

New Strategies for Keeping Schools Safe: Evidence-based Approaches to Prevent Youth Violence

Key Issues in School Safety

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Capitol Hill Briefing

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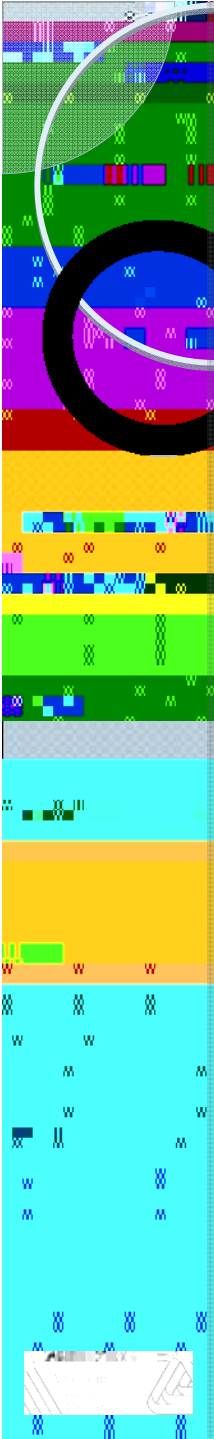
Dirksen Senate Office Building

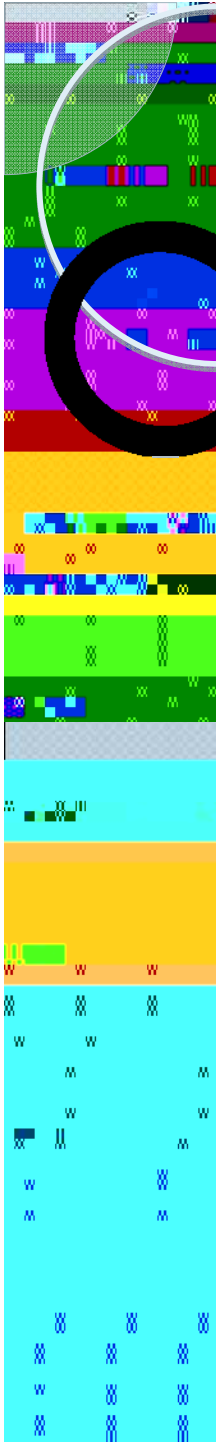
American Educational Research Association

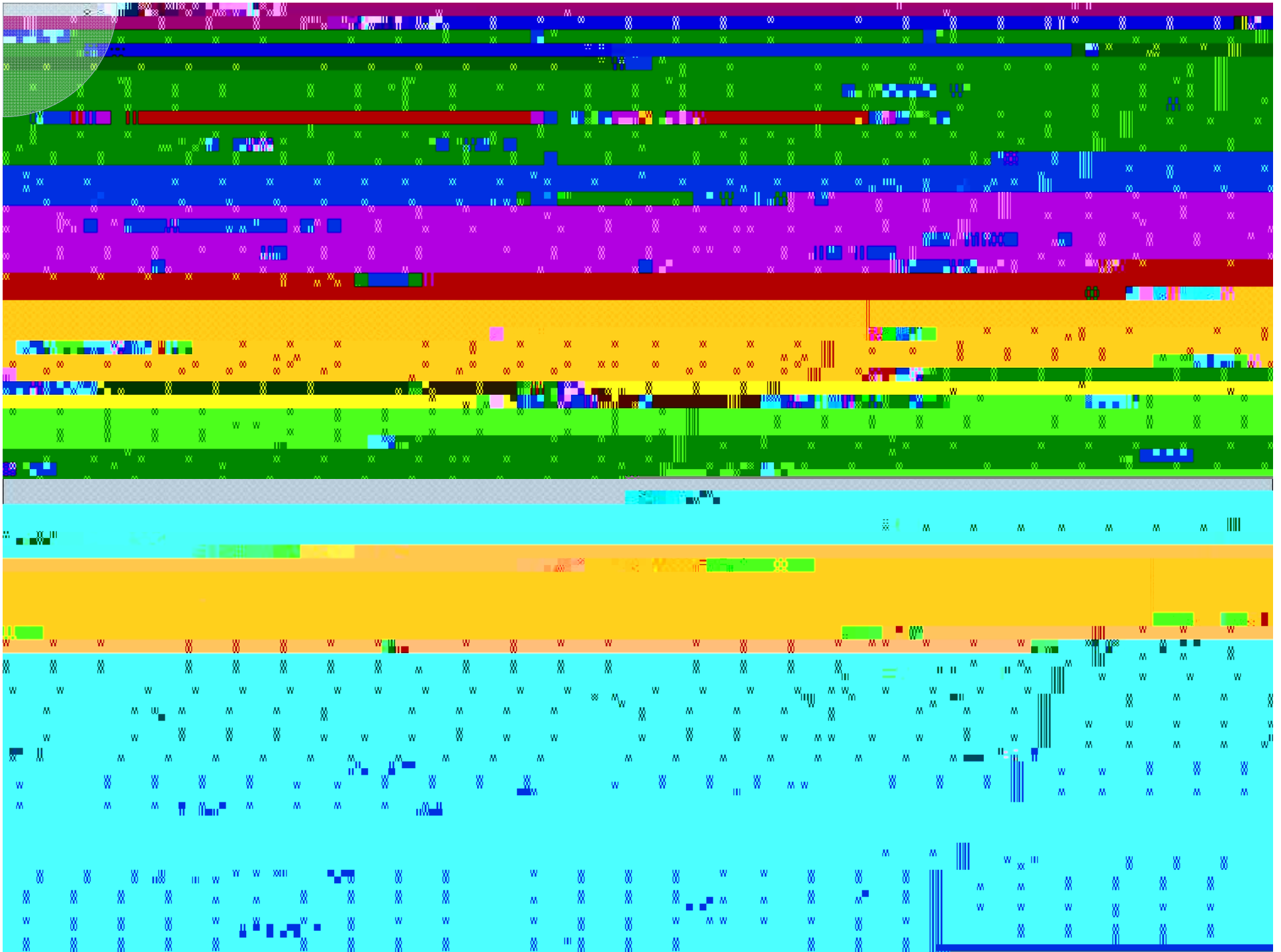
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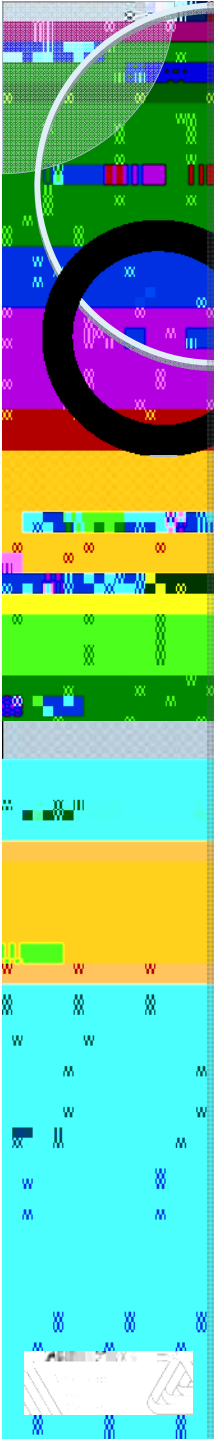


