

Terrorism Prevention Centre of Excellence

<https://tpcoe.gov.pl/cpe/news/161,Risk-assessment-is-the-key-to-avoiding-attacks-in-schools.html>
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Risk assessment is the key to avoiding attacks in schools



The American NCTC (National Counterterrorism Centre), the Secret Service and the Department of Homeland Security have prepared an analysis of attacks in American educational institutions from elementary to high school, which shows that people planning attacks often show visible symptoms of behaviour, and if reported by members immediate community, it is possible to avoid impending tragedies.

The analysis covered 67 cases where the attack was prevented in the period 2006-2018. Its authors state that a properly conducted risk assessment should include comprehensive help and support for students suffering from stress in order to reduce their susceptibility to violence. The primary goal of this

policy should not be to punish or discipline students or report their behaviour to law enforcement, but to provide help and work together to positively overcome distress for the student and community. The results of the analysis confirm that in most cases there are moments when properly conducted intervention can prevent violence. In addition, the key people who may notice the need for a response are students (in class or school), the family and the local community.

More information at:

<https://www.secretservice.gov/sites/default/files/reports/2021-03/USSS%20Averting%20Targeted%20School%20Violence.2021.03.pdf>

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