Teacher Turnover’s Impact on Aggression and Student Perception of School Safety
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**Background**
- **Teacher turnover:** High teacher turnover negatively affects student performance (Huang et. al., 2020)
- **Aggression:** Higher school structure results in fewer externalized aggressive behaviors (Berg & Cornell, 2016)
- **Student perception of school safety:** Positive perception of school safety correlates with lower levels of external aggressive behaviors (Huang et. al., 2020) and higher teacher investment (Collie et. al., 2011)
- **School structure:** High school structure is associated with decreased student aggression and teacher victimization (Gregory et. al., 2012)

**Sample**
- N = 3,635
- Ages 10 through 16 (M = 12.68, SD = 1.03)
- Grades 6th—8th: 38.0% = 6th grade, 29.7% = 7th grade, 32.3% = 8th grade
- Female (51.3%), male (48.7%)

**Measures**
- **Teacher turnover**
  - Teachers asked how many years they had worked at the school
- **Self-report Aggression Scale** (Orpinas & Frankowski, 2001)
  - Students asked about aggressive behaviors in the last 7 days
  - **Examples of questions:**
    - “I pushed or shoved other students”
    - “I slapped or kicked someone”
- **Student Perception of School Safety**
  - Students asked to what extent are the following physical and observational problems at your school
  - **Examples of problems:**
    - “Students wrecking school property”
    - “Teachers ignore it when students tease other students”
- **School Structure**
  - Students were asked: “How often do the following things happen at your school?: Teachers make a point of sticking to the rules in classes.”

**Results**
- Lower teacher turnover **significantly** improves student perception of school safety
  - Policies to decrease teacher turnover will improve students’ sense of safety
- Lower teacher turnover **does not significantly** improve reported aggressive behaviors
  - Students aggressive behaviors impact teacher turnover

**Discussion**
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