

# The Impact of Weapons and Violence on Schools and Surrounding Communities

A CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12 | 3:30 - 5 PM**  
**RAYBURN OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 2261**  
**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

This briefing will explore current scientific data surrounding the pressing need for the reduction of weapons and violence in schools and communities.

Experts will present empirical research detailing the impact on the education and well-being of students, their families and local communities. Data-driven evidence will be offered to assist in the development of policy and legislation that can successfully mitigate weapons and violence in schools and communities, as well as increase empowerment and community safety.

## PANELISTS

**Dr. Sean Joe**, Professor of Social Work at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

**Dr. Dorothy Espelage**, Professor of Psychology at the University of Florida

**Dr. Marlene Wong**, Professor of Clinical Social Work at the University of Southern California

**Dr. Ron Avi Astor**, Marjorie Crump Endowed Professor of Social Welfare, Luskin School of Public Affairs, Graduate Department of Education, University of California, Los Angeles

**Lauren Hogg**, Student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, FL

**Pia Valenzuela Escudero**, Executive Director at Los Angeles Unified School District, Division of Student Health & Human Services

In conjunction with the Congressional Social Work Caucus – Rep. Barbara Lee (CA-13), Chair

## ORGANIZING SPONSORS:



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- American Educational Research Association
- American Psychological Association
- Brady Campaign
- Clark-Fox Policy Institute, Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis
- Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy
- Grand Challenges for Social Work Steering Committee
- National Association for Rural Mental Health
- National Association of County Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability Directors
- National Association of Social Workers
- School Social Worker Association of America