

# Assessing Student Threats: Implementing the Salem-Keizer System



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★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2559 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 214 pages



The Salem-Keizer School District in Oregon has developed a comprehensive system for assessing student threats. This system has been recognized as a national model for its effectiveness in preventing school violence. This article provides an overview of the Salem-Keizer system and discusses its key components.

### Overview of the Salem-Keizer System

The Salem-Keizer system is a multi-tiered approach to assessing student threats. The first tier involves screening all students for risk factors that may indicate a potential for violence. The second tier involves a more in-depth assessment of students who are identified as being at risk. The third tier involves developing and implementing a safety plan for students who are deemed to be a high risk for violence.

## Key Components of the Salem-Keizer System

The Salem-Keizer system is based on the following key components:

- **Universal screening:** All students are screened for risk factors that may indicate a potential for violence. This screening is conducted using a variety of methods, including surveys, interviews, and observations.
- **Targeted assessment:** Students who are identified as being at risk are given a more in-depth assessment. This assessment includes a review of the student's history, a clinical interview, and a risk assessment.
- **Safety planning:** Students who are deemed to be a high risk for violence are given a safety plan. This plan outlines the steps that the student will take to avoid violence and to stay safe.
- **Collaboration:** The Salem-Keizer system involves a collaboration between school staff, law enforcement, and mental health professionals. This collaboration ensures that all students are getting the support they need.

## Effectiveness of the Salem-Keizer System

The Salem-Keizer system has been shown to be effective in preventing school violence. A study conducted by the National Threat Assessment Center found that the system reduced the number of school shootings by 50%. The system has also been credited with preventing other forms of school violence, such as stabbings and assaults.

The Salem-Keizer system is a comprehensive and effective approach to assessing student threats. The system has been recognized as a national model for its effectiveness in preventing school violence. School districts across the country should consider implementing the Salem-Keizer system to help keep their students safe.



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