



Research on the Campus Violence in International Schools

Sitong Lu^(✉)

Shenzhen College of International Education, Shenzhen, China
20201st530@gmail.com

Abstract. Campus violence can have a very negative and lasting impact on students, both academically and non-academically, and has gained widespread attention in recent years. International schools have different current situations and causes of campus violence that occur in international schools due to factors such as their management style and the socio-economic background of their students. However, limited research has focused on international schools. Therefore, a detailed understanding of school violence in international schools can help suggest reasonable strategies to address the undesirable situation of campus violence in international schools. This study adopted questionnaires and semi-structured interviews to address the research questions of this study.

Keywords: campus violence · international schools · questionnaire survey · semi-structured interview personal information

1 Introduction

Campus violence can be defined as ‘an aggressive behavior that occurs in the primary and secondary school campus and within a certain associated area’. Students deliberately attack the personal, property and spirit of other students by means of body movements, words, tools and other means, which seriously affects the normal study and life of others, or the normal working order of the school [3]. In the past many years, people always regarded campus violence as fighting among students. It was not until the situation became more and more serious that people began to realize that this was not a simple fight. The research has summed up three points about the characteristics of campus violence, i.e., firstly, contingency. Campus violence is accidental, sudden, and unpredictable; Secondly, evolution. Any campus violence is a process from quantitative change to qualitative change; Thirdly, seriousness. Once the time of campus violence occurs, it will bring irreparable consequences to the victims [5].

What campus violence brings to victims is not only physical and mental damage, but also a kind of shadow that will always be attached to their lives. First, it has a negative impact on Teenagers’ psychophysiology. Second, it will not only bring temporary psychological and physical harm to teenagers, but also last for a long time in their lives. Third, the negative impact on the school, such a vicious time, the school’s reputation and reputation will also be destroyed [2]. Naturally, there will be fewer and fewer students

in the school, and parents' trust in the school will also be reduced. Fourth, the negative impact on families in the future development process, this shadow will polish their initial confidence and courage. This kind of memory will also torment them who should have had a good childhood. So, this is a problem that we all have to solve together [3].

With the current domestic teaching level and the exchange and development of Chinese and foreign cultures, schools are no longer fixed as public schools (primary and secondary schools no longer only include public schools), but international schools that integrate more Western cultures. Campus violence always happened in the international schools. International schools are defined as schools that study major foreign courses (mainly: A-level, AP, IB, etc.) in domestic schools. The management method of international schools is different from that of domestic schools. In international schools, they pay more attention to the freedom of students, and there are no fixed classes and teachers (implement the shift system). In school, students can have more free opportunities to know more about themselves and have more free time to learn more comprehensive knowledge. Then freedom should be faced with the fact that students can do what they want in many places on campus [4].

Based on the current studies and the research gaps, there are three research questions proposed:

- Q1. What is the Current Situation of International School Violence?
- Q2. What are the reasons for campus violence in international school?
- Q3. What Are the Strategies for Solving Campus Violence in International School?

2 Methods

2.1 Questionnaire

About 43 participants were requested to participate in the questionnaire by email. The researcher first developed the questionnaire including 10 items to test the situation, impact factors, and the solutions of the campus violence in international schools. In terms of validity, the researcher asked the specialists of this study to assess the test in detail, and the data analysis results of current theories, semi-structured interviews, and documents were also employed to ensure content validity. Factor analysis was employed to ensure the construct validity of the questionnaire.

2.2 Semi-Structured Interview

The semi-structured interview has been determined to be the most effective way for acquiring data for a case study, according to a large number of studies that have used it [1]. Three cases were invited to take part in the interview, i.e., student A, student B, and student C, who were learning in Shenzhen international schools and had experienced campus violence. The whole study population will be asked to participate in two rounds of interviews, each lasting around thirty minutes. Participants' basic information, as well as their impressions of campus violence in international schools, will be acquired during the first-round interview. The purpose of the second round of interviews is to learn more about the impact factors of the campus violence in international schools, as well as the potential solution.

3 Results

3.1 Results of Questionnaire

Table 1, Table 2, and Table 3 demonstrated the questionnaire results.

Table 1. Results of item1, item2, item3.

Item	Yes	No
1. Whether to study in an international school?	86.1%	13.9%
2. Have you experienced campus violence?	44.2%	55.8%
3. Is there any publicity or special education schools to curb campus violence?	39%	61%

Table 2. Results of item4, item5, item6.

Item	Answer
4. Are there any students around who are or have experienced campus violence?	(a) No people 8% (b) Few people 50% (c) Many people 42%
5. Who should be responsible for international campus violence? (Multiple choice)	(a) The senior management of the school did not pay attention to the handling of malignant events 72%(b) Teachers let go without discipline 58.1% (c) Students' family growth environment and family education 90.7%
6. What is the best way of curbing international campus violence?	(a) School strengthens institutional management 18.6% (b) School teacher strictly control and teach in time 32.56% (c) Students urge each other and report anonymously 48.84%

Table 3. Results of item7, item8, item9, item10 (all the item scored from 1 to 3).

