to note how many people have cited Wilson and Wilson (2011)

https://scholar.google.com/scholar?cites=14080015464880423088&as_sdt=5.38&scioldt=0.38&hl=en

"Black students were 16 percent of the total student enrollment in the 2011-12 school year but 27 percent of students referred to law enforcement and 31 percent of students involved in a school-related arrest, according to the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights data."

.."Little data has been collected ...Only 12 states have laws that specify training requirements for officers deployed to classrooms... Fewer focus on dealing with children differently than adults"

<https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2015/11/why-do-most-school-cops-have-no-student-training-requirements/414286/>

"The findings of this dissertation provide guidance on factors to consider when evaluating how best to balance campus safety concerns with students' civil rights."

..."Gelpi observed that campus safety plans "must reconcile two conflicting interests- campus security and individual rights" (2011, p. 17). When security and individual rights are not balanced, lawsuits frequently occur alleging violations of civil rights (Gelpi, 2011; Lake, 1999; Lee, 2011; Stamatakos, 1990). "

The above flaw in by the author (Julia) can be summarized here: It's not just about the civil rights of a campus individual on a lawsuit. The issue of guns on campus extends much deeper. Research fails to recognize a student's right to have a state of mind of feeling safe. The student should be entitled to feel that should there be any interaction with campus security, that there is zero potential they will be harmed. This is not possible to feel given the history of police shootings.

<https://search.proquest.com/openview/d6ba61a7e3e96a0809dec2d6ef12f547/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750&diss=y>

Lynchings and Police Violence are the same tool. They produce widespread fear and anger. *Unscheduled Departures: The Circumvention of Just Sentencing for Police Brutality* - Freeman (1996)

"This Article argues that police brutality is an egregious crime, the harm of which extends beyond the physical and psychological injuries to victims. Situated in a social reality of acute racial divisions and radically different perceptions of, and experiences in, the criminal justice system, police brutality serves as a lightning rod for widespread fear and anger"

https://repository.uchastings.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3235&context=hastings_law_journal

Militarization of America's Police Forces

by Radley Balko

<https://www.publicaffairsbooks.com/titles/radley-balko/rise-of-the-warrior-cop/9781610392129/>

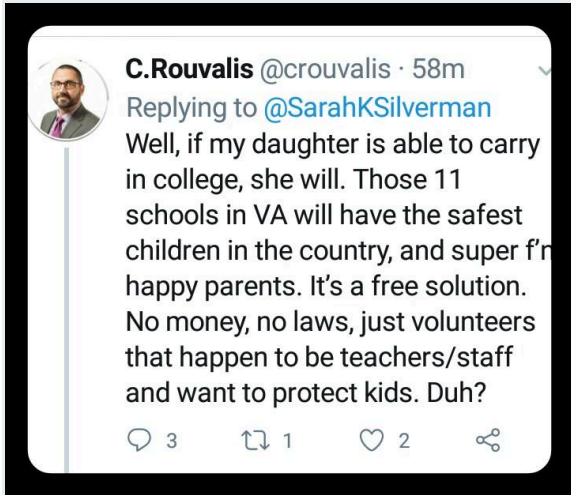
"None of what any (Seattle Police Chief) candidate said is new. We have literally heard all of this before and it plays out in the exact same way every time. Black and brown ppl over policed and murdered. I wanna hear someone talk boldly about the roots of policing and how they intend to uproot them."

<https://twitter.com/NikkitaOliver/status/1018013169719971840?s=19>

Shot 9 times, 17 shots fired, all by cops at innocent victim

https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2018/09/navy_vet_killed_by_portland_st.html

Common assumption that arming teachers and students with concealed carry permits will make all students safer. Do you think black students feel safe with racist white students carrying a gun?



<https://twitter.com/crouvalis/status/1018550098169679872?s=19>

With Operation Matador, ICE found a way around these protections, by relying on police officers posted inside schools, known as school resource officers. They collect tips and disciplinary information from teachers and administrators and can legally share it with their departments, which can in turn pass it on to immigration agents. Without any legal changes, schools have become the start of a law-enforcement chain that lets ICE agents on transnational-crime task forces peer into hallways and backpacks without ever entering the property.

<https://features.propublica.org/ms-13-immigrant-students/huntington-school-deportations-ice-honduras/>

second-grader gave another some of the play money she had brought to her suburban Maryland school. The classmate tried to use it — a mock \$100 bill — for lunch in the cafeteria, and before long, school security was involved. Then the Prince George's County police were called.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/the-money-was-fake-the-police-were-real-it-happened-in-an-elementary-school/2019/07/05/c2652b5c-704a-11e9-9f06-5fc2ee80027a_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.9e3f54981881#click=https://t.co/rtuEW5BPuj

