

UC Office of the President

Student Policy Research Papers

Title

Student Learning Outcomes: Do Violent Environments Have an Effect?

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8dh170f3>

Author

Navarro, Michael

Publication Date

2023-08-08

UC Center Sacramento
University of California, Davis

Student Learning Outcomes: Do Violent Environments Have an Effect?

Michael Navarro

Dr. Ross Butters

POL 195: Policy Analyze in California

14 June 2023

Introduction

One can say life for a student is no longer normal. Any person must fear a threat indicated towards them- whether they are part of a minority community or not. The fact is, violence, as well as danger, is everywhere and anywhere in this world. These types of altercations can make an individual wonder, how can any student, no matter their grade level, past standardized tests, graduation, etc. with violence occurring in the community.

As a recent and local example, we can turn to the events that took place at the University of California, Davis. In early June, an ex-UC Davis student was formally charged with two counts of murder and one count of attempted murder (Stanton, 2023). In the wake of these tragic events, UC Davis authorities expanded safety services and required evening classes to be online in order for students to feel safe (Slater, 2023). However, these measures were only taken due to this occurring near a University. There are countless times violence occurs and the safety of students is not considered.

Research Question

So I ask, *how is the educational success of kindergarten through twelfth-grade students impacted when there is- or when there is not- violence within their communities?* I will be analyzing graduation rates from all 58 California counties to measure the educational success of students in different areas. Further, I will highlight the highest and lowest graduation rates found in the study. Additionally, I will look at different criminal rates in all of California's counties. Specifically, I will be looking at felony arrest crimes such as felony violent crimes and felony property crimes found by California's Department of Justice. A felony crime is defined as an occurrence more serious than a misdemeanor and is usually punishable by prison for more than a

year. In California, violent crime is defined as “any crime that involves a serious threat or bodily harm to another or involves the use of a deadly weapon” (Los Angeles Criminal Attorney, 2019). To add, property crime is defined as a “criminal offense in which an alleged offender steals, destroys, or otherwise violates another party’s property rights” (Fuller Law Office, 2022). With these different units of analysis, I aim to gain a better, overall idea between violence and educational success.

Significance of the Topic

The research question I pose is significant because it is important to figure out the reasons why some students do not achieve academic greatness. California has passed a great deal of legislation and guidelines to assist children in reaching success. Such as Title V which includes California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) Vision for Success, many different education codes for employee qualifications, and codes for students with disabilities, etc (California Community Colleges, 2023). There are also regulations that protect students from discrimination as well as policies that reduce or provide students with school lunches (California Community Colleges, 2023). The Government- State and Federal- has created pathways for students to achieve their full potential. Elected officials invest a great deal of money, time, and care into students. However, there are still many students who do not get to graduate high school and even more who do not attend college.

Statistics on Student Success and Violence

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the graduation rate for public high school students during the 2018 to 2019 school year was 86% (National Center for Education Statistics, 2021). As for California, the graduation rate was 85% (National Center for

Education Statistics, 2021). However, in 2020, 5.3% of students dropped out of high school- nearly 2.0 million students between the ages of 16 and 24 years old (National Center for Education Statistics, 2022). When we look at the University of California, there is a 72.8% graduation rate for first-time, full-time students (2023). Although we are seeing a rise in student success, there are still millions of students who fall short of this. One starts to wonder about the context of, not just the students' learning environment, but also about their external environments such as home life and community life.

Nevertheless, a study from Gallup shows that there is an increased concern for student school safety from both the students and parents (Brenan, 2022). Approximately 44% of US adults with children in kindergarten through twelfth grade say they fear for their child's safety (Brenan, 22). This is around a 10% increase since 2019 (Brenan, 2022). Moreover, one in five kindergarten through twelfth parents have stated that their children have expressed feeling unsafe while at school (Brenan, 2022). The highest record is 22% when the Santana High School shooting occurred. Now, 20% of parents state their children feel unsafe, which matches the 2018 measure following the Parkland, Florida and Santa Fe, Texas school shootings that occurred that year (Brenan, 2022). These latest findings were found approximately around the time 19 children and 2 adults were shot in 2022 at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas (Brenan, 2022).

In the United States, there has been a great increase in violence, specifically gun violence. With the rise of mass shootings in the United States of America, more and more individuals call on elected officials to strengthen the current policies on guns. To this date, mass shootings have been the leading cause of death among those years 1 to 19- this amounts to approximately 4,357 deaths per year (McGough et al., 2022). Since the Parkland school shooting

in 2018, there have been 158 school shootings where at least 1 person was killed or injured- with 14 coming from 2023 alone (Gun Violence Archive, 2023).

