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Meet the Army Veteran Who Could Once and for All Destroy One of the Left's Key Gun Control Arguments

Apr. 26, 2014 10:45am | Jason Howerton

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INDIANAPOLIS — Eric Dietz, Ph.D., the former director of Homeland Security for the state of Indiana and 22-year Army veteran, says he is only interested in one thing when it comes to the debate over stationing armed personnel and teachers in America's schools: saving lives.



Eric Dietz. Credit: Purdue Homeland Security Institute

Now a professor at Purdue University and director of the school's Homeland Security Institute, Dietz could be the guy who — once and for all — destroys the left's argument against putting more guns in schools. And it's all based on numbers and facts.

That research? More guns in schools equal fewer deaths during active shooter situations.

At the 2014 National Rifle Association convention in Indianapolis on Friday, Dietz told TheBlaze that he set out to determine what realistic measures could be taken to reduce deaths during school shootings. Using an "agent-based modeling" method that he says is as straight forward as it gets, Dietz and the university were able to conclude that the "introduction of a minimal (10%) armed faculty in conjunction with [a] resource officer" could reduce overall casualties in school-related shootings by roughly 70 percent.

Since the 1950s, all but two mass shootings have occurred in locations where victims were restricted from carrying weapons for self-defense, his work says. This stunning statistic led the university to question the effectiveness of so-called "gun free

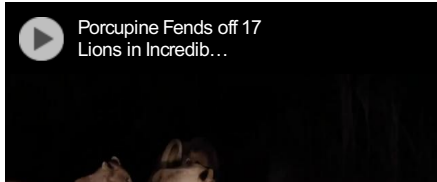
zones."

The methodology of the research is fairly simple and rooted in common sense, Dietz claims. It takes into account four separate scenarios involving an active shooter:

- Scenario 1: No access to control or security.
- Scenario 2: Resource officer
- Scenario 3: 5-10 percent of work force has concealed carry
- Scenario 4: 5-10 percent of work force has concealed carry and a resource officer

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In scenario one, potential victims of a school shooting must rely only on police. On average, police response time is roughly 10-12 minutes. Accordingly, an "active shooter" generally shoots someone every 20 seconds, Dietz explained, citing his research.



time a shooter has to carry out his twisted plan, the less people the shooter can kill.

The model created by Dietz and his students seemingly reveals a clear trend: More guns equals fewer casualties in an active shooter situation.

"That's a really long time for a killer," he told TheBlaze.

The research found that the most critical element to reducing casualties in an active shooter situation at a school is "time," Dietz said. Obviously, the less



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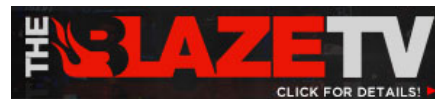
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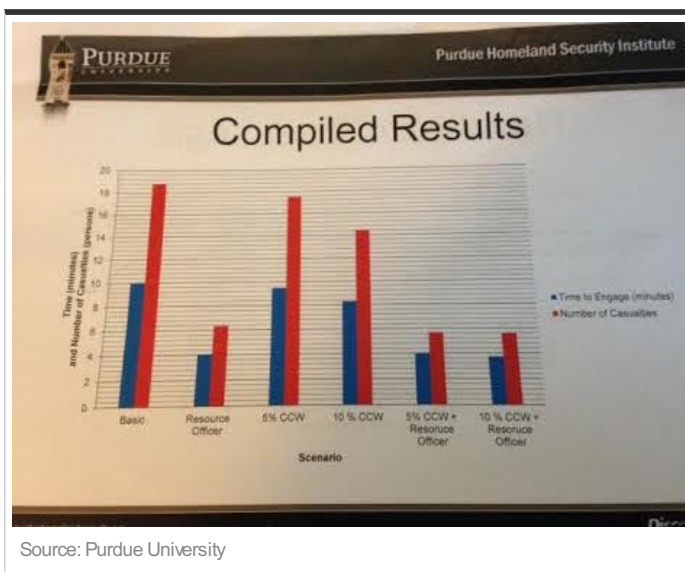
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“The issue of school shootings is obviously a very emotional debate,” he said. “What we are trying to do is take the emotion out of the debate and figure out how we can save the most lives and educate the policy makers, as well as parents and citizens.

In the scenario where there is an armed resource officer, casualties dropped by 66.5 percent and response time was cut 59.5 percent. When five percent of teachers were carrying concealed weapons, deaths were reduced by 6.8 percent and response time dropped by 5.4 percent. When 10 percent of teachers were carrying concealed weapons, casualties fell by 23.2 percent and response time went down 16.8 percent.

However, the real reductions came when teachers carrying concealed firearms were supplemented with a resource officer, the results show.

In the scenario where five percent of teachers were carrying concealed guns and a resource officer was present, casualties dropped an astonishing 69.2 percent and response time dropped 59.7 percent. Finally, when 10 percent of teachers were carrying concealed firearms and a resource officer was present, casualties fell by 70.2 percent and response time was reduced by 62.7 percent.