Trends in School Safety and Order

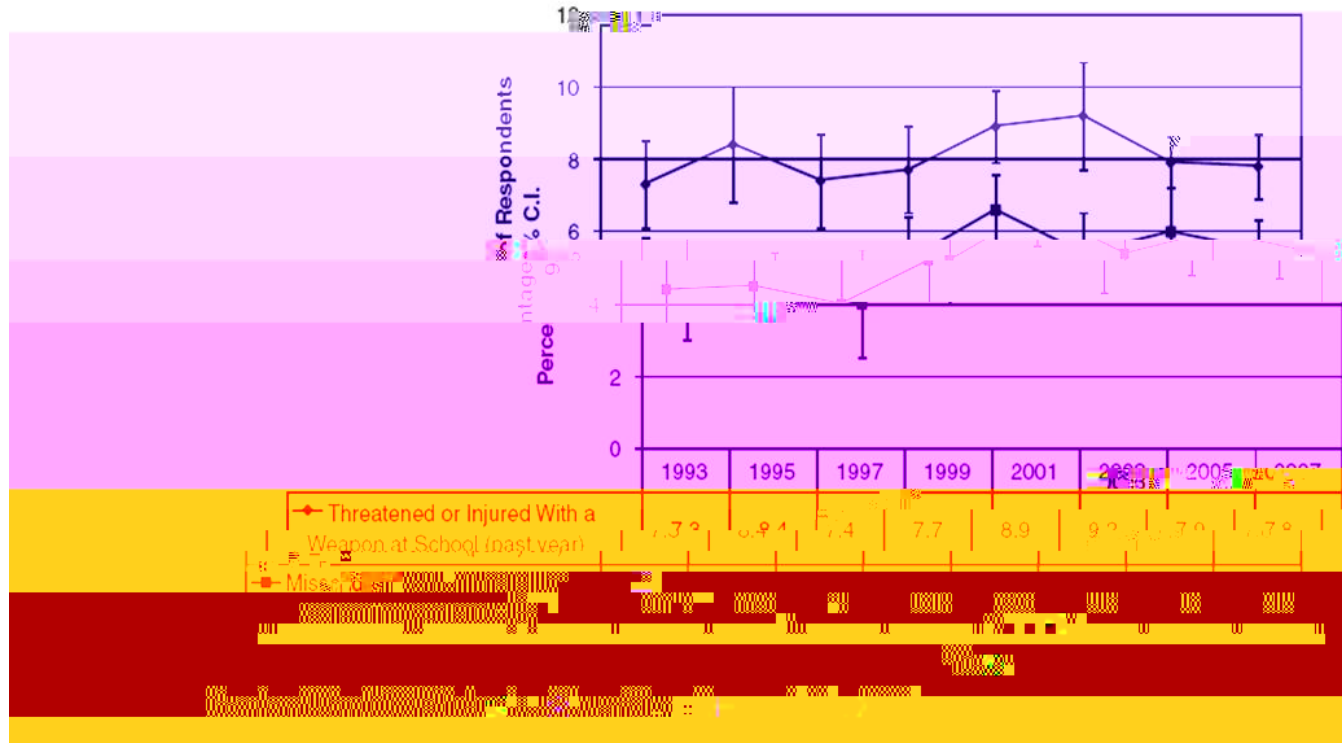
By some measures, serious violence in schools has declined