Legislative Background

Because of such worries and countless lives being lost, California continues to take major steps for gun reform with the goal of saving innocent lives. As an example, Assembly Bill 1133, *Firearms: Concealed Carry Licenses*, has been ordered to the California Senate floor. This bill, authored by Democratic Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo representing District 40, focuses on making individuals who carry firearms more knowledgeable so there can be better-educated people who own guns (Assemblymember Schiavo, 2023). AB1133 would require the Department of Justice to develop and publish a standardized curriculum for a license to carry a firearm. Courses include firearm safety, laws regarding permissible use, handling, shoot practice, etc., and one would have to pass a test made by the Department of Justice to have a license (Assemblymember Schiavo, 2023).

To add on, within the state of California, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 2 in 2023 which is the latest legislation on gun safety. This bill strengthens the permit to carry a firearm, increasing the minimum age to obtain a concealed weapon to 21 years, and furthering the training of firearms (The State of California, 2023). Furthermore, not too long ago, Governor Newsom proposed a 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution to support gun safety measures and regulations (The State of California, 2023). The California Governor states that this additional 28th Amendment would leave the 2nd Amendment untouched so the proposal can have a nonpartisan perspective. The 28th Amendment would have four major components. One would be to increase the federal minimum age to purchase a firearm from the current age of 18 to

21. As the Governor commented, “[I]f you can’t buy a beer, you shouldn’t be old enough to buy a gun”(The State of California, 2023). The amendment would also warrant universal background checks to hinder vicious individuals from purchasing a firearm. Also, it would install a rational waiting period for gun purchases. Lastly, the proposed amendment would cease the purchases of assault weapons because they “serve no purpose other than to kill as many people as possible...weapons of war our nation’s founders never foresaw” (The State of California, 2023).

In 1994, the United States Congress passed the Federal Assault Weapon Ban which was part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (California Senator Dianne Feinstein, 2023). The Bill outlawed and prohibited the sale and production of assault weapons in the United States for 10 years (California Senator Dianne Feinstein, 2023). The Federal Assault Weapon Ban was introduced by California Senator Dianne Feinstein in response to the mass shooting that happened in Monterey Park, California. Nevertheless, California was the first state in the nation to ban assault weapons under the Roberti-Roos Assault Weapons Control Act of 1989 (Giffords Law Center, 2023).

Previous Research

The generations encountering these tragedies are living through life never imagined. According to the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR), there have been effects on students’ “mental health, educational, and economic trajectories” of those exposed to shooting (Rossin-Slater, 2022). SIEPR also found that exposure to these types of killings greatly matters. The study mentions that “local exposure to police killings of unarmed Black and Hispanic individuals adversely affects the mental health of Black adults and educational outcomes of Black and Hispanic students” (Rossin-Slater, 2022).

In 2013, Valerie McGaha-Garnett did a study regarding the effects of violence on academic progress and classroom behavior. The study highlights that imitation plays a huge role in both a social and academic setting (McGaha-Garnett, 2013). Children tend to follow social behaviors, especially if they are done by a peer or role model. McGaha-Garnett found that youth who associated themselves with violent peers were more likely to show similar violent acts (2013). Moreover, the findings from this study show that schools in neighborhoods with greater rates of violence are likely to experience similar incidents which, in turn, creates a pessimistic attitude towards learning (McGaha-Garnett, 2013). Ultimately, the findings of this study conclude that both academic and non-academic elements must be evaluated in order for a student to reach academic success. In the school environment and aside, for academic success, “[f]eelings of safety, stability and predictability are necessary” (McGaha-Garnett, 2013).

In a study conducted by Anthony A. Peguero, the main interest was to see how exposure to violence and victimization related to student dropout rates. The article mentions that “the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has stressed that violence occurring at school is a top public health concern affecting the physical and emotional well-being of children” (Peguero, 2011). But it is also important to note that this is also a concern outside of school. As Peguero states, “Black/African American and Latino American youth who are victimized at school are more likely to drop out of school. However, exposure to violence and victimization is not a risk factor but may be an intervening factor” (Peguero, 2011).

