



School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program



LEFT: We the People Hearing, Jackson Elementary, Allentown, PA RIGHT: Flag Day and We the People hearing, Central Elementary School, Allentown, PA

The Center for Civic Education's School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program (SVPDP) is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act passed by the United States Congress.

The goal of the program is to explore ways in which civic education can be used as a strategy to foster civic engagement, law-abiding behavior, the peaceful management of conflict, and the prevention of violence in schools. The program is being implemented at grades four through twelve in urban, suburban, rural, and Native American school districts at 24 sites in 19 states. For more information, see www.civiced.org.

PROGRAM IMPACT ON STUDENT KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES

- Students who participated in the SVPDP demonstrated a greater increase in positive attitudes toward civic responsibility than their peers.
- Students who participated in the SVPDP demonstrated greater gains in tolerance for the ideas of others and inclusion for all people in the political and social process than their peers.

- *"We have a voice! WOW! The City of Clovis is listening to us! We can make a difference if we show we care."*
SHARLIE EARWOOD, EIGHTH-GRADE SVPDP STUDENT, MARSHALL JUNIOR HIGH, NEW MEXICO
- *"My daughter learned that she can make a difference and become a positive influence in the community."*
PARENT OF SIXTH-GRADE SVPD STUDENT, HERMAN LEIMBACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, CALIFORNIA
- *"The structure of instructional tasks used in SVPDP results in the application of concepts to community and world events. The resulting high engagement and greater awareness of the need for fairness and responsibility are most likely due to students seeing the relevance to their own lives."*
DIANE M. HOLBEN, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, PLANNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY, ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

For more information about Center for Civic Education research, contact Suzanne Soule, Director of Research and Evaluation, soule@civiced.org or 800-350-4223.