By most measures, low-level aggression, disruptive behaviors, and bullying remain at troubling levels

The complexity of measuring these trends is examined throughout the special issue of *Educational Researcher*

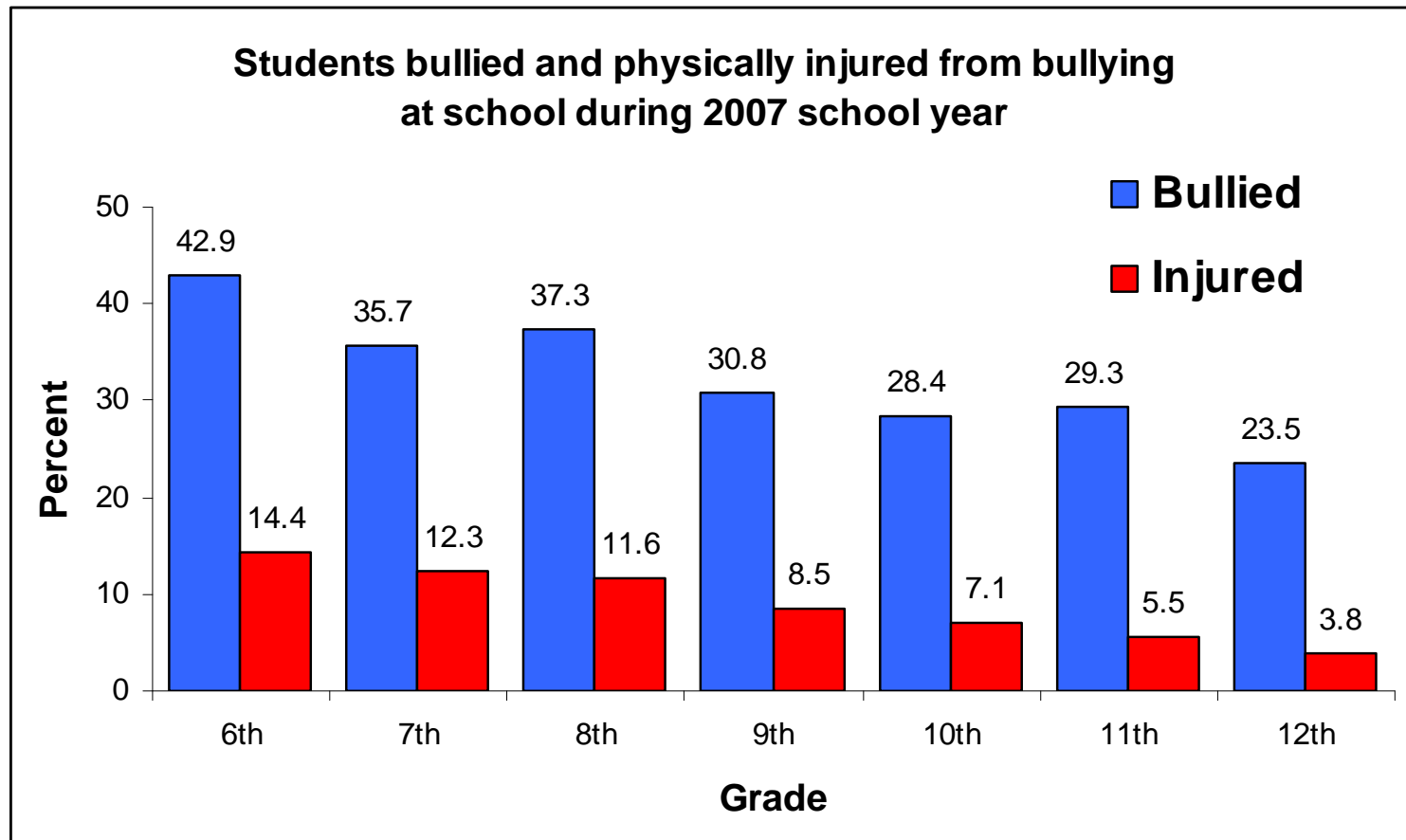


Measures of Students Threatened or Injured with a Weapon, or Having Missed School Due to Safety Concerns, Have NOT Declined.