Theory & Argument

Conceptually, I propose that violence and crime in communities will impact the educational success of kindergarten through twelfth-grade students. Therefore suggesting that these types of occurrences are extremely distracting to learners. The stress and the disruptions

that come from crime get in the way of the students learning. Furthermore, this type of violent exposure is seemingly associated with students' behavior and classroom performance. In a study done by Julia Burdick-Will, they wondered how close the relationship between academic achievement and violence is in the Chicago area (Burdick-Will, 2023). The researcher found that exposure to violence has a stronger relationship with academic achievement than when the individual student lives in the community where the violence occurs (Burdick-Will, 2023). This expresses that the learners' scores were lower with lots of students with peers from violent neighborhoods (Burdick-Will, 2023).

In addition, a study of Chicago public schools finds that “while schools in high-poverty, high-crime neighborhoods tend to be less safe than other schools, students' level of academic achievement actually plays a more significant role in school safety than a school's neighborhood (Spark, 2011). The researchers, Allensworth and Steinberg, state that the link between school safety and student success should be an important consideration for lower-performing schools (Sparks, 2011). With all this in mind, I argue that those surrounded by violence in their communities are at an academic disadvantage. So I hypothesize that county crime rates will be related to lower graduation rates and higher dropout rates among kindergarten through twelfth-grade students.

Other possible explanations for some students being academically disadvantaged could include the type of resources and staffing the public schools have available. When there are counties that have small local budgets to provide the resources students need to succeed and grow, students can struggle- which in effect, leads them to not have the motivation to learn. Thorndike's law of effect states that people will repeat behaviors that lead to desirable effects. However, if there is no motivation, students will not have the desire to learn. This goes hand in

hand with stereotype threats. These threats come from negative stereotypes about an individual or a group's race, gender, sex, culture, etc. When students are being told certain things or being perceived in a certain way, they can lose that motivation and sense of belonging. When a student knows they belong in the classroom and that they have the same potential as everyone else, their motivation increases. The sense of belonging is related to effort and persistence.

Another explanation for certain students not achieving academic greatness could be that they do not see learning as a reward. The student either does not see the education system as an intrinsic reward, which is integral to an active and self-reinforcing- such as enjoying learning for pleasure. Or the students do not see education as a way of an extrinsic reward, which is not integral to behavior but rather arrives after completing a task- such as being rewarded for good grades. The idea of school being a reward is important. However, if a school does not have the resources to help students see that learning can be rewarding, and if a student does not feel motivated about learning, a student may not achieve academic success.

Research Design & Data

This research is a large-n study observing quantitative data in which 57 counties were taken into account. However, Alpine County was excluded from this study due to there being no data from the California Department of Education during the 2020 through 2021 school year. Because I was focusing on the 2021 year for both crime and high school graduation rates in California, Alpine County was not taken into consideration so the data could all be the same for the respective years.

For this research, my independent variable is crime collected from 57 counties in California- specifically felony arrests relating to violence and property crime. The data for the independent variable was gathered from Open Justice- which is a strategy by the California

Department of Justice that makes criminal justice data publicly known (California Department of Justice, 2022). The total number of felony arrests made in 2021 totaled to 266,845 with 93,728 accounting for violent offenses and 58,245 accounting for property offenses (California Department of Justice, 2022). 2021 saw 6,697 fewer felony arrests than in 2020 and 162,962 fewer felony arrests than in 2012.

As mentioned, I found data related to both violent crimes as well as property crimes. As seen in Figure 1, many counties seem to have violent crime rates that appear to be at a mean of 42.5%. The counties with the highest violent crime rates include Mono, Humboldt, and Lake County at around 49.9%. The counties with the lowest violent crimes are San Diego, Contra Costa, and Shasta County at 18.9%.

As for property crime arrests, in 2021 the State of California averaged about 18.2% between the counties, as seen in Figure 2. The three highest counties include Alameda, Kern, and Orange County around 25%. The lowest counties are Modoc, San Benito, and Calaveras around 8%. Here, we do not see a huge difference between the counties due to property crime arrests appearing to be low.

