

**Title:** Cross-Cultural Study on Violence Prevention Awareness amongst Students in the U.S. and Kuwait

**Status:** In Progress

### **Abstract**

This research used an internet questionnaire to assess how well our students have mastered our violence prevention course objectives. The questionnaire will assess cross culturally how our students' ability to: Correctly identify the warning signs that a person is in danger of committing suicide; Correctly identify the warning signs that person is in danger of committing an act of violence; Correctly identify the warning signs that a child is being mistreated; Correctly identify warning signs of destructive parenting. In order to accurately assess the effectiveness of our course in reaching these objectives, a pretest to first assess how much our students know about these objectives prior to beginning our lectures on the material. Therefore, students will be asked to complete the questionnaire the first week of classes as well as at the end of the semester. Dr. Berman and I are examining whether there are cultural differences in what students perceive to be the warning signs of violence, suicide, child maltreatment, and dangerous parenting. This is an ongoing project; a part of this study has been published as a book chapter in the MacMillan Advanced Research Series (2008). In the final stages of my project, participants will be given feedback on the accuracy of their performance in identifying the warning signs of dangerous behavior. Participants will then be given an opportunity to follow Internet links to websites where they can gain more information about recognizing and preventing violence. We will attempt to assess how frequently these links have been followed.