Gun Violence and Public Health Resource Pack
2018

Overview

This resource pack was curated by the Global Health Education and Learning Incubator at Harvard University (GHELI) to support an upcoming Forum at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, “The Gun Violence Epidemic: Protecting the Public’s Health.” The multidisciplinary materials are suitable for educators, students, researchers, and policy makers wanting to learn about firearm violence in the United States and possible policy responses to regulate guns or improve public safety.

The Forum event is described as follows:

Inspired by students across the country, the gun violence prevention movement has gained new momentum. But can it last or lead to substantive change on the Congressional level? This Forum brings together experts in mental health, violence, and gun policy to discuss a variety of proposed gun violence and school safety measures. What is the status of background check laws? What is an appropriate way to discuss mental health in the conversation — without creating stigma or a chilling effect on people seeking care? What skills and training should educators have to spot warning signs and respond in crises? And, in light of restrictions around federally funded gun-related research, do policymakers have the information that they need to study these questions effectively? In this time of turbulence, our panelists will look at the evidence for — and possible unintended consequences of — today’s hotly debated measures to stop gun violence.

The Forum at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health is a live webcasting series that provides decision-makers with a global platform to discuss policy choices and scientific controversies across the world. This resource pack includes:

- Reports and Books
- Articles and Briefs
- Data Publications, Portals, and Interactives
- Fact Sheets and Country Profiles
- Topic Portals and Organizations
- Multimedia and News
- Teaching Material
### Selected Resources – At a Glance

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# Gun Violence and Public Health: Resource Pack

## Article


## DATA PUBLICATIONS, PORTALS, AND INTERACTIVES


## FACT SHEETS AND COUNTRY PROFILES


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TOPIC PORTALS AND ORGANIZATIONS


MULTIMEDIA AND NEWS


TEACHING MATERIAL


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*indicates resource listed in GHELI's online Repository
Annotated Bibliography

REPORTS AND BOOKS

GHELI repository link: [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12358]
This 2018 report by the RAND Corporation provides a comprehensive review of gun policies in the United States and their long-term impacts on various firearm-related outcomes, including deaths, violent crime, and industry practices. Overall, the authors found that the effects of existing policies have generally not been examined in methodologically rigorous scientific studies. With respect to the research that has been conducted, investigators have generally examined outcomes that impact gun-owners and industry stakeholders rather than the public safety and population health. Nevertheless, a small body of research has found that child-access prevention laws (safe storage laws) effectively reduce self-inflicted firearm injuries among young people as well as unintentional injuries among children. Studies on background checks have also shown to be effective, as they result in fewer gun-related suicides and homicides, and lower violent crime rates. While laws preventing individuals with a history of commitment to a psychiatric facility have been linked with less violence, there is limited evidence that imposing a minimum age for gun purchases effectively reduces suicides among young people. Based on these findings, the authors also identify a number of recommendations with respect to the implementation of existing laws (e.g., making it a felony to violate child-access prevention laws), the passage of new laws (e.g., requiring robust mental illness checks), and actions that can be taken to lift restrictions on gun violence research.

Violence and Mental Health: Opportunities for Prevention and Early Detection: Proceedings of a Workshop
This report from the National Academies Press summarizes the discussions and presentations at the 2014 workshop called "Mental Health and Violence: Opportunities for Prevention and Early Intervention," which convened experts on public health, mental health, and many other fields. The report examines how violence and mental health can influence one another, the social determinants at the intersection of mental health and violence, and avenues to improve research, prevention, and treatment in both of these areas.

Community Violence as a Population Health Issue: Proceedings of a Workshop
GHELI repository link: [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11573]
This report from the National Academies Press examines the effects of trauma and violence on communities. Outlining the proceedings of a workshop held in Brooklyn, New York, the report highlights the use of trauma-informed approaches to treat violence and build safe and healthy communities. Speakers at the workshop presented examples of these approaches in practice that provide useful models and lessons for communities everywhere. The report summarizes these presentations and the discussions that followed. Key questions for future work include understanding mental health service delivery, the knowledge gap between mental health and the justice system, ways culture can be integrated into programs addressing the nexus of mental health and violence, how to implement current knowledge, the long-term health effects of interpersonal violence, and the effectiveness of individual-based mental health interventions.
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A Familiar Face: Violence in the Lives of Children and Adolescents
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12039 
This report from the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) offers the most up-to-date global data on four types of violence against children and adolescents: violent discipline and exposure to domestic violence, school violence, violent deaths, and sexual violence. The report notes that children experience violence most often by people whom they know and trust, usually in the home or in social environments, and explores the impact of childhood violence on well-being later in life. It asserts that all children have the right to protection against violence, and argues that documenting data on violence is a vital step towards combating abusive actions toward children and adolescents.