The National Center for Education Statistics estimates that 57 percent of public schools in the U.S. had no security staff present at any time during the school week in 2009-2010.

To the critics who say more guns always translate into more crime, the Purdue research notes that there has been an increase in firearms ownership by 61 percent between 2004-2012 — yet there has been a reduction in violence crime by 12.9 percent since 2008.

Dietz says there is more research to be done on the issue, including instances where there is no active shooter, to determine if there is a significant risk to having guns present at schools on a daily basis.

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The-Monk

Apr. 26, 2014 at 10:54am -

"And it's all based on numbers and facts."

But the proglogdytes don't care about numbers or facts. So how is he going to get the warped and perverted minds of the progressives to change?


 [7] [Log in to Reply](#)
foobared

Apr. 26, 2014 at 10:56am -

For the chillren as Jesse and AI say. For the chillren.


 [3] [Log in to Reply](#)

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FieldJudge

Apr. 26, 2014 at 3:37pm -

There's just one massive glaring hole in Dietz's research...

"The methodology of the research is fairly simple and rooted in common sense."


 [2] [Log in to Reply](#)
RJJinGadsden

Apr. 26, 2014 at 11:21am -

Hi MONK, LOL, had to scroll through all of the comments. Was expecting CHUCKIE666 would have already proved you right. Why bother with icky things like truth and logic when one has a certain agenda.

FOO, Yep, fo da chillren.


 [2] [Log in to Reply](#)

Show Conversation (2)

Tony

Apr. 27, 2014 at 10:46am -

You shoot 'em. (sarc)


 [Log in to Reply](#)
[Suspended User]

Apr. 26, 2014 at 3:42pm -

Has Bloomberg approved this info? Not valid until Big Gulp Bloomberg gives the OK?


 [Log in to Reply](#)
skippy6

Apr. 26, 2014 at 12:17pm -

If only they would read Control.


 [Log in to Reply](#)
Silversmith

Apr. 26, 2014 at 10:58am -

Reasonable argument. Problem is that a reasonable argument is only effective with reasonable

people.

Not many in the progressive movement. I think delusion is a prerequisite.

Silversmith

  [5] [Log in to Reply](#)

Redneck-Socialist

Apr. 26, 2014 at 12:09pm -

snorts with laughter you can just state things and call them facts – does not make it so

  [-3] [Log in to Reply](#)

Show Conversation (5)

kaydeebeau

Apr. 26, 2014 at 10:55am -

Nice thought but experience says a leftist isn't open to persuasion or logic – a "none so blind as he who will not see" kind of thing

  [3] [Log in to Reply](#)

The-Monk

Apr. 26, 2014 at 10:56am -

Hi Kaydeebeau,

Did you get the stories I e-mailed you a few weeks ago?

  [Log in to Reply](#)

Show Conversation (1)

NJLuke

Apr. 26, 2014 at 12:00pm -

Obama = The greatest gun salesman in history

  [2] [Log in to Reply](#)

barber2

Apr. 26, 2014 at 1:14pm -

NJ: He has also increased people's need and desire for prayer considerably !

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

Show Conversation (1)

blinknight

Apr. 26, 2014 at 11:34am -

You expect liberals to be convinced by empirical data? Haven't you been paying attention to how liberals operate? They don't care about results, they care about intentions. A 'good' liberal policy that leads to a disaster is still good, and just needs more money and time, no matter what, the intention is good, you just want to take away from people because you're mean and greedy. A policy that liberals don't like, that leads to good results, is always bad... period. It doesn't matter how many people it helps, even if it helps uplift the groups they insist need help, it's still bad.

  [2] [Log in to Reply](#)

barber2

Apr. 26, 2014 at 11:27am -

But you will never end the Left's fight to end gun ownership. Why ? Because all totalitarian , Big Brother governments forbid the ownership of guns – except for their government ' soldiers.' It's all about controlling the people, not about controlling ' violence.'

  [2] [Log in to Reply](#)

Apr. 26, 2014 at 11:18am

Another Joe

Is it just me or is having a security officer at each school just common sense?

  [2] [Log in to Reply](#)

Gremlin1974

Apr. 26, 2014 at 6:54pm

Actually, to me just the thought that we need security officers in schools causes me great sadness, but these days I am forced to agree with you.

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

c204

Apr. 28, 2014 at 9:28pm

the only problem is that the left isn't interested in saving lives.

they are interested in banning private gun ownership by any means necessary – including killing more children.

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

cantstandlibs

Apr. 28, 2014 at 5:00pm

Just to play devil's (liberals') advocate: More guns will mean more incidents, so the smaller # per incident is overcome. The teachers are mostly libs, so what happens when snap? You know they will...

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

TwoLazy

Apr. 28, 2014 at 7:30am

How to reduce school shootings by 100%.

Home school your children !

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

OrcLockHax

Apr. 28, 2014 at 12:28am

It is interesting to note that there is also a proportional correlation between response time and casualties. The number of casualties per minute (rate) increases with longer response times. In other words, the killing accelerates over time. This seems counter-intuitive since one would expect most people to run away from the sound of gunfire, while a few try to rush the attacker. It would seem that something about our response to shooters needs correction.

