

In the Community

- Launch a public education campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of firearms, and the risks of keeping a gun in the home.
- Report stolen weapons and carry and use violations to law enforcement.
- Work with your Neighborhood Watch or other group to hold a forum on how guns and violence affect the community. Include police, schools, youth, local government, youth agencies, and religious organizations.
- Ask local officials to advocate a variety of ways to prevent gun violence, such as strict local regulation of dealers with Federal Firearms Licenses, consumer protection regulations governing weapons manufacture, taxes on ammunition, bans on assault weapons, gun turn-in days, and liability legislation.

Each year, guns end the lives of thousands of young people. Their families and friends are left to cope with the loss of a life barely lived and to face a future overshadowed by violence.

For More Information

Center to Prevent Handgun Violence
1225 Eye Street, NW, Room 1100
Washington, DC 20005
202-289-7319

Education Fund to End Handgun Violence
100 Maryland Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
202-544-7227

National School Safety Center
4165 Thousand Oaks Boulevard
Suite 290
Westlake Village, CA 91362
805-373-9977

Pacific Center for Violence Prevention
San Francisco General Hospital
San Francisco, CA 94110
415-285-1793

Violence Policy Center
2000 P Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
202-822-8200



Crime Prevention Tips From
National Crime Prevention Council
1700 K Street, NW, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20006-3817
and

CHEEKTOWAGA POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRIME RESISTANCE UNIT
275 ALEXANDER AVENUE
(716) 897-7293

The National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, sponsored by the Crime Prevention Coalition is substantially funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Distribution assisted by a grant
from ADT Security Systems.



DEALING WITH GUN VIOLENCE



TAKE ACTION TO STOP VIOLENCE!



In television, the daily news, and conversations — guns seize our attention and fuel our fears.

GUNS BY THE NUMBERS

- Every day 15 children under the age of 19 are killed by gunfire, and many more are injured.
- Homicide is the second leading cause of death for youth ages 10 to 19. For black males ages 10 to 19, it's the leading cause of death. Most are committed with firearms — especially handguns.
- An estimated 1.2 million elementary-aged, latchkey children have access to guns in their homes.
- A child between 10 and 19 years old commits suicide with a handgun every six hours.
- Although the U.S. regulates the safety of countless products including teddy bears, blankets, toys, and pajamas, it does not regulate the safety of firearms.
- The average hospital bill for treating a child wounded by gunfire is \$14,434 — enough to pay for a year of college.

TAKE ACTION TO STOP VIOLENCE!

At Home

- Teach children — from preschoolers to teenagers — that guns and other weapons hurt and kill.
- Show children how to settle arguments without resorting to words or actions that hurt. Parents, relatives, older brothers and sisters, teachers, and baby-sitters should set a positive example.
- Consider removing guns, especially handguns, from homes with children or teens.
- Look at ways other than firearms to protect yourself. Invest in top grade locks, jamming devices for doors and windows, a dog, a security system. Start or join a Neighborhood Watch. Ask police to recommend a self-defense class.
- If you choose to own firearms — handguns, rifles, or shotguns — make sure they are unloaded and securely stored.



Invest in trigger locks, gun cabinets with a lock, or pistol lock boxes. Lock up ammunition separately.

At School

- Support school staff in their efforts to keep guns, knives, and other weapons out of schools.
- Encourage students to report any weapons they know about on school grounds to the police or school authorities.



- Involve youth. Young people can and do organize against handgun violence.
- Show students how to settle arguments without resorting to violence. Teach them to deal with conflict by calming down, identifying the problem, compromising, and asking someone else to listen to both sides.