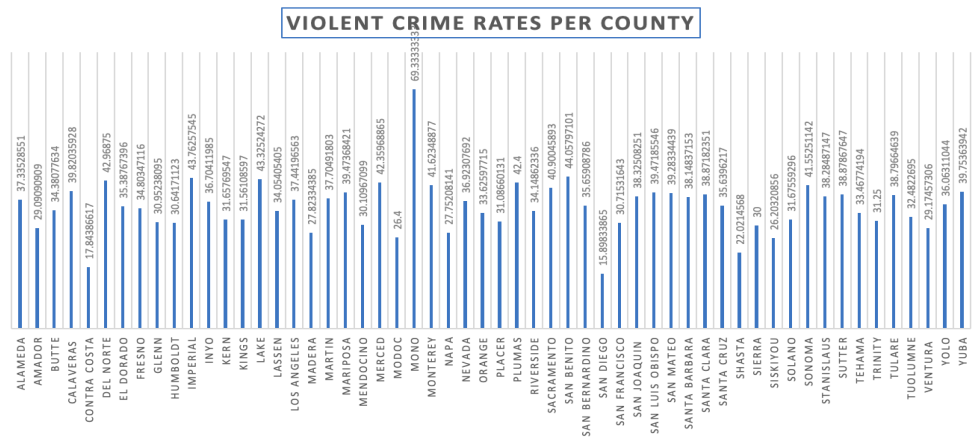


Figure 1. 2021 Violent Crime Rates per Counties

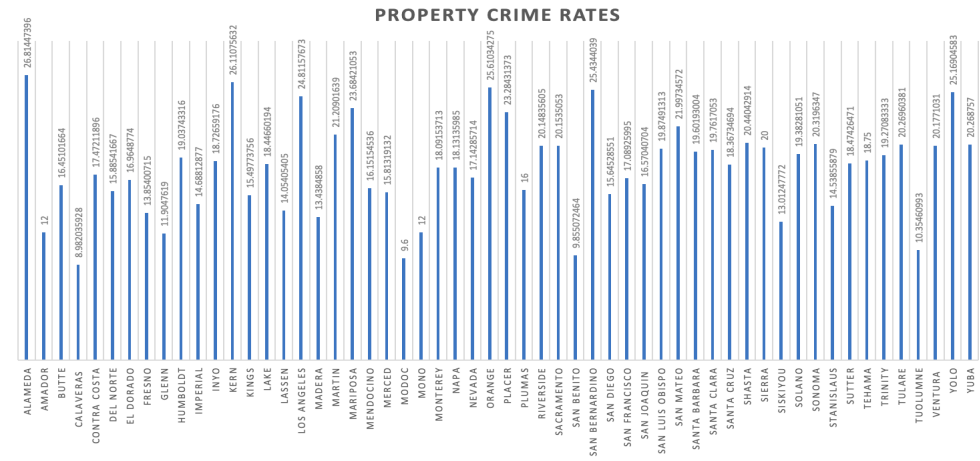


Figure 2. 2021 Property Crime Rates per California Counties

When combining both property and violent crime together, we see an average of 72.7% of all felony arrests being violent and property crime in the 57 California counties as seen in Figure 3. The areas most prone for arrest are Mono, Alameda, and Stanislaus County at approximately 67%. The areas least likely to see these types of arrests are San Diego, Contra Costa, and Modoc at around 30%.

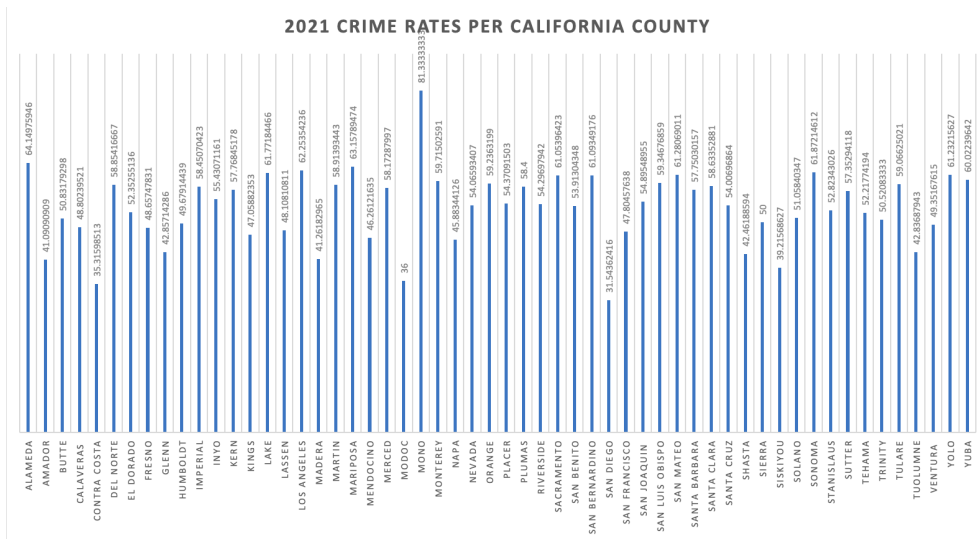


Figure 3. Violent & Property Crime in California Counties

For my dependent variable, I collected data from public high schools in 57 counties regarding each student's 2020 through 2021 status when it comes to their academic performance. The data for my dependent variable was collected through DataQuest which provides data regarding California's kindergarten through twelfth-grade educational system in a variety of areas. Data Quest is led by the California Department of Education (California Department of Education, 2023). I specifically looked at students graduating and receiving a high school diploma as well as dropout rates per California county.

