

From: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP)
Sent: Mon, 8 Jan 2024 15:27:37 +0000
To: Santana, Alberto (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); Metzler, Marilyn (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) (CTR); DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP)
Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

OC concurs with us sending back a response from our DVP public inquiries box. Here's the response:

Thank you for your interest in the forthcoming Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action. The resource and its supporting materials are still undergoing CDC review and are in draft format. The resource will be a compilation of examples of the best available evidence to prevent community violence before it happens based on research showing effects on violence or the behaviors or conditions that affect risk for violence. The programs, policies, and practices in the resource are from meta-analyses or systematic reviews and other rigorous evaluations (such as randomized controlled trial or quasi-experimental design). The document posted online was a draft internal planning document and not the full resource.

[@Santana, Alberto \(CDC/NCIPC/DVP\)](#) Can you send to whoever is currently managing the public inquires mailbox?

From: Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:43 AM
To: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <fus3@cdc.gov>; Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ixn2@cdc.gov>; Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ott4@cdc.gov>; Metzler, Marilyn (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) (CTR) <mom7@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

Yes, and that was a point that Beth gave me. It will be good to see what OC says, Leslie, but this approach with Beth's addition seem fine to me if a response is advised.

From: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <fus3@cdc.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:35 AM
To: Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ixn2@cdc.gov>; Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>; Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ott4@cdc.gov>; Metzler, Marilyn (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) (CTR) <mom7@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

Thanks. I was actually thinking about something similar this weekend. I think Tom had a good response to a reporter awhile back about the PH approach to violence being complementary to the criminal justice approach and helping to make law enforcement's job easier (or something along those lines...).

From: Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ixn2@cdc.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:32 AM

To: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <fus3@cdc.gov>; Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>; Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ott4@cdc.gov>; Metzler, Marilyn (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) (CTR) <mom7@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

For your consideration, I would add these three words. What seems to be missing from the dialog / or responses, and which could create challenges moving forward, is that the Resource for Action is not meant to replace justice approaches, or to eliminate the criminal justice system, but is instead complementary to law enforcement efforts.

From: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <fus3@cdc.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:28 AM

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Cc: Reimels, Elizabeth (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ixn2@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

+ Beth as well.

I think we have two options:

1. Do not respond. I see this more as feedback than an actual question. The first question posed seems rhetorical.
2. Respond with something along the lines of the following (our original response to the reporter plus a bit of additional info):

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We have a meeting with OC at 10. I can also seek their advice on how to handle if that would be helpful.

From: Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:19 AM

To: Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ott4@cdc.gov>; Metzler, Marilyn (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) (CTR) <mom7@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <fus3@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

+Leslie

Hi everyone,

I think we should have one person respond. I've added Leslie to consider this given her involvement in other conversations.

-Tom

From: Jane Ramos (b)(6)

Sent: Sunday, January 7, 2024 6:32 PM

To: Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ott4@cdc.gov>; Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>; Metzler, Marilyn (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) (CTR) <mom7@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; wuw9@cdc.gov

Subject: Re: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

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Under the Data Quality Act, doesn't the CDC have to have a factual basis for claims it makes?

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That claim isn't accurate. Studies and real life refute it. There are real life examples of incarceration and other punitive measures reducing community violence.

There are many examples of serial killers and other repeat criminals who kept committing acts of violence until they were incarcerated or executed, at which point, they stopped committing violent crimes because they were incarcerated, and thus unable to commit more crimes. So catching more

violent criminals -- that is, increasing punitive measures -- does reduce community violence, by keeping dangerous criminals from committing more crimes with impunity.

For example, the serial killer Joseph Paul Franklin killed at least 11 people, but stopped killing people when he was arrested and incarcerated (Years later, he was executed for his murders). See *Joseph Paul Franklin*, Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Paul_Franklin.

Studies also find that incarceration reduces crime, and that releasing inmates early increases the crime rate. See, e.g., Alessandro Barbarino & Giovanni Mastrobuono, *the Incapacitation Effect of Incarceration from Several Italian Collective Pardons*, *American Economic Journal*, Vol. 6, No. 1, pp. 1-37 (2014), available at <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/pol.6.1.1>

Some studies also find that longer prison sentences deter crime more effectively than shorter sentences. See, e.g., Daniel Kessler & Steven D. Levitt, *Using Sentence Enhancements to Distinguish between Deterrence and Incapacitation*, National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 6484 (1998), <https://www.nber.org/papers/w6484>.

