



# Threats in Schools: A Practical Guide for Managing Violence

By Joseph T McCann

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## Threats in Schools: A Practical Guide for Managing Violence By Joseph T McCann

Manage potentially violent situations in your school with these expert techniques! In the wake of several highly publicized school shootings, the problem of school violence has increasingly become a focus of concern for the general public as well as teachers, school officials, and students. Drawing on case studies from publicized violent incidents as well as from Dr. McCann's private practice, *Threats in Schools: A Practical Guide for Managing Violence* provides techniques for identifying, conceptualizing, assessing, and managing threatening behavior by students in school settings. Offering specific case management strategies for a variety of situations, this indispensable volume provides guidance on formulating questions to ask and suggestions for developing strategies for managing potentially violent situations. Integrating threat assessment and risk management models, this approach will help you target potential threats to property, other students, teachers, and school staff. The interdisciplinary approach recognizes that violent behavior is dependent on the characteristics of the perpetrator, victim, and setting, and that the relationship between threats and violence is not always clear. *Threats in Schools* offers well-grounded research, detailed case studies, and theoretical approaches to help you deal with the tough issues, including:

- zero-tolerance policies and their more effective alternatives
- why profiling techniques to identify violence-prone students are of limited use
- interventions to defuse potentially violent situations
- critical incident stress management

Five appendixes offer forms and checklists to help you plan and evaluate, including:

- threat assessment and management planning
- checklist of characteristics of perpetrators of school violence
- questions for evaluating general risk of violence
- fire-setting and bombing risk assessment
- sex offense risk assessment

Lucidly written and illustrated with helpful tables and figures, *Threats in Schools* offers school officials, mental health professionals, community leaders, and the

media the information they need to understand what sparks school violence and which approaches reduce the risk of it.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### About the Author

JOSEPH T. McCANN, PsyD, JD, has a private clinical and forensic psychology practice in Binghamton, New York, and has collaborated on the MACI with Theodore Millon, the author of the test. Dr. McCann is also the author of Malingering and Deception in Adolescents and Forensic Assessment with the Millon Inventories.

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