For this research, I analyzed graduation rates and dropout rates from public high schools in 2021. As seen in Figure 4, there are many counties with graduation rates passing 70%. The top California counties with the highest public high school graduation rates include Calaveras, El Dorado, and San Luis Obispo at an average of 94.2%. The counties with the lowest graduation rates are San Francisco, Inyo, and Mono at a rate of 67.6%. As seen in Figure 5, there are 2 counties that have dropout rates above 30%. However, there are 24 counties that have high school dropout rates near 10%. The California counties with the highest dropout rates are San Francisco, Nevada, and Inyo at around 40%. The counties with the lowest high school dropout rates include El Dorado, Calaveras, and Napa at 3.2%. Figure 6 shows a side-by-side representation of both high school graduation rates as well as dropout rates per California county.

Figure 4. Percentage of Graduating High Schoolers in 2021 (Source Kids Data)

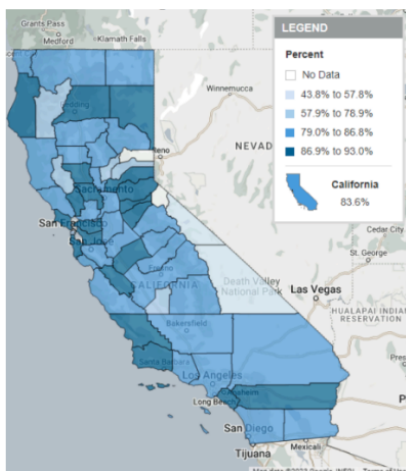


Figure 5. 2021 High School Dropout Rates per County

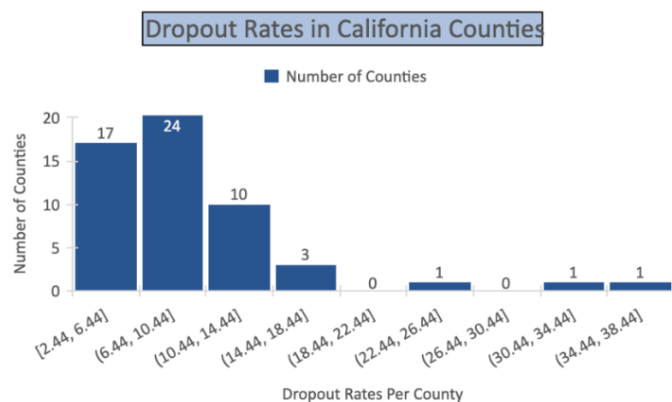
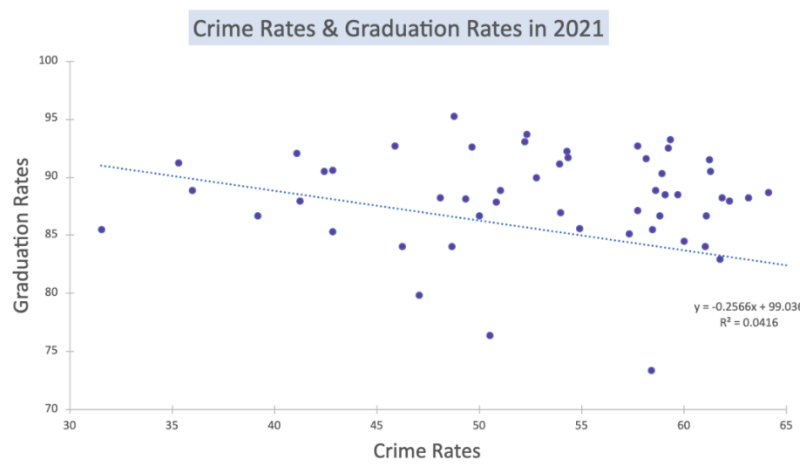
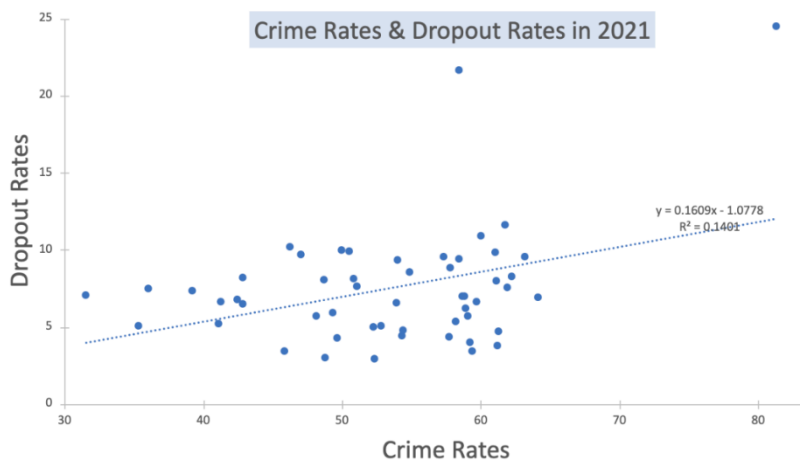