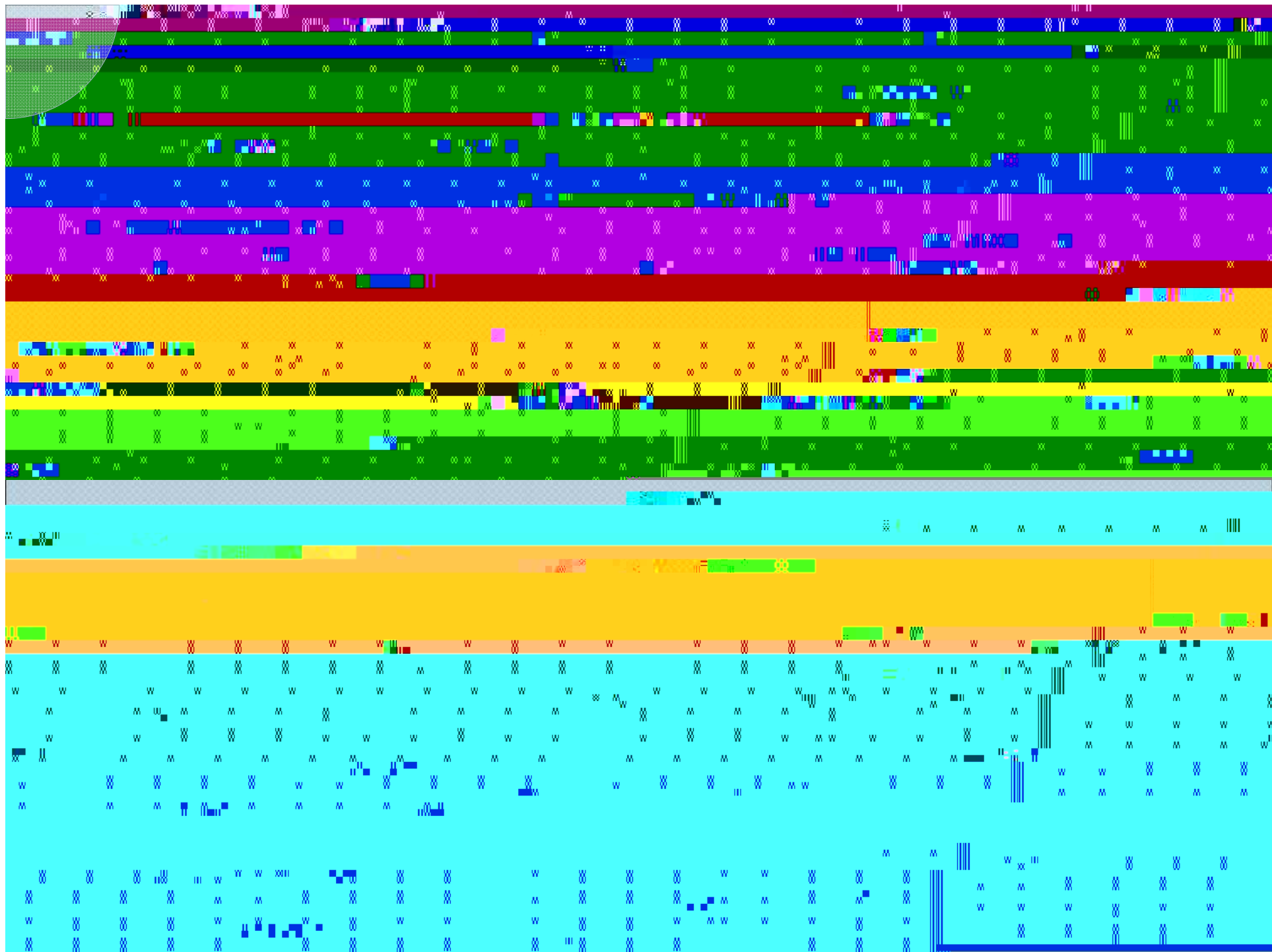
“During 1993–2007, a significant linear increase occurred in the percentage of students who did not go to school because of safety concerns (4.4%– 5.5%)” (Eaton et al., 2008).

