

5 REASONS TO REJECT SCHOOL POLICING



Students Need Support, NOT Police & Surveillance¹

- **1.7 million** students are in schools with police but no counselors
- **3 million** students are in schools with police but no nurses
- **6 million** students are in schools with police but no school psychologists
- **10 million** students are in schools with police but no social workers



School Policing Disproportionately HARMS Students of Color & Students with Disabilities

- Black students are arrested at a rate **3 times** that of white students²
- Students with disabilities are arrested at a rate **2.9 times** that of students without disabilities³
- Even controlling for related variables, **schools with more students of color are more inclined to adopt strict surveillance measures**⁴



School Surveillance is NOT Effective

- While moderate use of exterior cameras may increase student perceptions of safety, security cameras and surveillance inside of schools was related to **lower perceptions of safety, equity, and support**⁵
- Constant monitoring of students and their daily communication may **chill free speech, willingness to take necessary risks, and creativity**⁶



School Policing STRENGTHENS the School-to-Prison Pipeline

- Schools utilizing Student Resource Officers saw increases in student offenses and school-based arrests by as much as **400%**⁷
- Every time a student experiences exclusionary discipline (suspension, juvenile justice placement, etc.) they are **23.5%** more likely to drop out of school⁸



Students Deserve to be Treated Like Students, NOT CRIMINALS

- Strong security measures interfere with the necessary cooperative and trusting learning environment of schools. These measures create unnecessary barriers between students, teachers, and the administration that harms the student's vision of school.
- There is **no conclusive evidence** that surveillance efforts and School Resource Officers create an academic environment where students are more likely to thrive, yet governments continue to pour funding into these resources.⁹
- **In contrast**, schools that employ more mental health professionals see improved attendance rates, lower rates of suspension and other discipline, improved academic achievement, and improved graduation rates.¹⁰

references:

1: https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/030419-acluschooldisciplinereport.pdf .

2: *Id.*

3: *Id.*

4: Jason P. Nance, *Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Tools for Change*, 48 *Ariz. St. L. J.* 313 (2015).

5: Sarah L. Johnson et al., *Surveillance or Safekeeping? How School Security Officer and Camera Presence Influence Students' Perceptions of Safety, Equity, and Support*, 63 *J. Adolescent Health* 732 (2018).

6: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/oct/22/school-student-surveillance-bark-gaggle>.

7: <https://www.aclu.org/report/cops-and-no-counselors>.

8: Jason P. Nance, *Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Tools for Change*, 48 *Ariz. St. L. J.* 313 (2015).

9: <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/09/when-school-feels-like-prison/499556/>
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10: <https://www.aclu.org/report/cops-and-no-counselors>.