Figure 7. 2021 Crime & Graduation Rates per California County



Furthermore, when crime is seemingly present, high school dropout rates are roughly similar throughout the crime activities. In Figure 8 we can see that there is a positive linear relationship between the two variables. Although dropout rates do tend to be higher when crime tends to be more common, the percentage with dropout rates appears to have a 5% difference while the crime rate ranges from 30% to 60% which is double. For this graph (Figure 8), there is a slope intercept of $Y = 0.1609x - 1.0778$ with the coefficient of determination being $R^2 = 0.1401$. Although the data shows that dropout rates are roughly around 10% to 15% for a majority of the counties, this is still a high amount of students that are not graduating from high school for one reason or another.

Figure 8. 2021 Crime and Dropout Rates per California County



Implications

As stated in my hypothesis, county crime rates will be related to lower graduation rates and higher dropout rates among kindergarten through twelfth-grade students. Although my hypothesis is not fully correct, it does appear to be partially accurate. Despite the fact that crime does not seem to impede graduation rates, since we see high graduation rates along with active violent and property crime, it does seem to have a correlation with dropout rates.

I theorized that community violence will impact the educational success of kindergarten through twelfth-grade students. Even though this is not true with all students, crime in neighborhoods and dropout rates do have a relationship. As described, along the spectrum of violent and property felony crimes, the dropout rate does rise in California counties.

For California, this is extremely significant because, as stated throughout the research paper, the Golden State has been a leading actor not only for the nation but the world as a whole. With the many elected officials and residents of California caring for future generations in their best interests, they should also be concerned about the hundreds of thousands of high school dropouts. For the United States, this can be a greater issue. As I mentioned, California is one of the largest, most recognized states in the world. It is without a doubt that the state is trying to do its best to uplift students in all sectors- which shows due to us having higher graduation rates than some areas. On the other hand, some states are censoring information from learners and deciding which types of Advanced Placement tests are allowed in the state, which makes it seem as if others are blocking students from their full potential. The conditions and environment the students are in are not always their fault, this is why there must be more done to allow students to feel safe at school with an equal education with equal resources.

Moreover, because there is a correlation between dropout rates and crime in communities, I would suggest more mental health care services as well as other resources related to such in the areas where there are high dropout rates. As stated by the California Department of Education, “[California is] experiencing a shortage of mental health needs for our students, California needs more clinics” (California Department of Education, 2022). According to the Department of Education, California has the highest shortage when it comes to Behavior Health Professionals in the state (California Department of Education, 2022). Furthermore, the Kaiser Family Foundation states these mental health services at schools can, not only improve access to care, but it can help reduce a student missing classes and allow for better mental health overall (Cox and Panchal, 2022). The foundation also explains that 34% of schools provide universal mental health screenings for all students (Cox and Panchal, 2022). Nevertheless, these services can also make the student better motivated about the idea of school, and if they are ever feeling like they cannot talk to anyone at home, they will have greater access to mental health care at their school.

Future Suggestions

There are many components I would have liked to improve on if I were to repeat this study, or if anyone else were to repeat a similar study related to kindergarten through twelfth-grade educational success and crimes within California.

One suggestion to further the research would be to take into consideration a student's race and income. This is because, historically, these two factors play an enormous role in a student's academic performance and achievement. According to the Legislative Analyst's Office, in 2018 African American learners received the lowest scores on standardized tests and held the lowest graduation rates in California (Legislative Analyst's Office, 2020). Similarly, African American

students also missed school at high levels, and they were suspended at double the rate of Latino and White students (Legislative Analyst's Office, 2020).