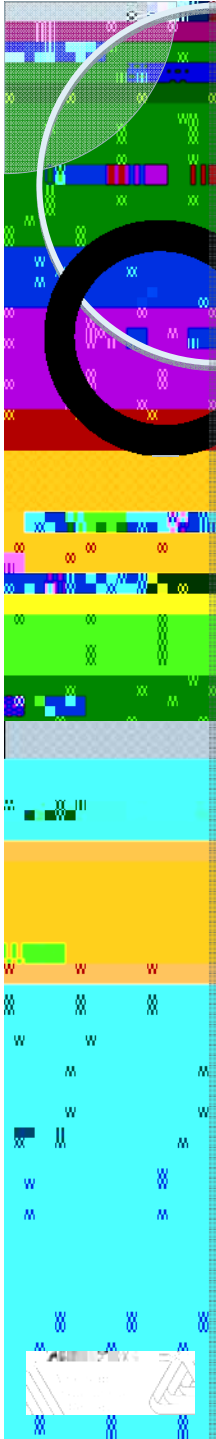
Bullying Remains Pervasive



Data Source: Indicators of School Crime and Safety 2009. Table 11.2

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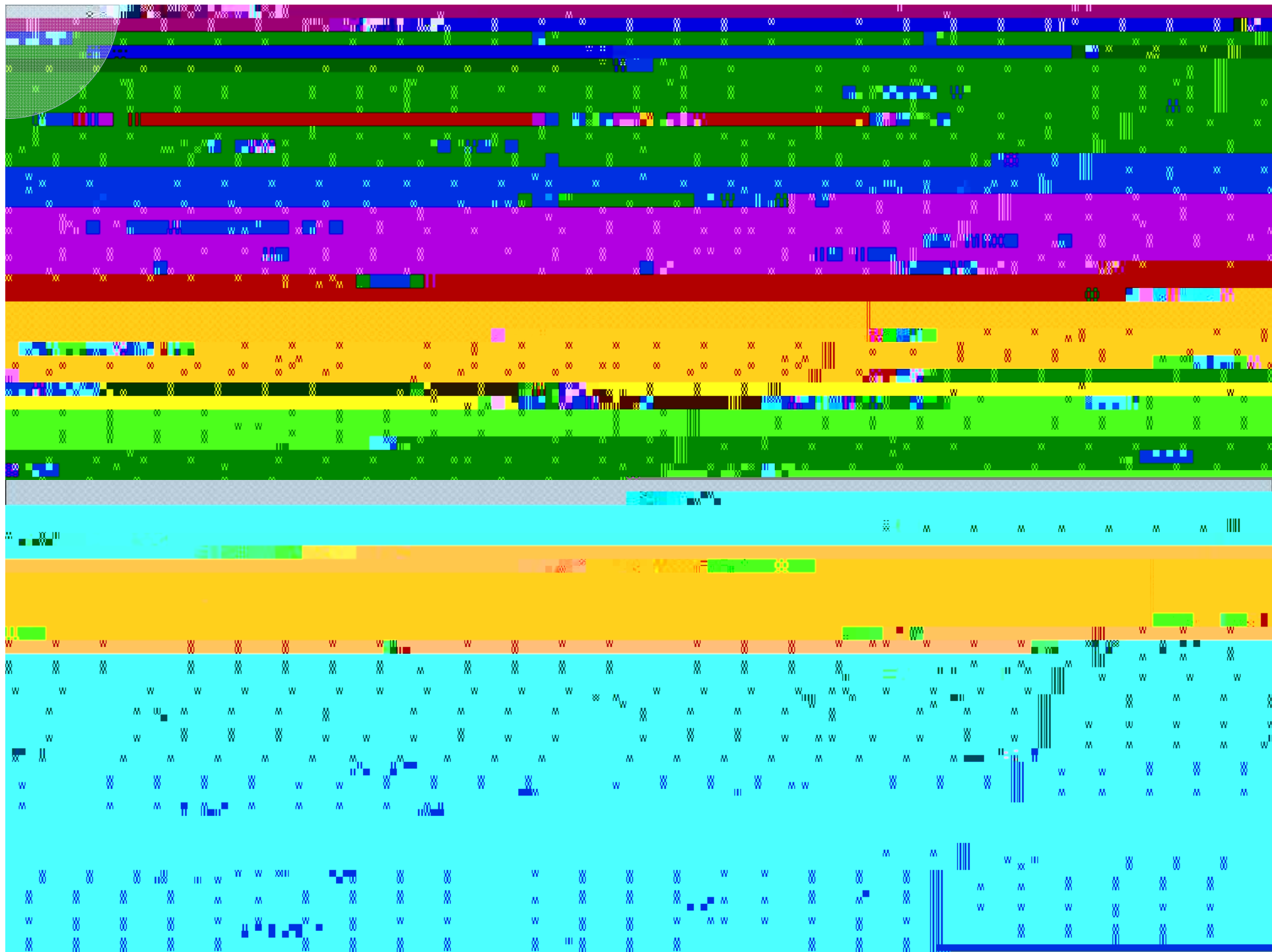
Shift in Focus From School Violence to School Safety

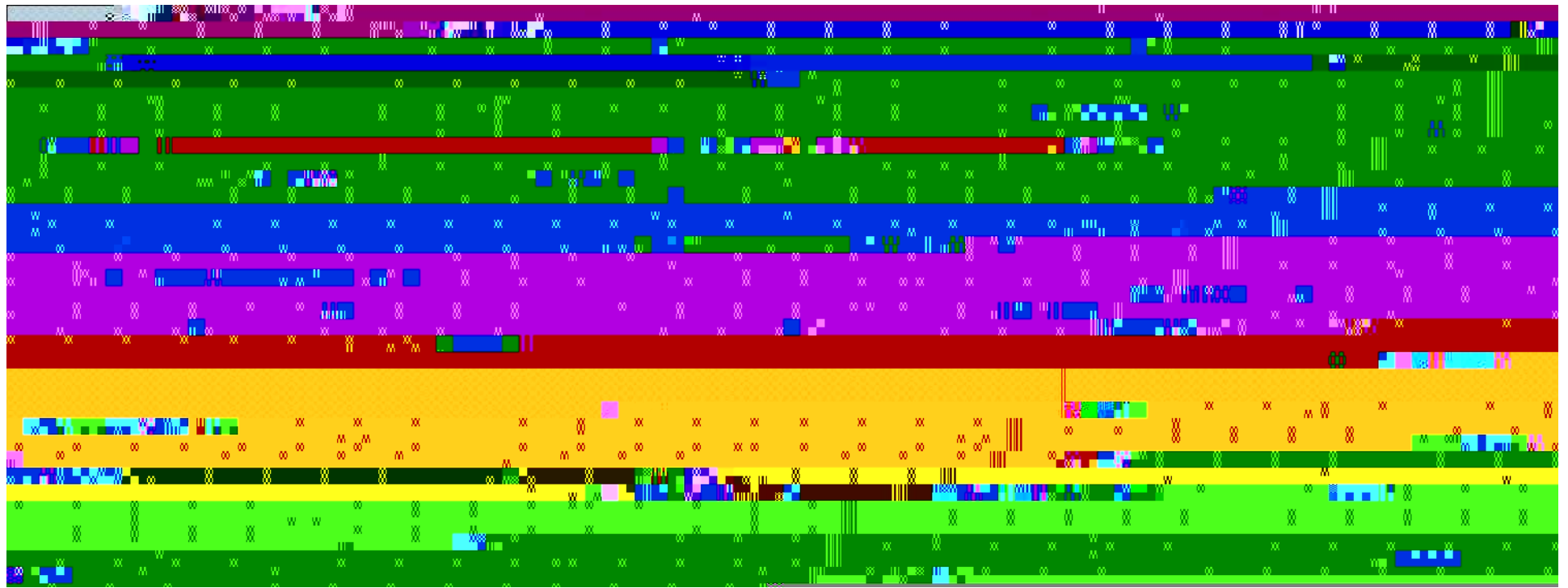
School violence is not a single problem with a simple solution