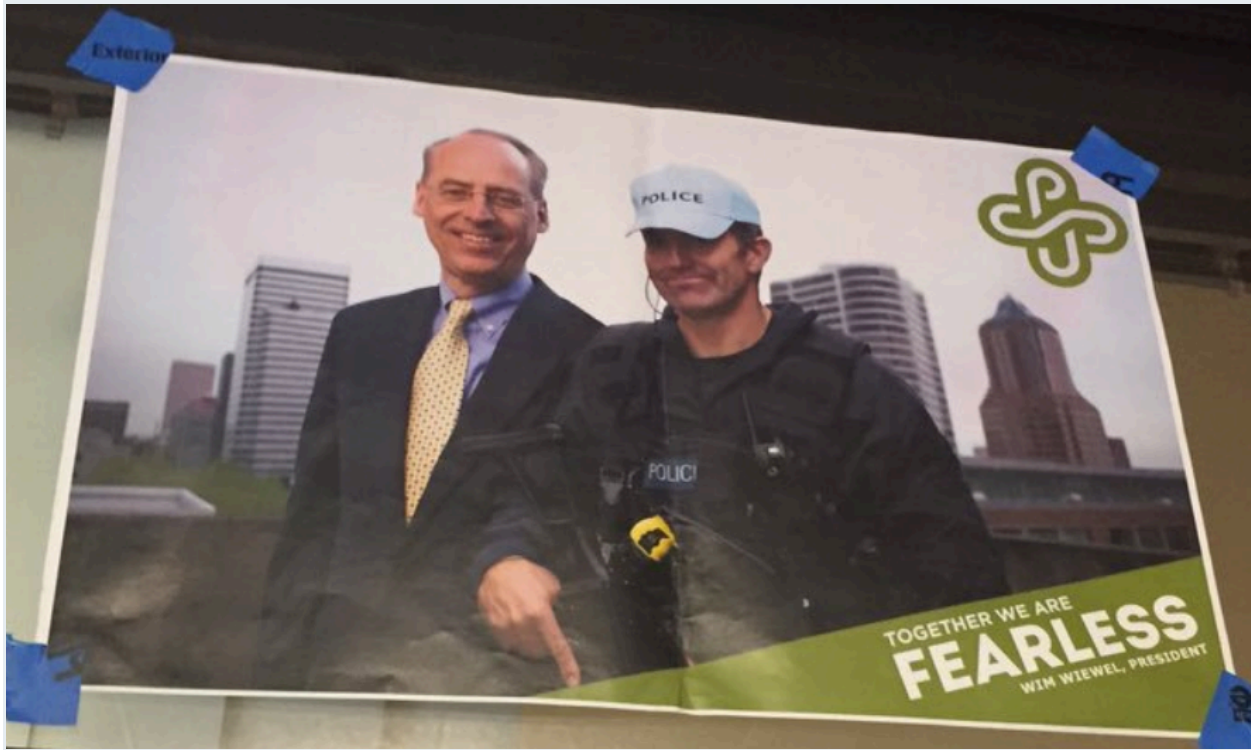
cops don't make all people safer:

#AnthonyPirone "started a cascade of events...called (Oscar) Grant the N-word while detaining him, hit him in the face in an "unprovoked" attack, and later gave a series of false statements contradicted by videos

https://amp.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/may/02/officer-punched-oscar-grant-and-lied-about-facts-in-2009-killing-records-show?_twitter_impression=true

Photo: automatic rifle in the hands of police standing with former PSU President. Of course rich white people feel safe next to white cops with semi automatic weapons, but do white people

consider that other people don't feel the same way and there's lots of data behind those feelings.



12 Portland State Board members voted to arm campus cops knowing innocent black people would be murdered. Data was presented to predict this connection.

Email trustees@pdx.edu direct and ask the 7 who remain to resign

As of August 2020 these 7 members who voted yes remain on the board:

Christine Vernier,
Irving Levin ,
Thomas Imeson ,
Pete Nickerson ,
Peter Stott ,
Margaret Kirkpatrick ,
Sho Dozono

Their yes vote gave campus cops guns, and they shot and killed Jason Washington

[@shodozono](#)

#ThomasImeson worked w child rapist Neil Goldschmidt

#MargaretKirkpatrick VP NW Natural

#IrvingLevin Mentor to CEOs

#PeteNickerson Nike #FreeTrade

#PeterStott Private Equity

#ChristineVernier COO

Board member list from 2014 <https://goo.gl/AVeuzH>

The Portland State board acted under the false premise of increasing safety. This was an initiative of of the PSU president Wim Weiwei who now leads Lewis and Clark University. Arming campus security was done despite common knowledge and research being presented to the board. Research shows victims of police shootings are disproportionately black and Latino people. This was an intentional and oppressive act to create terror in underserved populations that PSU should be helping to learn and thrive

Contact Portland City Hall to demand they do not add more armed cops in schools. We demand money be spent on social workers, and unarmed conflict resolution staff. Demand city staff halt any increase in police presence in schools. The city can reject the request of the school board to place more armed cops in schools.

copy/paste this list direct into email:

Commissioner Eudaly(503) 823-4682 <chloe@portlandoregon.gov >,
Wheeler, Mayor (503)823-4120 <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov > ,

Commissioner Fritz(503) 823-3008 <amanda@portlandoregon.gov >,
Commissioner Hardesty (503)823-4151 <JoAnn@portlandoregon.gov>

On Dec 11th, 2018 Portland School board members voted to spend another 800k per year on armed cops in K-12 schools. Agenda item 5771 spend 800k extra per year on armed cops in schools. One of those board members is a Nike executive.

District Agenda 5771 link [here](#)

Video archive of meeting [here](#)

After the murder of George Floyd on May 25th, 2020 and growing movements to defund police the superintendent of Portland Public Schools announced an end to the relationship with the Portland Police and end to all SROs in schools. Prior to this there was a petition to disarm Portland schools. [link here](#)

Statements opposing the PSU Board who indirectly caused the murder of Jason Washington by turning campus security without guns into a force with guns

- Statement from the Student Union [here](#)
- Statement from PSU School of Gender, Race, and Nations [here](#)
- Statement from School of Social Work Statement (2018) [here](#)
- 2014 statement from the PSU School of Social Work [here](#)
- Disarm Portland State [click here to sign](#) a petition