

Introduction

Significance of Study

- In 2017, the US ranked 28th highest in the rate of deaths from gun violence in the world.
- The US ranks far higher with gun violence than most of the other wealthy countries and higher than many low-income countries as well.
- Between July 1994 and June 2016 there were 423 school related homicide incidents and 30 of those involved multiple victims' incidents.
- In 2014 firearm homicide and firearm suicide were fourth and third leading cause of death in children 10 to 14.
- Multiple victim school associated homicide alternated year by year but for the most part declined between 1994 and 2009 but between 2009 and 2018 there was an increase in multiple-victim homicide incidence rates

Research Question

- Does a school shooter's affiliation with the school have a more lethal shooting outcome on that campus?

Hypothesis

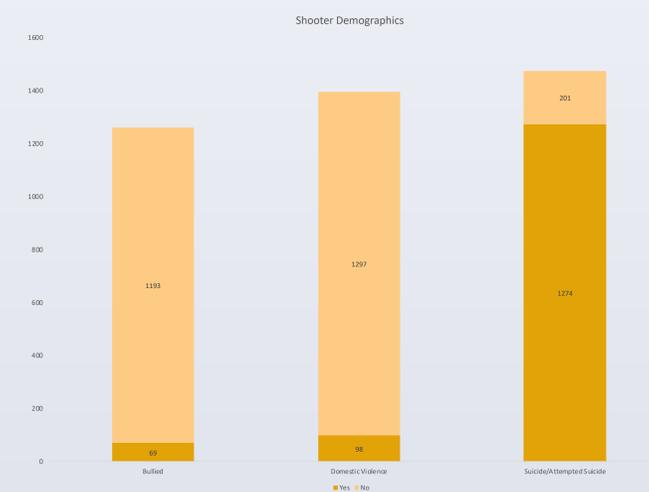
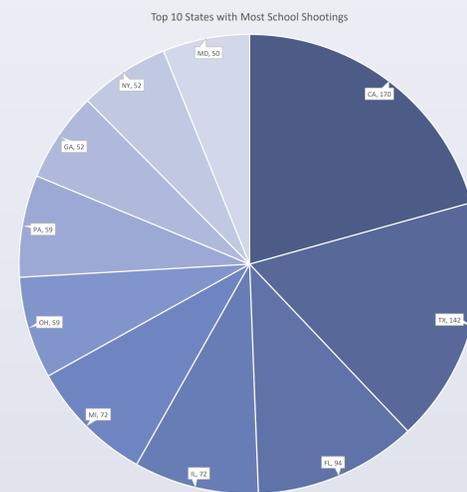
- A school shooter with an affiliation to the school will result in a more lethal shooting outcome

Literature Review

- The United States has a larger portion of public mass shooters than its global counterparts.
- By the end of 2011, the United States had more school shootings to date than all of Europe, South America, Africa and Oceania combined.
 - The US had 76 school shootings and the rest of the world had 44 school shootings.
- Majority of adolescent school shooters (53%-68%) acquired their guns through their relatives and their homes.
- The US owns 50% of the worlds private gun ownership in the world but only makes up 5% of the world's population.
- There have been 175 rampage school shootings since 1979.
- On average there are about 10 school shootings a year, but extensive media coverage of the events make it appear that shootings are happening more often.
- There is limited research on school shootings due to a few issues such as no universal definition of school mass shootings, limited research focus, limited research studies and accuracy issues with data.
- Research found that firearm ownership and state prevalence of mass shootings and school shootings are significantly associated.

Descriptive Analysis Results

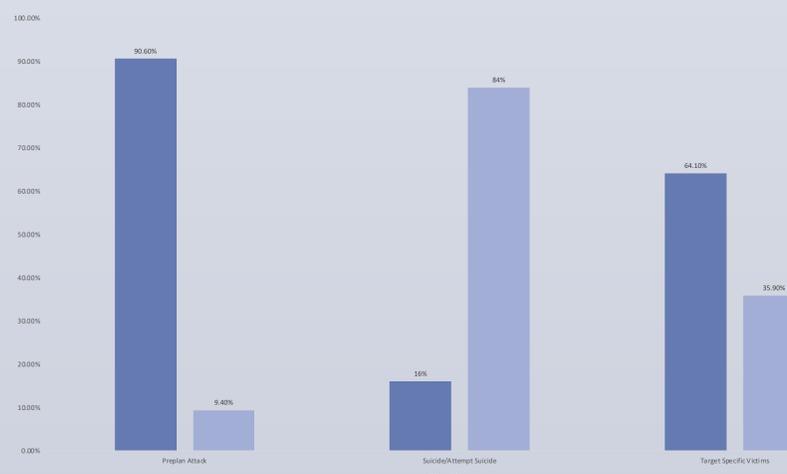
- The sample had 1,516 school shootings, ranging from Kindergarten through 12th grade.
- The school shooters included 1.279 males and 61 females
- The race for school shooters were 198 Black, 196 White, 37 some other, 9 Asian and 3 Native American or Native Hawaiian
- The age range for the shooters were 5 to 74 years old, with the average age of school shooter being 19.98.
- Majority of the shooting incidents occurred at high schools (1023), with a smaller portion at elementary schools (215) and middles schools (201).
- Shootings occurred most often on Fridays (22.3%), followed by Tuesdays (18.5%) and Wednesdays (18.4%).



Inferential Statistics Results

Chi Square Analysis

- Chi-square tests for independence were used to compare baseline characteristics of shooter affiliation to targeted attacks, suicide and preplanned attacks.
- The chi-square analysis indicated that there was a significant relationship between shooter affiliation and targeted specific victims ($\chi^2(48) = 311.50, p < .01$) and between shooter affiliation and preplanned attack ($\chi^2(48) = 1193.15, p < .01$).
- The results of the chi-square indicated there was a significant relationship between shooter affiliation and suicide ($\chi^2(48) = 1153.34, p < .01$) and between shooter affiliation and type of firearm used ($\chi^2(48) = 289.07$).



One-Way ANOVA

- A one-way ANOVA was conducted to compare mean number of shots fired and total injured in relation to shooter affiliation groups.
- Results revealed a statistical significance between number of people injured and student affiliation [$F(12,1502) = 3.44, p = .00$] but there was not statistical significance between number of shots fired and student affiliation [$F(2,1502) = .90, p = .55$].
- A scheffe post-hoc test identified a statistical significance ($p = .02$) between former student ($M = 3.89, SD = 0.99$) and number of students ($M = 1.51, SD = 0.09$) injured during shooting incident.

Discussion

Strengths & Limitations

- The current study's limitation include secondary data source, convenience sampling, and missing or unavailable information.
- The current study strengths include examining variables that have not been extensively researched and using a large sample size.

Implications for Future Research

- Creation and implementation of a universal definition for what is categorized as school shootings and mass shootings.
- Future research should encompass a thorough examination of the shooter's environmental, situational and personal variables.
- The results indicate there is a need to shift more attention to gathering primary research on school shootings such as gathering information from first responders, victims and school personnel.

Implications for Social Work

- Social workers will be at the forefront of school shootings and that aftermath that follows as such it is imperative that social workers are educated and prepared for school shootings.

Acknowledgements

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