

Schildkraut, Jaclyn

to Joel, me ▾

10:55 AM (3 hours ago)



Hi Tom,

Nice to hear from you.

Regarding the statement that research has found that armed officers in schools deter school shootings, I would need to see the research people are pointing to. That is most likely not accurate. First, and perhaps most importantly, it is virtually impossible to prove a negative - that is, that a shooting that didn't happen for whatever reason. At best, it might be a case study example where an individual was intercepted beforehand or committed a school shooting and then made the statement that they changed locations because of an armed officer (which I have heard of once, at most). The relative rarity of this means you cannot make any legitimate claim about effectiveness of something - in this case, the ability for an armed officer to deter a school shooting.

For the second statement, I would definitely highlight Jason Silva's policy brief you linked below as it is one of the most accurate datasets on global mass shootings. I cannot say for certain, but I would imagine he has coded for location type and therefore could run those numbers for you (depending on his availability), but this probably holds across all location types. If you would like us to link you up with Jay, please let us know.

Jackie

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