



THE FACTS: HOW GUN VIOLENCE AFFECTS US

Every year in the U.S., some 46,000 people are killed by gun violence. 56% are lost to suicide, 40% to homicide and 4% to preventable accidents.

Their loss rips through families, schools, neighborhoods and work places. Their violent ending unsettles the American psyche and wreaks havoc on the economy. It's a fact: gun violence affects all of us. Knowing the facts explains how and why.

Its Impact on Children

- In America, guns are now the #1 cause of death in children 18 years old and younger.
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- 4.6 million children live in homes with at least one loaded, unlocked gun.
Source: Everytown for Gun Safety
- American children are 12X more likely to be killed by a gun than children in other countries.
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Exposure to fatal gun shootings is linked to a 21% increase in young peoples' antidepressant use during the following two years.
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation

Its Role in Suicides

- Nearly 6 of every 10 firearm deaths in the U.S. are suicides.
Source: Everytown for Gun Safety
- Suicide attempts using a gun are fatal 85% of the time.
Source: Brady United Against Gun Violence
- Military veterans are 3X more likely to die by gun suicide than non-veterans.
Source: U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs
- Access to a gun in the homes increases by 300% the risk of death by suicide.
Source: Brady United Against Gun Violence
- Despite its having only 4% of the world's population, the U.S. accounts for 35% of the world's firearm suicides.
Source: Brady United Against Gun Violence

Its Effect on Domestic Violence

- Every 16 hours, a woman is fatally shot by her current or former partner.
Source: Brady United Against Gun Violence

- Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women, more than car accidents, muggings and rapes combined.
Source: new-hope.org
- Access to a firearm makes it 5X more likely a woman will be killed by her abusive male partner.
Source: Battered Women's Justice Project

Its Place in Accidents & Unintended Loss

- At least once a week, a toddler fires a gun, killing or injuring himself/herself or others.
Source: Journal of the American Medical Association
- An emergency room somewhere in the U.S treats at least one firearm injury every 30 minutes.
Source: The Trace, a nonprofit news organization

Its Cultural & Financial Impact

- Four in 10 Americans believe it's at least somewhat likely they'll be a victim of gun violence in the next five years.
Source: The Trace, a nonprofit news organization
- Americans own 450 million firearms or 40% of the entire world's civilian firearms.
Source: Everytown for Gun Safety
- Every gun homicide costs American taxpayers an average \$709,985 from government expenses on medical and mental health care as well as police investigations and criminal justice expenses.
Source: Everytown for Gun Safety
- Gun violence costs the U.S. economy at least \$557 billion a year.
Source: Everytown for Gun Safety

What Can Be Done?

A compelling fact affecting all others is this: guns in America are too easily accessible.

So join us in supporting legislation to enact and enforce the following:

- Universal background checks of those who buy firearms as well as ammunition.
- Expanded adoption of Emergency Protection Order (ERPOS), also known as red flag laws. They allow law enforcement to seek a court order temporarily removing firearms from people at risk of harming themselves or others.
- Secure firearm storage.

And in conversations with friends and family, choose the facts most meaningful to you that underscore the urgency of solving the public health crisis of gun violence.

To learn more:
www.grandparentsforgunsafety.org