Need to shift focus to broader landscape of order and emotional and physical safety

Common needs for students and schools:

- Positive investment and engagement
- Physical & psychological well-being
- Academic & social progress



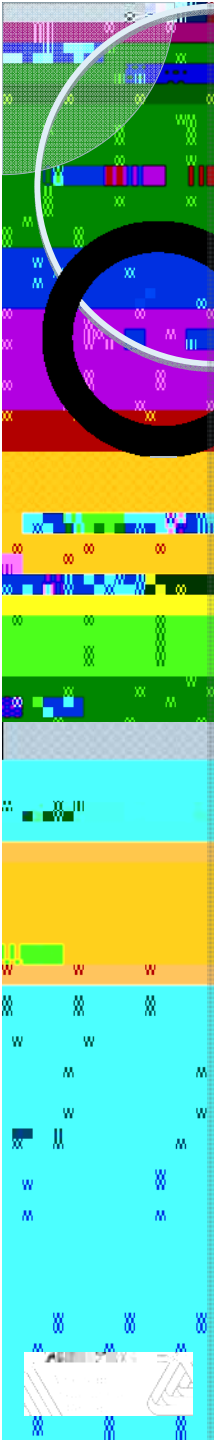


School Safety and Order Matters: Psychological Well-Being

Day-to-day bullying, intimidation, and incivility in schools is a primary problem, driving students' fear, anxiety, and avoidance of school to a much greater degree, compared to theft and physical attack (Mayer, 2010)

Most importantly, measures of incivility explain almost double the variance (31–45% vs. 17–25%) in students' fear, anxiety, and avoidant behaviors, compared to theft and attack, when tested using alternate measurement models.

The analysis can inform school-based professionals working with at-risk students who may be exhibiting fear, anxiety, or avoidant behaviors related to 3 Tc-log clrivarto a muenvirondels.5.1536 0 TD-. to a much



School Safety and Order Matters: Analogy To Child Neglect

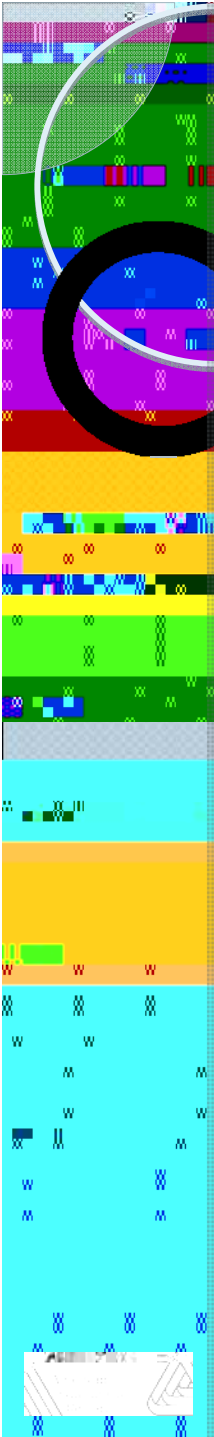
Severe physical child abuse is analogous to school shooting

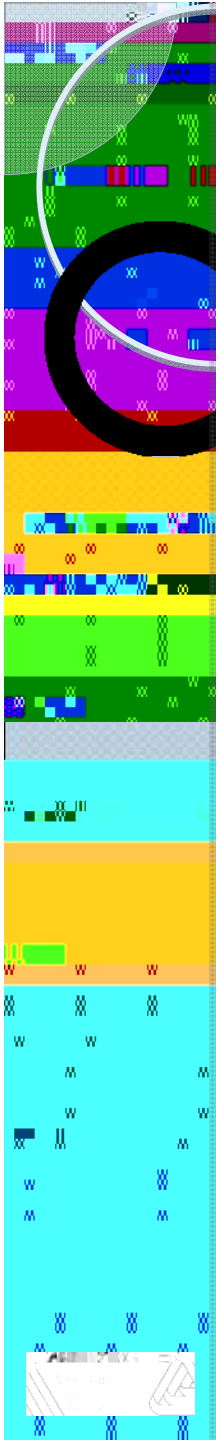
- Severe harm
- High profile and obvious
- Quick, visible systemic response

Long-term child neglect is analogous to long-term bullying, intimidation, and incivility in schools; toxic school environments

- Harm is real, substantial
- Not so obvious
- Marginal systemic response

Long-term bullying, intimidation, and incivility in schools that is under addressed constitutes a form of **systemic educational neglect** (Mayer & Furlong, 2010)





