

# Hotspot Mapping How-To Guide

## What is Hotspot Mapping?

Hotspot Mapping is a process of data collection that identifies areas of a place where the people there feel safe and unsafe. That data is used to make changes to the physical environment or social climate of the space that make unsafe areas (“hotspots”) safer.

## Goals of Hotspot Mapping

- Determine where people feel safe/unsafe in a place
- Use that information to target environmental changes to the areas that are identified as unsafe (“hotspots”)
- Through environmental changes, make the spaces safer, fewer people experience violence

## Resources

Creating Protective Environments as Community-Level Prevention Strategy:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/sv-prevention-technical-package.pdf>

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) School Assessment (CSA):  
[https://rems.ed.gov/docs/CDC\\_CPTEDSchoolAssessment.pdf](https://rems.ed.gov/docs/CDC_CPTEDSchoolAssessment.pdf)

PhotoVoice: <https://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications/2019-07/Sidewalks-to-Sexual-Violence-Prevention.pdf>

**Questions? Contact Astraea Howard**  
([ahoward@kasap.org](mailto:ahoward@kasap.org))

# Hotspot Mapping Implementation

<b>Initial Prep</b>	Discuss project with school stakeholders
	Determine method of hotspot mapping (PhotoVoice, School Map Coloring 1.0 & 2.0)
	Determine how mapping activity will happen. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How many students will complete activity? Will they be evenly spread across all grades? Will they be from a specific group?</li> <li>- How will you recruit students to participate?</li> <li>- When will you facilitate the mapping activity?</li> </ul>
	Prep materials and coordinate logistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PhotoVoice: Gather cameras, set time for photo activity, recruit students and adult chaperones</li> <li>- School Map Coloring: Get map of school, create key with room names, get red/yellow/green colored pencils</li> </ul>
<b>Mapping &amp; Analysis</b>	Have students complete mapping activity
	Analyze data and identify key takeaways
	Host student focus groups to understand the data, what characteristics about a space make it unsafe, and ideas for making spaces safer
<b>Making Change</b>	Discuss results with stakeholders, plan for environmental changes
	Make environmental changes in school
	Repeat process of mapping, analysis, reporting, and environmental change