

National Consortium of School Violence Prevention Researchers and Practitioners
www.ncsvprp.org

PRESS RELEASE

November 2, 2006 5:00 pm (EST)

CONTACTS:

Dr. Matthew J. Mayer, Rutgers University (mayerma@rci.rutgers.edu), or,
Dr. Michael Furlong, University of California, Santa Barbara (mfurlong@education.ucsb.edu).

SCHOOL SHOOTINGS POSITION STATEMENT

A position statement on the Fall 2006 school shootings has been developed by school violence researchers and practitioners, nationally, and the statement is being disseminated across the U.S.

The document has been endorsed by a wide array of major professional groups such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Counseling Association, American Psychological Association, American Psychiatric Association, Council for Exceptional Children, National Education Association, National Association of School Psychologists, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association of Social Workers, and the National Mental Health Association. Additionally, over 100 nationally recognized researchers and practitioners have endorsed this statement, including the deans of several major university colleges of education and social work.

Additional organizations will be posting the document or providing links to it on their Websites. The position statement is also being disseminated via professional list serves and is being published in several professional newsletters.

This position statement was launched by six researchers from the fields of school psychology and special education who have worked in the area of school violence prevention since the 1980s. The effort expanded to a group of 20 participants who collectively developed and refined the document. The driving force behind the statement was to find a way to communicate core principles and recommendations for action that were scientifically based, reflected breadth and depth of understanding, and were organized thematically in a way that could resonate with other researchers, practitioners, policy makers, and especially the public at large. Documents relating to school violence prevention are often disseminated with the intent of informing the public about issues, but sometimes these publications are didactic, lengthy, and overly complex in nature, and often leave the general reader without a clear sense of what is most important in thinking about school violence prevention. This position statement was crafted so as to focus the discussion on several core ideas that could effectively guide purposeful thinking about school violence prevention.

The position statement is posted at: www.ncsvprp.org