

Student Aggression and Potential Violence

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LABOR & EMPLOYMENT
LAW

FROM A DIFFERENT
ANGLE

**Ogletree
Deakins**



Campus Violence

- We are not alarmists. On campus is still the safest place for young people
- However, violence on campus DOES occur

Profiles...



Profiles

- Violent Dialogue Poet

Profiles

- The all-alone (loner) student



Profiles

- The substance abuser

Profiles

- Student facing severe stress



Profiles

- The problem child student



Profiles

- The suddenly confused student



Profiles

- The failing, but very capable student



Profiles

- The misfit who wears differences on sleeve



Profiles

- The rebel who becomes unclean



Profiles

- The student with a whole new set of friends

Remember...

- Violent acting out is a process



Understanding The Three Stages of Violence

STAGE I: Early Potential

STAGE II: Escalated Potential

STAGE III: Realized Potential



Stage I: Early Potential

- Objectifying and dehumanizing others
- Challenges to authority
- Regularly becomes argumentative
- Alienates teachers, administrators and/or students
- Swears excessively; often with sexually explicit language
- Verbally abuses and/or harasses others



Stage II: Escalated Potential

- Arguments more frequent and intense
- Disregard for policies and procedures
- Vandalizes property
- Steals from school/students/teachers
- Verbally threatens
- Threatens by note/electronic means
- Blames others

Stage III: Realized Potential

- Gets involved in physical confrontations
 - FIGHTING IS SERIOUS! THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS “A LITTLE SKIRMISH”

Stage III contd.

- Brings weapons to campus
- Commits/attempts assault, sexual assault, murder, arson, or suicide

WARNING

- Intervention is generally not appropriate, at Stage III, without specific training and experience (security, law enforcement, mental health)