Global Report 2017: Ending Violence in Childhood
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11717 
This report from Know Violence in Childhood documents the scale of violence experienced by millions of the world’s children, the latest evidence on the consequences of violence in childhood, and the approaches to preventing such violence in the future. In the past year, at least three of every four of the world’s children have experienced abuse, interpersonal violence, or another form of cruelty in their homes, schools, and communities. Violence against children reaches beyond immediate trauma and the effects can lead to depression and behavioral problems, impaired mental well-being affecting educational achievement, and increased vulnerability to substance abuse and poor sexual and reproductive health. For many, violence in childhood will have dire life-long consequences, which can perpetuate through continuing generations. To prevent violence in childhood, the report advocates for enhancing the capacities of parents, caregivers, and children; embedding violence-prevention in institutions and services; and eliminating the root causes of violence.

Private Guns, Public Health
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12359 
This book by David Hemenway, Professor of Health Policy at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, tackles firearm violence through the perspective of public health, breaking down the key causes and advocating for policy changes. Hemenway points out that research has repeatedly shown that lowering access to guns decreases gun-related mortality or injuries. He argues that data-driven approaches should be taken to regulate firearms, including creating a national agency to regulate guns and requiring that gun owners be licensed and their guns be registered. He further reminds readers that the health sector stands to have profound impact on the reduction of gun violence through data collection, education, and advocacy.

GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12216 
This report from the World Bank is the seventh volume of the Disease Control Priorities, third edition (DCP3) series and focuses on injury prevention and environmental health. The burden of death and disability resulting from interpersonal violence, road traffic injuries, unintentional injuries, occupational health risks, and climate and pollution falls disproportionately on low- and middle-income countries. This report examines risk factors and offers an economic analysis of platforms to deliver cost-effective interventions to prevent injuries and mitigate negative environmental impacts on health. The volume’s contributors identify an essential package of

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interventions and policies which, if implemented, could affect death and disability rates to avert more than 7.5 million deaths each year.

**School Violence and Bullying: Global Status Report**
**GHELI repository link:** [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12230](http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12230)

This report from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) addresses the issue of school violence and bullying (SVB) around the world. The report notes that school violence encompasses physical violence (including corporal punishment), psychological violence, sexual violence (including rape and harassment), and bullying (which is defined as a pattern of violent behavior rather than an isolated event, and includes cyberbullying). Drawing on a number of available data sources, the report presents the scope, extent, and impact of SVB in a number of contexts, and describes the causes of SVB, how it varies by age and gender, and its effects on the physical, mental, and social health of children. It also explores the ways in which the education sector can and does respond to SVB, examining strategies such as enacting national anti-SVB laws, providing national and local level training and support for teachers to prevent SVB, creating "safe and inclusive learning environments," and monitoring the status of SVB through tracking and data collection. Finally, the report presents SVB priority actions, including strengthening leadership, promoting awareness of SVB, establishing partnerships and engaging children and young people, building capacity of education staff and learners, implementing systems for reporting, and improving data and evidence.

**The Effect of Gun Violence on Local Economies**
**GHELI repository link:** [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11025](http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11025)

This report from the Urban Institute provides findings on the effects of gun violence on local economies in three American cities, Minneapolis, Oakland, and Washington, D.C. It reports that increases in gunfire or fun homicides in community environments can reduce the numbers of businesses and new jobs while also reducing the volume of sales for businesses. The nuances of these effects vary by city, but gun violence was found to have negative effects on business in all cases.

**The Evidence for Violence Prevention Across the Lifespan and Around the World: Workshop Summary**
**GHELI repository link:** [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11025](http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11025)

This National Academies report examines how evidence for violence prevention can continue to be expanded, disseminated, and implemented. The report summarizes a workshop convened in January 2013 by the Institute of Medicine’s Forum on Global Violence Prevention to explore value and application of the evidence for violence prevention across the lifespan and around the world. Since part of the Forum's mandate is to engage in multisectoral, multidirectional dialogue that explores crosscutting approaches to violence prevention, this workshop examined how existing evidence for violence prevention can continue to be expanded, disseminated, and implemented in ways that further the ultimate aims of improved individual well-being and safer communities.