Item	Answer
7. The extent to which the environment of international schools will increase the incidence of campus violence is:	average value: 1.65
8. The extent to which campus violence will have a negative impact on students' academic and physical and mental health is:	average value: 2.73
9. The extent to which campus violence will bring trouble and shadow to students' future development is:	average value: 2.53
10. Do you think the management of international schools will aggravate the occurrence of campus violence?	average value: 1.63

From the questionnaire survey, it could be concluded that most of the students surveyed (86.1%) study in international schools, but more than half (44.2%) of the students have suffered from campus violence, and 92% of the students said that their surrounding students have suffered from campus violence, which clearly showed that school violence was very frequent in international schools. Participants believed that campus violence had brought immediate and sustained negative effects to students. The vast majority of students believed that the family growth environment and family education are the primary factors causing campus violence (90.7%), followed by the high-level school does not pay attention to the handling of malignant events and the teachers' *laissez faire*. Mutual supervision and anonymous reporting among students (48.84%) were considered to be the most important containment measures, followed by strict control and timely teaching by schoolteachers, and strengthening institutional management by schools.

3.2 Results of Semi-structured Interview

The Current Situation of International School Violence

First of all, after the investigation and interview, most of the violence of these students who suffered from campus violence came from the Internet. And the number of students suffering from campus violence in international schools has been increasing. Second, the perpetrator would use some anonymous public platforms, such as Zhihu, Weibo and so on, to carry out online violence against the victim. This large-scale and extremely fast spreading way also brings great harm to the victim, because some unwarranted rumors will be imposed on the victim. And it will bring serious psychological shadow to the victims. Also, in the investigation and interview, a large part of the victims are children of high social and economy status (SES) families, who will be more publicized in clothing and daily necessities meetings, such as often using some luxury goods or buying expensive things. Therefore, it often attracts some people to be jealous of them, which leads to the fact that children of this part of high SES families often suffer from online violence. In addition, most campus violence is based on group attacks, and everyone will gather to attack the victims. This is an obvious feature. Based on the data analysis, most of the victims reflected that during the period of campus violence, the perpetrators were not one, but groups engaged in verbal violence and online violence [5].

The Reasons for Campus Violence in International School

First of all, compared with public schools, the management of international schools is very loose, and schools are more inclined to cultivate students' autonomy, so students are relatively free in schools. Then this will intermittently produce a very bad disadvantage [2]. Liberalization and loose management will lead to many contradictions among students, which occur without the knowledge of teachers. And when the victim goes to seek help, the teacher will not appear in time and solve the problem in time. At the same time, international schools do not provide students with a very comprehensive education and resistance to campus violence, resulting in the subconscious of these perpetrators, the school will not manage and solve these things, so they can carry out campus violence against the victims unscrupulously [5]. Secondly, International schools open their networks to students. Because of the development and liberalization of network

technology, more and more students will use the development of network technology to carry out online violence against their classmates on some platforms and social software. Because these social platforms and software can contribute anonymously or write some anonymous posts, this is also the cause of online violence. Student A has long been abused by her classmates who set up chat groups on social software. And wrote an anonymous post on another social software to discredit her. The last reason is the problem of family education and family environment. Family environment and family education for children are crucial. Because this determines the child's character and the way and attitude of doing things, most of the perpetrators' families are incomplete, or the family environment is very bad [4].

They are not loved in the family and have no emotions. So, when he did some campus violence, he had no waves in his heart or he didn't even realize that his behavior would bring a lot of harm to others.

The Strategies for Solving Campus Violence in International School

The first is the management of the school and the teachers' solutions and attitudes towards students who suffer from campus violence. It is necessary to appease the victims' emotions at the first time, and then take this vicious incident seriously immediately, and severely punish every perpetrator. At the same time, the school needs to strengthen students' awareness of campus violence and call on everyone to resist each other. Schools should also establish rules and regulations. A behavior rules and regulations table can be made. The system table is about how to punish the perpetrators of campus violence and what are the behaviors of campus violence. Paste this system table everywhere in the school to make students realize that campus violence is not desirable. At the same time, teachers should also strengthen the management of students. International schools advocate self-discipline and liberalization, but this does not mean that they can take advantage of loopholes to carry out some campus violence. Teachers should pay attention to the relationship between students. Find out some minor contradictions in time, take correct measures to solve them, and stop campus violence in advance. The second is the use of networks and social platforms. Schools and society cannot completely prevent students from using them, because networks and social platforms have both advantages and disadvantages. Therefore, schools should strengthen how students can use the network correctly and allow students to supervise each other internally. Finally, about family education, parents and other family members are very important to children's education, which will affect children's future development and personality. So, when international schools hold parent meetings, they should not only communicate with parents about learning problems, but also popularize the problem of campus violence to parents and make parents aware of the seriousness of vicious events. So, at home, we can teach children not to do some campus violence, and also let children learn how to protect themselves when they encounter campus violence [2].

References

1. Alvesson, M., & Deetz, S. (2000). A framework for critical research. *Doing Critical Management Research*, 1351–65.
2. Layden, D. R. (2010). Campus violence: lessons from the cases. *National Social Science Journal*, 33(2), 106– 115.
3. Paludi, M. A. (2008). *Understanding and preventing campus violence*. Greenwood Publishing Group.
4. Timm, J. D., & Aydin, N. (2020). Culturally independent risk factors of school and campus rampages: An analysis of international case studies of educational institution violence. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 55, 101514.
5. Van Brunt, B. (2012). *Ending campus violence: New approaches to prevention*. Routledge.

Open Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>), which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made.

The images or other third party material in this chapter are included in the chapter's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the chapter's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.

