Research exercise: Research on the Approaches to School Safety

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Positive Effects of Arming Teachers in Schools

Legislation
- Teachers are used as law enforcement
- Allow schools to all follow the same guidelines to protect students

Gun Safety
- Students would learn about gun safety
- Students would also learn how to protect themselves from gun violence

Student Safety
- Perpetrators won’t be as likely to enter into schools
- Teachers are more likely to take action against a shooter
- Teachers can react without waiting for law enforcement

Negative Effects of Arming Teachers in Schools

Legislation
- Legislation is often far behind the current times
- The laws would take too long to pass, we don’t have time to was

Cost
- Schools can’t afford to pay for guns or training
- Estimated to cost $5 billion a year to incorporate guns in schools

Gun Safety in Classrooms
- Accessibility to guns
- Larger students could overpower smaller teachers

Fixing Zero Tolerance

Weapons
- Promote a three strike system
- Continue to punish serious, or recurring violators

Drug Testing
- Provide consoling not punishment
- Educate on the problems with drug use
- Reallocate costs more efficiently

Bullying
- Increase awareness
- Introduce programs, like the OBP

Zero Tolerance Problems

Weapons
- One student was expelled because his name in sign language resembled a gun
- Another student was expelled because he had a pocket knife locked in a medical kit in his car.
- Promotes “safety” at the cost of student safety

Drug Testing
- False positives
- Cheating
- Doesn’t actually hinder drug use

Bullying
- Harms victims
- Doesn’t teach the bully correct behavior, just removes them from school