# Re-Examining the Connection Between Young People and Violence: Perspectives on Prevention and Intervention

Youth violence is a serious public health problem that affects communities across the United States. In 2020, an estimated 4,368 youth under the age of 18 were killed by firearms in the United States. This number is more than double the number of youth who were killed by firearms in 1999.



Youth and Violent Performativities: Re-Examining the Connection Between Young People and Violence (Perspectives on Children and Young People Book 11)

by John Drennan

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The relationship between young people and violence is complex and multifaceted. There are a number of factors that can contribute to youth violence, including:

- Individual factors, such as impulsivity, aggression, and a lack of coping skills
- Family factors, such as exposure to violence, parental neglect, and poverty
- Community factors, such as neighborhood violence, lack of opportunity, and poor access to education and health care

There is no single solution to preventing youth violence. However, there are a number of strategies that can be used to reduce the risk of youth violence, including:

- Providing early childhood education and support. Research shows that children who participate in high-quality early childhood education programs are less likely to engage in violence later in life.
- Strengthening families. Parents and caregivers play a critical role in preventing youth violence. Programs that support families can help to reduce the risk of youth violence by providing parents with the skills and resources they need to raise healthy and successful children.
- Improving schools. Schools can play a positive role in preventing youth violence by providing a safe and supportive learning environment. Programs that focus on improving school climate and reducing bullying can help to reduce the risk of youth violence.
- Creating safe and supportive communities. Communities can play
  a role in preventing youth violence by providing safe and supportive
  environments for young people. Programs that focus on community
  engagement and youth development can help to reduce the risk of
  youth violence.

In addition to prevention efforts, there are also a number of strategies that can be used to intervene in youth violence when it does occur. These strategies include:

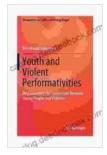
- Providing crisis intervention services. Crisis intervention services can provide immediate support to young people who are at risk of violence.
- Offering counseling and therapy. Counseling and therapy can help young people to understand and address the factors that contribute to their violence.
- Providing case management services. Case management services can help young people to access the resources and support they need to stay out of trouble.

Youth violence is a complex problem, but it is one that can be prevented and intervened upon. By working together, we can create safe and supportive communities for young people and help them to reach their full potential.

#### **Additional Resources**

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Youth Violence Prevention
- National Youth Violence Prevention Center
- Preventing Youth Violence

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