If I had to guess, I'd say it's the constant instructions to hide rather than evacuate.

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

DAYWATCHER

Apr. 27, 2014 at 7:00pm

Glade to see someone doing research to verify what logically thinking people all ready know... that gun's in schools, in the hands of train responsible adults, will help deter, defend and protect our kids. The public school where my two kids attend have two resource officers on campus at all times. We have not yet approved the concealed carry for our teachers and we need to get that done.

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

idarusskie

Apr. 27, 2014 at 9:27am

the boggy man does not know who is carrying and who is not. why put a sign up and remove all doubt?

  [1] [Log in to Reply](#)

MonkeyWench

Apr. 27, 2014 at 3:09am

I would really hate to see armed guards in all of the schools. I am fine with any teacher or any citizen for that matter, to carry a concealed weapon. The discussion I think we need to have is whether or not there is a link between all of the prescription drugs and these kids who do violent acts. My guess would be that the majority, if not all, were on some mind altering medication at some point in their lives. Parents need to stop asking/allowing their kids to be placed on drugs. Just because they are prescribed does not mean they are good for Johnny.

 [1] [Log in to Reply](#)**galaxie_man**

Apr. 26, 2014 at 9:02pm -

Beating the anti-gun loons over the head with facts is absolutely useless. Their logic and judgement (providing they have any to begin with) is over powered by emotion to save the children. I mean MY GOD.....you can't possibly be serious about using a GUN to save a child, can you????

 [1] [Log in to Reply](#)**benwasright**

Apr. 26, 2014 at 12:32pm -

Since democrats regard facts as nothing but obstacles in their lust to turn America into a European style welfare state, why do more studies? Reason is simply suspended if you're talking to a democrat — which is why I don't.

 [1] [Log in to Reply](#)**SapperPatriot**

Apr. 26, 2014 at 11:35am -

I actually remarked the principal at my daughter's school how ridiculously stupid posting a sign saying it was a gun free zone was, and she completely agreed. She said it's federally mandated even though she is against it. By the way, I retired from the Army to the Gulf Coast of Alabama and the Second Amendment is gospel down here so her response didn't really surprise me.

 [1] [Log in to Reply](#)**HabanaJoe**

Apr. 26, 2014 at 11:13am -

Two things:

The left doesn't really care about children dying in schools. The more the better for them. They want to ban guns and these mass shootings fit right into their plan.

Also, arming a left wing teacher would do nothing. A lefty would either cower with the kids, run, or be too concerned about the victim to fire.

 [1] [Log in to Reply](#)**pa_native**

Apr. 26, 2014 at 11:13am -

Liberals operate on emotion and stupidity...No amount of facts will change their minds.

As long as the Bloomborgs of the world keep feeding the Liberal lies, gun control and those who are against the US Constitution will keep growing.

 [1] [Log in to Reply](#)**eramthgin**

Apr. 27, 2014 at 7:37pm -

The democrats will never let something as pesky as facts get in their way.

 [Log in to Reply](#)**Mathchopper**

Apr. 27, 2014 at 8:29am -

His work is wasted. Facts and logic don't work on mentally disabled libs.

 [Log in to Reply](#)**BeardedDog**

Apr. 27, 2014 at 8:20am -

No one capable of rational thinking should be surprised by this. It is just common sense.

 [Log in to Reply](#)**Atrocities**

Apr. 27, 2014 at 3:19am -

We must take back and firmly hold dear the values of honesty and the power of truth. For without control of the media, without freedom of speech, everything from our values to our morality are all assuredly doomed. One need not look any further than the headlines of a local paper to know that this process has already begun.

Write a pro-conservative editorial and if its published, and that alone is a challenge, watch the

liberals descend upon it with unabridged hatred, ridicule, threats, and nasty comments. Liberals simply refuse to be open-minded and tolerant of opposing points of view. The very thing they accuse conservatives of, being closed minded and intolerant, is the very thing they, liberals, are. The hypocrisy of that is undeniable.

To defeat liberalism, we must break their control over the media. For it is our right, not just theirs, to exercise our freedom of speech. And that right must NEVER again be held hostage as it has been held over the last six years.

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Overheaddoor

Apr. 26, 2014 at 8:28pm -

Think about this. If LAW abiding citizens were allowed to carry in schools to drop off their children ,I think that would be a asset for the school. Emphases is "LAW ABIDING" Criminals don't follow the law.

No offence but I carry everywhere all the time and I have not shot anyone in the 3 years I have been carrying. Pray I never have to, but if I do Every bullet that I fire their is a lawyer at the end of it. Sucks sometimes to have to think about protecting yourself from somebody like the psycho in Newtown.

  [Log in to Reply](#)

angeleyes63

Apr. 26, 2014 at 7:57pm -

This all sounds very promising and doable, hell it makes common sense. In comes the prog democat to whom facts and logic counter to their belief system just won't do. I fear resistance will squash any and all attempts at solving a problem hyped by the left. They scream bloody murder yet refrain from actual common sense solutions when we try.

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