A study concluded that certain crimes in California fell significantly because California voters adopted Proposition 8, which mandated longer sentences for repeat offenders who kill, rape, and rob others. It found those longer sentences deterred many crimes from being committed. Its finding reflected the fact that three years after Proposition 8 was adopted, crimes punished with enhanced sentences had "fallen roughly 20-40 percent compared to" crimes not covered by enhanced sentences. See Kessler & Levitt, *Using Sentence Enhancements to Distinguish between Deterrence and Incapacitation*, National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 6484 (1998), <https://www.nber.org/papers/w6484>.

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Maryland and Virginia are adjacent states that are rather similar, but Virginia has a much lower crime rate, apparently because it incarcerates inmates longer for the same offense than Maryland does, further illustrating that "increasing punitive measures" does reduce community violence to some extent.

Counties in Maryland have much higher crime rates than the neighboring counties they border in Virginia, as news articles and think-tanks have pointed out. For example, the Heritage Foundation described how Virginia's Fairfax County ended up with less than half the crime of neighboring Montgomery County, Maryland after Virginia cracked down on crime, abolishing parole for violent felons. See, e.g., David B. Mulhausen, *ED120999: Crime in Two Counties*, Heritage Foundation, Dec. 3, 1999, available at <https://www.heritage.org/crime-and-justice/commentary/ed120999-crime-two-counties>.

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In light of such studies and real life examples, it is a mistake for CDC to claim that "increasing punitive measures, including incarceration, does not reduce community violence."

Claiming that would be at odds with the Data Quality Act, also known as the Information Quality Act.

The CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action should be revised to reflect that. Thank you for reviewing this.

From: Santana, Alberto (CDC/NCIPC/DVP)
Sent: Mon, 8 Jan 2024 15:53:04 +0000
To: Woghiren, Mabel (CDC/NCIPC/OD) (CTR)
Cc: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP); Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP)
Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

Forgot to add Cassidy for awareness

From: Santana, Alberto (CDC/NCIPC/DVP)
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 10:46 AM
To: Woghiren, Mabel (CDC/NCIPC/OD) (CTR) <off8@cdc.gov>
Cc: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <fus3@cdc.gov>
Subject: FW: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

Hi Mabel,

Several colleagues received an email related to the DVP draft rollout plan for the community violence resource for action that a reporter obtained. Since colleagues got an email, see below. We've decided to respond via a public inquiry functional email box.

Please reply to the messages highlighted below to: (b)(6) from the public inquiry functional email box.

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I'll explain what happened last week when we have a chance to chat. (b)(6) as of 11 am today.. I'm just copying Leslie as a backup if you get a response to our response later today.

Alberto

From: Jane Ramos (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, January 7, 2024 6:32 PM
To: Whitson, Cassidy (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <ott4@cdc.gov>; Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>; Metzler, Marilyn (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) (CTR) <mom7@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; DAngelo, Denise V. (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <dnd1@cdc.gov>; Simon, Thomas (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <tgs9@cdc.gov>; Ottley, Phyllis (CDC/NCIPC/DVP) <vci8@cdc.gov>; wuw9@cdc.gov
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fact that three years after Proposition 8 was adopted, crimes punished with enhanced sentences had "fallen roughly 20-40 percent compared to" crimes not covered by enhanced sentences. See Kessler & Levitt, *Using Sentence Enhancements to Distinguish between Deterrence and Incapacitation*, National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 6484 (1998), <https://www.nber.org/papers/w6484>.

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Claiming that would be at odds with the Data Quality Act, also known as the Information Quality Act.

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From: Woghiren, Mabel (CDC/NCIPC/OD) (CTR)
Sent: Mon, 8 Jan 2024 16:09:29 +0000
To: Santana, Alberto (CDC/NCIPC/DVP)
Cc: Dorigo, Leslie (CDC/NCIPC/DVP)
Subject: RE: CDC Community Violence Prevention Resource for Action launch

Hi, Alberto –

Thanks for the information. I'll share your response with the inquirer.

Thanks,
Mabel

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Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 10:46 AM
To: Woghiren, Mabel (CDC/NCIPC/OD) (CTR) <off8@cdc.gov>
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