**Global Status Report on Violence Prevention 2014**
**GHELI repository link:** [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/10981](http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/10981)

This World Health Organization (WHO) report is the first to assess national efforts to address interpersonal violence, and reflects data from 133 countries. The report includes chapters on child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder abuse. Jointly published by WHO, the United Nations...
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Development Programme, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the report reviews the current status of violence prevention efforts and calls for a scaling up of violence prevention; stronger legislation and enforcement of laws; and enhanced services for victims. Read the executive summary, find individual chapters, scan the glossary, and explore country profiles.

Gun Violence: Prediction, Prevention, and Policy
This report by the American Psychological Association describes factors that contribute to gun violence and actions that can be taken to reduce its incidence in the United States. The authors discuss developmental issues related to violent and antisocial behavior in adolescence, as well as gendered attitudes around masculinity and aggression that may increase males' likelihood of perpetrating gun violence. While it is important to note that most people with mental illness are not dangerous, intervention efforts aimed at improving access to mental health treatment is discussed as an important means of reducing gun violence. Additionally, community-based approaches to supporting parents with young children to bolster emotional health and well-being starting early in life are described, as well as the implementation of prohibitions for high-risk risk groups including those with a history of perpetrating domestic violence, being convicted of violent crimes, and individuals with mental health challenges who have been deemed by health professionals to be a threat to themselves and others.

Priorities for Research to Reduce the Threat of Firearm-Related Violence
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12225
This report, published in 2013 by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and National Research Council, identifies high-priority research areas to improve understanding of the public health aspects of gun-related violence, including its causes, health effects, and potential interventions. The report was developed in response to executive orders by President Barack Obama directing federal agencies to improve knowledge of these issues. One charged the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with identifying the most urgent gun-related violence research needs; the CDC in turn asked the IOM and Research Council to propose a research agenda. This report summarizes the five key components of this research agenda – the characteristics of gun violence, risk and protective factors, prevention and other interventions, gun safety technology, and the influence of video games and other media on gun violence – and notes that this public health agenda should be integrated with research conducted from criminal justice and other perspectives to ensure the broadest knowledge base possible is available to inform decision-makers.

ARTICLES AND BRIEFS

This 2017 research study in JAMA Internal Medicine assesses trends in the publishing of scientific research on gun violence from 1960 to 2014. Because journal publications are an important avenue for disseminating research findings, the volume of articles can be a measure of scientific attention. In total, 2,207 articles were identified through major research databases. Trend analysis found that the number of studies on gun violence increased dramatically between 1985 and 1999, but plateaued from 1999 to 2012, during which an average of 90 articles were published annually on the topic. Currently, there appears to be very few career researchers studying gun violence currently.
**Historical Oppression, Resilience, and Transcendence: Can a Holistic Framework Help Explain Violence Experienced by Indigenous People?**


GHELI repository link: [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11961](http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11961)

This article provides a new framework informed by the concepts of historical oppression and resilience to explain disproportionately high rates of violence faced by American Indians and Alaska Native women and help develop solutions to mitigate disparities. Expanding upon the concept of historical trauma, historical oppression refers to, “the chronic, pervasive, and intergenerational experiences of oppression that, over time, may be normalized, imposed, and internalized into the daily lives of many indigenous people.” Resilience, on the other hand, refers to the ability to cope and positively adapt to adversity. In this article, the authors use ethnographic data to articulate risk and protective factors at the societal, cultural, community, partner, and individual levels that contribute to both historical oppression and resilience.

**Prohibition of Persons With Mental Illness From Gun Ownership Under Tyler**


This article explores the rights of those who have been diagnosed with mental illnesses to own firearms. Taking into account the historic Heller, McDonald, Tyler I, and Tyler II court decisions, it points out that in some states, existing laws may infringe upon the Second Amendment rights of individuals who had previously experienced mental illness but are now no longer at risk for violence or self-harm. The authors conclude that the precedent set in the Tyler decisions might not be constitutional. Finally, they suggest an approach with stronger clinical involvement, wherein firearms could be confiscated from individuals for a limited amount of time as deemed appropriate by clinicians.