Special Issue: New Perspectives on School Safety and Violence Prevention

Guest Editors' Preface

Dana Dewey, Cory Cornelius, and Matthew J. Mayer

7 Why Do School Order and Safety Matter?

Dewey, Cornelius, and Mayer

16 Are Our Schools Safe?

Mayer and Michael J. Furlong

16

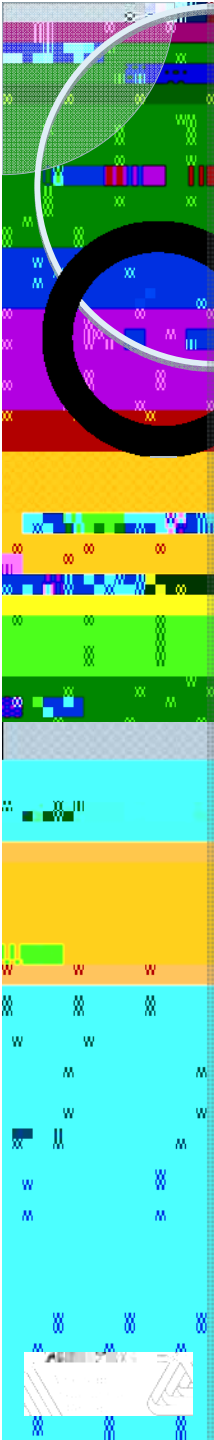
How Safe Are Our Schools?

