Gun Violence Aftermath: The Approach to Holistic Nursing Care

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**History of Violence in Schools**

1984 Los Angeles 49th Street Elementary  
1988 Winnetka, IL Hubbard Woods Elementary  
1998 Springfield, OR Thurston High  
1999 Columbine, CO Columbine High  
2012 Newton, CT Sandy Hook Elementary  
2018 Parkland, FL Stoneman Douglas High

**Aftermath**

- Los Angeles: close proximity displayed significant levels of posttraumatic stress after 14 months  
- Illinois: increased levels of posttraumatic stress disorder for children when compared to adults  
- Oregon: post-graduation questionnaires revealed that proximity altered posttraumatic stress; alexithymia  
- Columbine: survivors guilt a few weeks after  
- Sandy Hook: students, families, teachers, and community  
- Parkland: self-advocacy

*Those directly involved reported feeling nervous, anxious, and weary of their surroundings in their day to day lives on a higher level than those involved in shootings (Lowe, 2017)*
**Individual Reactions**

- Four domains of response:
  - Posttraumatic stress
  - Posttraumatic growth
  - Resiliency
  - Gratitude
- Benefits of care
- Time
- Gradient Exposure

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**Past and Present Policies**

- 1994 Gun Free Schools Act
- Zero Tolerance
- Increased security/corporal punishment
- Profiling
- Threat assessment
Resources

- Department of Education
- Department of Justice
- Department of Homeland Security

Communication with state legislators

- Referred to individual districts for best policies
- Communication between two school districts
Strategies to provide better, more personalized, holistic care for survivors of school shootings, their families, and faculty members

Reaction to event
First responders, specialty training
Resources available; disparity in institutions
Communication

• Comments/Questions
References