**Violence Against & Rights for Children**


GHELI repository link: [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12079](http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12079)

This article from Our World in Data presents global data on the prevalence and nature of physical and emotional violence against children, as well as other common violations of children’s rights; specific topics include child labor, violent discipline, bullying and violence at school, sexual violence against children, child marriage, female genital mutilation, and homicides of children. Related articles that provide deeper analysis are linked throughout; of particular interest is a blog post that focuses on the effects of [child maltreatment on educational outcomes](https://ourworldindata.org/violence-against-rights-for-children).

The article includes several interactive data visualizations that illustrate historical trends, and users can customize their data view by selecting countries to display, toggling between map and chart views, and specifying the time period of interest. It also discusses the availability, quality, and limitations of cross-country data about violence against children, and provides downloadable datasets for further analysis.
Violent Death Rates: The US Compared with Other High-income OECD Countries, 2010
This study from The American Journal of Medicine examines the rate of violent death in the United States compared to that in other high-income countries. It finds that Americans are ten times more likely to be killed by a gun than residents of other developed countries. Furthermore, the gun homicide rate in the United States is 25 times higher than in other high-income countries.

Firearm Legislation and Firearm Mortality in the USA: A Cross-sectional, State-level Study
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12360
This article in The Lancet examines the associations between particular firearm laws and overall firearm-related deaths in the United States. Out of 25 firearm laws examined, nine were statistically associated with reduced firearm deaths, nine were associated with increased firearm deaths, and the remaining did not show a clear association. Universal background checks, ammunition background checks, and identification requirements for firearms were found to be the most strongly associated with decreased firearm deaths.

Public Mass Shooters and Firearms: A Cross-National Study of 171 Countries
This study examines the global distribution of mass shootings around the world, specifically examining if gun violence in the United States is an exceptional case. It finds that while the United States has about five percent of the world’s population, it has 31 percent of the world’s mass shootings. Furthermore, across all countries included in the study, the rate of firearm ownership was found to be positively associated with the occurrence of public mass shootings.

Tale of 2 Agencies: CDC Avoids Gun Violence Research But NIH Funds It
In this 2016 news article in the Journal of the American Medical Association, the author describes funding challenges that inhibit the scientific study of gun violence as a public health issue. Specifically, the authors discuss the implementation and consequences of the "Dickey Amendment" to the Omnibus Consolidation Appropriations Act of 1997, which required that no funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention be used to advocate or promote gun control. Since its passage, scientific research on gun violence has declined dramatically in the United States, however the National Institutes of Health have been more willing to fund projects in recent years.

Commentary: Evidence to Guide Gun Violence Prevention in America
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12361
This commentary by Daniel Webster - gun violence researcher at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health - describes scientific evidence that can be used to mitigate gun violence in America. The author summarizes data showing that rates of gun-related homicides that disproportionately impact black men are on the decline, while gun-related suicides that disproportionately impact white men are increasing. Additionally, promising approaches to stem the tide of gun violence are discussed, including the program "Cure Violence," which uses outreach workers to mediate conflicts and promote non-violence in communities. Ultimately, Webster concludes, violence can be reduced with the careful implementation of effective programs.
DATA PUBLICATIONS, PORTALS, AND INTERACTIVES

Databases on Injury and Violence
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11274 
This data portal, maintained by the World Health Organization (WHO), contains links to key databases on injury and violence, including the following:

- **HISTORICAL TREND SERIES DATA ON DEATHS FROM ROAD TRAFFIC CRASHES, SUICIDE AND HOMICIDE**
  Mortality data by country, year, cause of death, age and sex are transmitted regularly to WHO. They are therefore considered as official national statistics as reported by the competent authorities of the countries concerned. At the country level, information on causes of death is compiled from individual death certificates as recorded in civil registries.

- **EUROPEAN HEALTH FOR ALL DATABASE**
  The European Regional Office for WHO, has a database called "Health For All". It is a searchable database for all causes of death and disease, including injuries and violence.

- **PAHO REGIONAL CORE HEALTH DATA INITIATIVE**
  This database includes a core set of 108 indicators, these are disaggregated (by sex, age groups, etc.) for a total of 216 indicators (homicide, accidents and suicide are included). The data representing information from 48 countries and territories of the PAHO region from 1997 to date.

