



About the VPRC

The Violence Prevention Research Collaborative (VPRC) is an initiative housed in the School of Social Work and Criminal Justice at the University of Washington Tacoma dedicated to understanding and preventing violence—particularly school violence, mass shootings, and hate/bias crimes.

The VPRC integrates research, education, evidence-based practices, and community partnerships to build safer and more resilient schools and communities.

Guided by decades of research and advocacy, the VPRC works to reduce harm, improve institutional practices, and enhance public safety. While no single effort can eliminate violence entirely, the VPRC is committed to significantly reducing its occurrence and impact through research, education, and transformative partnerships that create lasting, positive change.

The Violence Prevention Research Collaborative

www.tacoma.uw.edu/vprc

Our Goals

- ✓ Conduct rigorous, interdisciplinary research on the causes and prevention of violence
- ✓ Turn research into action by sharing knowledge with scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and the public to drive meaningful, evidence-based change and reduce violence in our society

Sharing VPRC Research



School Personnel Training

The VPRC has held multiple intensive workshops and public events, training more than 350 practitioners throughout the Pacific Northwest. School personnel, students, and faculty were connected with leading experts in threat assessment and mass shootings and taught cutting edge research and practical evidence-based strategies in violence prevention.



Academic Publishing

VPRC staff and affiliate researchers have had firearm violence and school safety research published nationally and internationally, including dozens of articles in peer-reviewed academic journals and chapters contributed to edited volumes. VPRC staff have also published three full-length books, with a fourth currently under contract with Temple University Press.



Public Engagement

VPRC Director Dr. Eric Madfis has been featured in hundreds of public and media appearances. Called "one of the world's leading experts on mass murder," Dr. Madfis has spoken to scores of educators, police officers, scholars, and policy makers, provided briefings and testimony to state and federal legislatures, and had his research featured in media outlets like *The Seattle Times*, HBO, and MSNBC.

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