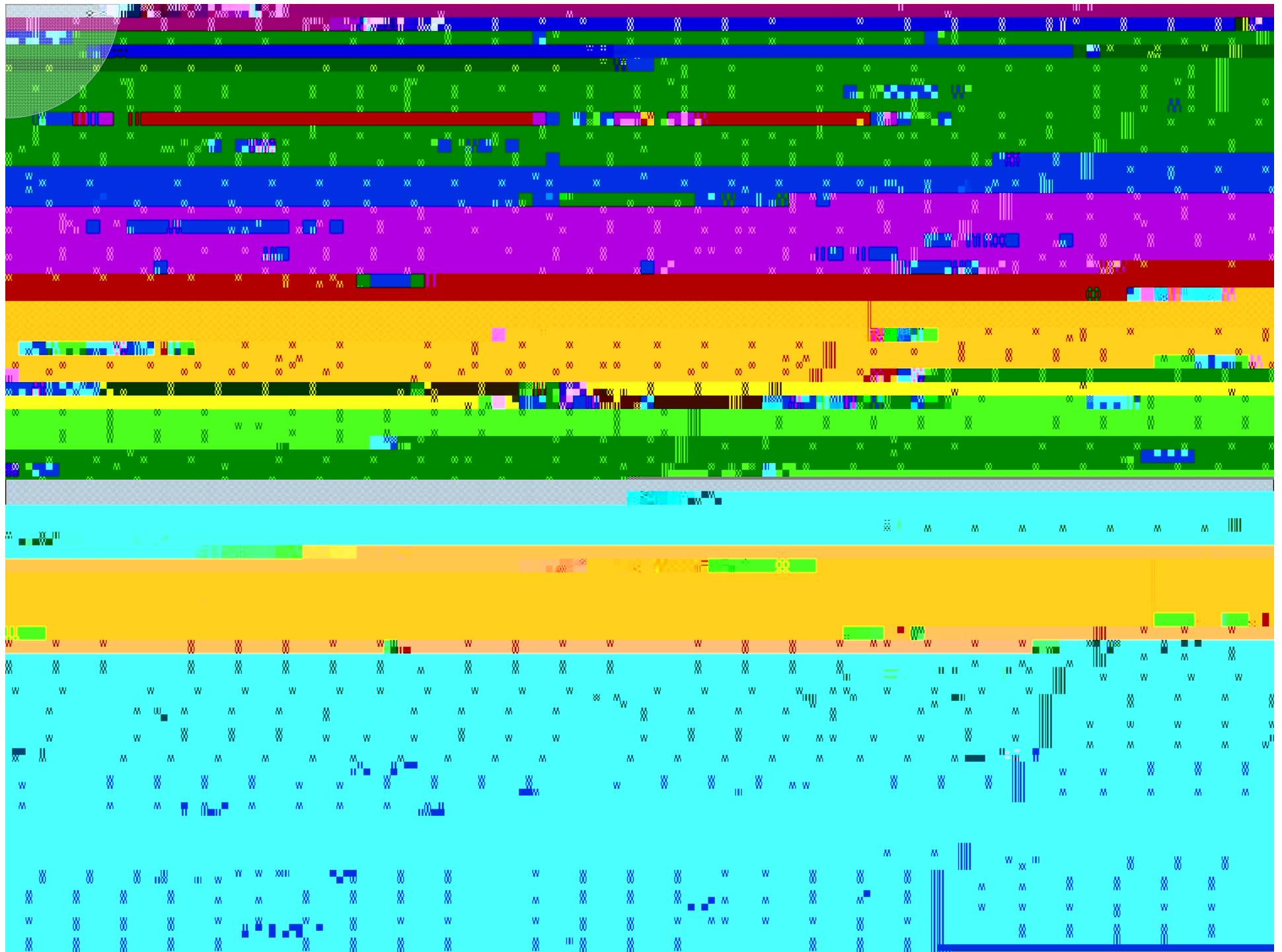
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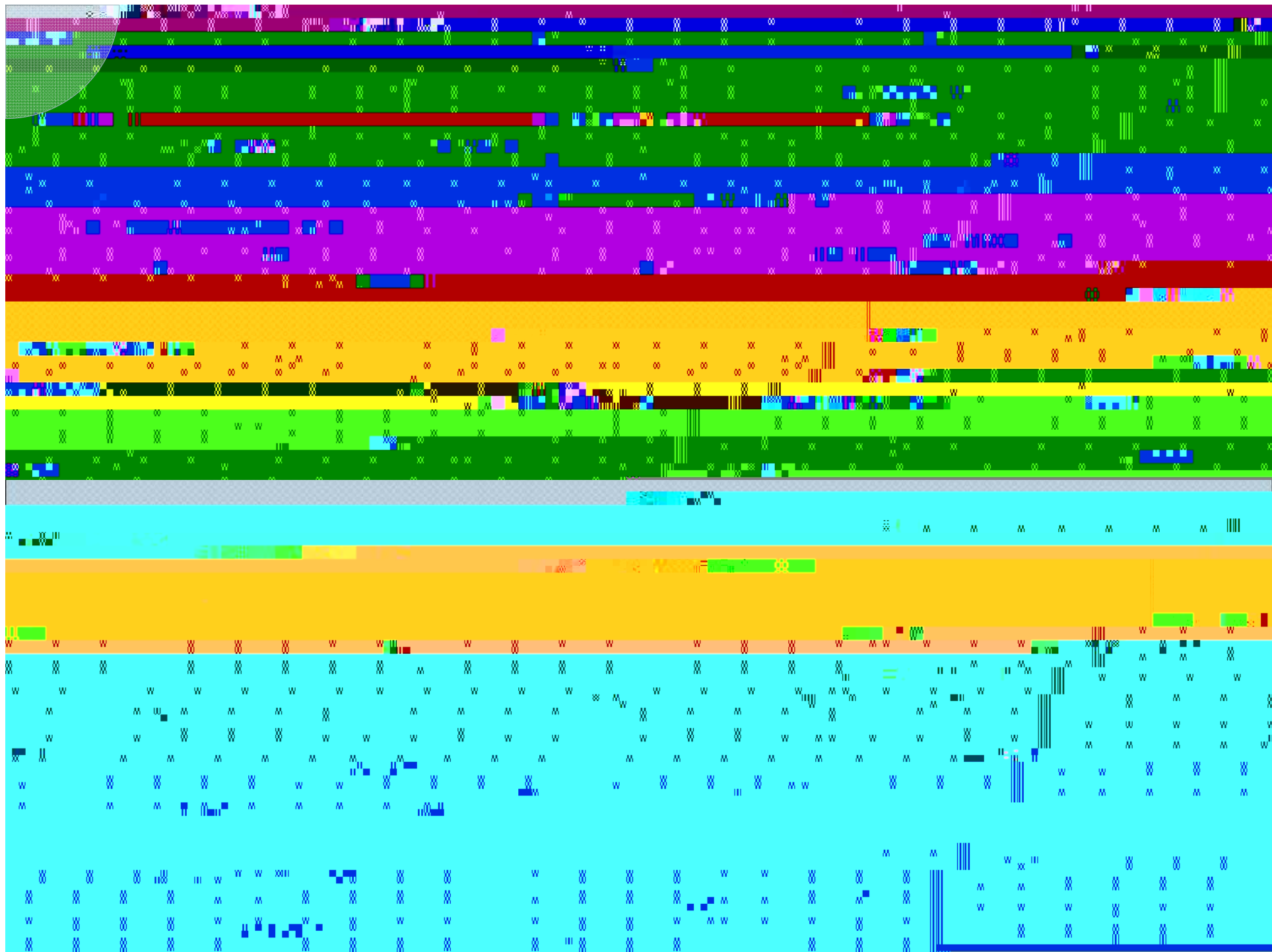
27 What Can Be Done About School Shootings? A Review of the Evidence

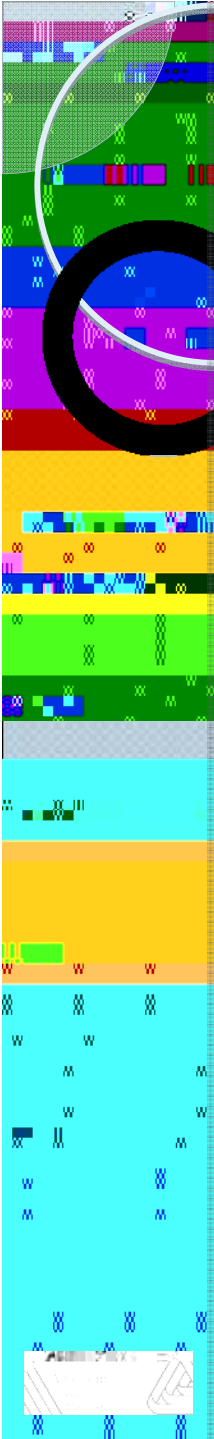
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