I would also suggest taking into consideration other groups like English learners, those with disabilities, as well as foster and homeless youth. All these student groups and low-income students have worse outcomes than other students. As an example, "foster youth students had the lowest [high school] graduation rates, with only about half graduating" (Legislative Analyst's Office, 2020). They also have more missed days of school compared to African American students- who have the lowest attendance among races (Legislative Analyst's Office, 2020).

Another suggestion would be to increase the types of crimes when doing the research. I focused mainly on felony arrest crimes but only included violent crimes and property crimes. Rather than just focusing on these categories of crime, I would suggest including types of misdemeanor crimes as well as other crimes such as robbery, assault, and domestic violence. Domestic violence crimes can give greater insight into the children's life, in certain countries, to understand the amounts of reported home crises.

Conclusion

In light of this information, it is evident that there is much being done in the government to try to prevent crime and violence- not only in California but in the entire United States. It is also clear that those who are motivated tend to enjoy their educational journey. If there were more students who had the motivation, there would be fewer dropout rates and students would appreciate learning about different concepts. As Scholar Chip states, "On a larger scale, motivating engagement positively impacts the entire school atmosphere. Beginning a program of learning motivation based on intrinsic rewards, like community validation and personal achievement" (2019).

In drawing to a close, as I stated prior, the educational success of every student matters. We as a society need to help the ones that slip through the cracks and make sure they are doing the very best possible. Everyone should have an equal opportunity to get a high school diploma. Although they cannot help the conditions they are in, action can certainly be done to try and help ease out the distractions that may be occurring within the communities of California.

Summary

The success of every student matters. Elected officials and others alike have passed a variety of legislation that upholds the educational success of all students. However, one could say life is no longer the same as before for any student because violence is everywhere. 44% of K through 12th-grade parents fear for their child's physical safety while at school. While 20% of parents say their children have expressed worry about school safety. These findings are similar to the record high 22% findings in 2001 following the Santana High School Shooting according to a study by Gallup.

These types of occurrences can make an individual ask, how can anyone, especially a student successfully get by? My research question is: *How is the educational success of K through 12 students impacted when there is (or when there is not) violence in their communities?* I theorize *community violence will impact the educational success of K through 12 students.* And I hypothesize that *county crime rates will be related to lower graduation rates and higher dropout rates among K through 12 students.*

As for my methodology, I examined 57 out of the 58 California counties. Student success was measured by looking at the graduation and dropout rates in the 57 California counties during 2021 with data provided by the California Department of Education- which is my dependent variable. And my independent variable is crime, which is measured by looking at felony arrests made in the 57 counties in 2021 with data provided by the California Department of Justice. For my findings, as seen in Figure 7, there tend to be high graduation rates throughout both the low and high crime activity- suggesting a

negative linear relationship. Figure 8 shows higher dropout rates when crime is more common, suggesting a positive linear relationship.

Future research should look into the race and income of these graduates since, historically, this plays a huge role in a student's success. Furthermore, one should examine more types of crimes within communities rather than just felony arrest crimes related to violence and property crimes. Lastly, because there is a correlation between dropout rates and crime in California counties, I would suggest more mental health and family care services as well as resources in high dropout areas to try to assist in the success of every student.

References

Stanton, Sam. “Former UC Davis Student Charged in Stabbings That Killed 2 | The ...”

Davis Stabbing Attacks: Murder Charges Filed against Ex-UC Davis Student Carlos Dominguez, 8 May 2023, www.sacbee.com/news/local/crime/article275102886.html.

Slater, Sonora. “Campus Authorities Move Evening Classes Online, Expand Safe Rides Services.” *Campus Authorities Move Evening Classes Online, Expand Safe Rides Services*, 3 May 2023,

theaggie.org/2023/05/03/campus-authorities-move-evening-classes-online-expand-safe-rides-services/

California Community Colleges. “Title 5 Regulations & Guidelines & California Code Sections.” *DSPS Training and Resources*, California Community College, 14 Apr. 2021, <https://dsps.cccco.edu/resources/section-one-chancellors-office-resources/title-5-regulations-guidelines-california-code-sections/>.

National Center for Education Statistics. Public High School Graduation Rates. *Condition of Education*. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, May 2021 from <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/coi>

National Center for Education Statistics. “The NCES Fast Facts Tool Provides Quick Answers to Many Education Questions (National Center for Education Statistics).” *What Are the Dropout Rates of High School Students?*, 2022, nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=16

“Undergraduate Graduation Rates.” *The University of California*, 13 Feb. 2023,
www.universityofcalifornia.edu/about-us/information-center/ug-outcomes.

McGough, M., Amin, K., Cox, C., & Panchal, N. (2022, June 8). *Child and teen firearm mortality in the U.S. and peer countries*. KFF.

<https://www.kff.org/global-health-policy/issue-brief/child-and-teen-firearm-mortality-in-the-u-s-and-peer-countries/>

Gun Violence Archive. “Mass Shootings in 2023.” *Gun Violence Archive*, 21 May 2023,
www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting.

The State of California (2023, February 1). *Governor Newsom takes action to strengthen California's gun safety laws*. Governor Newsom Takes Action to Strengthen California’s Gun Safety Laws.

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2023/02/01/governor-newsom-takes-action-to-strengthen-california-gun-safety-laws/>

Rossin-Slater, M. (2022, June). *Surviving a school shooting: Impacts on the mental health, education, and earnings of American Youth*. Surviving a school shooting: Impacts on the mental health, education, and earnings of American youth.

<https://siepr.stanford.edu/publications/health/surviving-school-shooting-impacts-mental-health-education-and-earnings-american>

McGaha-Garnett, Valerie. “The Effects of Violence on Academic Progress and Classroom Behavior.” *VISTAS*, 2023,

www.counseling.org/docs/default-source/vistas/the-effects-of-violence-on-academic-progress-and-classroom-behavior.pdf?sfvrsn=1828de3f_12.

Peguero, Anthony A. “Violence, Schools, and Dropping Out: Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Educational Consequence of Student Victimization.” *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* , 13 Dec. 2011,

journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0886260511403764?journalCode=jiva

Brenan, Megan. “Parent, Student School Safety Concerns Elevated.” *Gallup.Com*, 6 Dec. 2022, news.gallup.com/poll/399680/parent-student-school-safety-concerns-elevated.aspx.

State of California Department of Justice. “ARRESTS STATISTICS.” *OpenJustice, DOJ*, 2023, openjustice.doj.ca.gov/exploration/crime-statistics/arrest

State of California Department of Education. “2020-21 Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Outcome.” *Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Outcome - Statewide (CA Dept of Education)*, 2023, dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/dqcensus/CohOutcomeLevels.aspx?cds=00&agglevel=State&year=2020-21

Developer, L. A. C. A. (2019). *Violent crimes*. Los Angeles Criminal Attorneys.

<https://www.losangeles-criminalattorneys.com/practice-areas/violent-crimes#:~:text=Violent%20crimes%20in%20California%20are,use%20of%20a%20deadly%20weapon>

Criminal Defense. “California Property Crimes You Should Know About: Ca.” *California Property Crimes You Should Know About | CA*, Fuller Law Office, 2022,

www.coryfullerlaw.com/san-jose-attorney/california-property-crimes-you-should-know-ab

[out#:~:text=Property%20crimes%20generally%20refer%20to,result%20in%20serious%20criminal%20penalties](#)

Schiavo, Assembly Member. "Bill Text." *Bill Text - AB-1133 Firearms: Concealed Carry Licenses.*, California Legislative Information, 15 Feb. 2023,

[leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1132](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1132)

"Governor Newsom Proposes 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution." *California Governor*, The State of California, 8 June 2023,

www.gov.ca.gov/2023/06/08/28th-amendment/

California Senator Dianne Feinstein. "Senators Introduce Bills to Protect Communities, Schools from Assault Weapons." *United States Senator for California Senator Dianne Feinstein*, 23 Jan. 2023,

www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?id=A653D4A0-E7B3-46E5-981B-1E7F35E6BF8D

Giffords Law Center. "Assault Weapons in California." *Assault Weapons in California*, Giffords Law Center To Prevent Gun Violence, 3 Jan. 2023,

giffords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/assault-weapons-in-california/

Burdick-Will, J. "Sociology of Education Neighborhood Violence, Peer." *JSTOR*, 2023, www.jstor.org/stable/48588581

Sparks, Sarah D. "Study Links School Safety to Achievement, Relationships." *Education Week*, 10 May 2011,

www.edweek.org/leadership/study-links-school-safety-to-achievement-relationships/2011/05

California Department of Education. "Mental Health Support." *Mental Health Support - Transforming Schools: Superintendent's Initiatives (CA Dept of Education)*, 2022, www.cde.ca.gov/eo/in/ts-mentalhealthsupport.asp