Gun Law Navigator
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12365 
This interactive tool from Everytown for Gun Safety takes 67 laws that pertain to gun use and allows users to see which of these laws are currently in place in a given state within the United States. Users can then access a profile of each state to read more details about its specific situation. A similar profile is also available for each of the 67 laws.

Gun Violence Archive
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12364 
This data portal tracks shootings in the United States. The Gun Violence Archive—an independent non-profit organization—provides charts and maps of gun violence to visualize the impact of gun use across the country. Incident data are categorized by number of deaths, number of injuries, number of children, number of teens, mass shootings, officers shot, suspect shot by officer, home invasion, defensive use, and unintentional shooting.

Small Arms Survey
This data portal from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva provides authoritative data on weapons around the world. According to the organization's most up-to-date data, Americans have the highest rate of civilian gun ownership anywhere, at 89 guns for every 100 people (some have more than one gun and many have none) followed by Yemen at 55 per 100 people. A 2013 Small Arms Survey working paper discusses the firearms industry in the United States, including insights into the resale market.
State Firearm Law Database
This database from State Firearm Laws—a project by Dr. Michael Siegel at the Boston University School of Public Health—aggregates and presents data on gun policies within all 50 states in the United States. Users can browse for information by looking at 133 laws categorized into 14 categories (e.g., dealer regulations or background checks), or by looking at the fact sheets that have been prepared specifically for each state.

Annual Gun Law Scorecard
Data Interactive. Annual Gun Law Scorecard. Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. 
http://lawcenter.giffords.org/scorecard.
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12362
This data interactive from the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence evaluates the gun laws of all states in the United States. It allows users to view a map of the country and click on any state to see its specific laws and an overall “grade.” Based on this “grade,” the scorecard ranks 50 states based on the strength or weakness of their gun laws. Finally, it suggests six key policies for improving gun safety in the U.S., including background checks, child access prevention, limits to the concealed carry of weapons, restrictions on gun ownership of domestic abusers, extreme risk protection orders, and regulations on military-style weaponry.

RAND State Firearm Law Database
This database is part of the RAND Corporation's "Gun Policy in America" initiative and contains longitudinal data on state gun laws in the United States. It is intended to allow for more thorough analysis of firearm laws compared to the majority of studies, which tend to only use cross-sectional data. Policy makers, researchers, and any other interested parties can use this data for free to conduct their own studies of gun laws and safety in America.

America's Unique Gun Violence Problem, Explained in 17 Maps and Charts
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12257
This article from Vox examines American gun violence through a series of maps and charts, illustrating what gun violence looks like in the U.S. compared with the rest of the world, why it is so prevalent, and why it continues to be such a challenging issue to address. The article also links to key research studies, media coverage, and commentary related to gun violence and gun control efforts.

Global Status Report on Violence Prevention 2014: Infographic
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/1429
This infographic and presentation slides describe results from the Global Status Report on Violence Prevention 2014. This report reflects data from 133 countries and is the first to assess national efforts to address interpersonal violence. The report includes interpersonal violence in the form of child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder abuse. Jointly published by World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Program, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the report reviews the current status of violence prevention efforts in countries, and calls for a scaling up of violence prevention programs; stronger legislation and enforcement of laws relevant for violence prevention; and enhanced services for victims of violence.
FACT SHEETS AND COUNTRY PROFILES

Preventing Gun Violence
This fact sheet from the American Public Health Association summarizes the burden of gun violence in the United States and shares information about public health-focused approaches to preventing it. The fact sheet underscores the societal costs of firearm assault injury, which cost the U.S. $229 billion in 2015 alone. The fact sheet indicates that better surveillance, more research, stronger gun reforms, expanded access to mental health services, school- and community-based prevention, and better gun safety technology are all keys for reducing and preventing gun violence.

WHO Fact Sheets: Violence and Intentional Injury
WHO repository link: http://repository.ghel.harvard.edu/repository/11188
These fact sheets from the World Health Organization (WHO) provide information on the health outcomes and broader consequences of violence and intentional injuries. Individual fact sheets are available for child maltreatment, elder abuse, violence against women, and youth violence.

Intentional Injuries:
- Child Maltreatment (2016)
- Elder Abuse
- Violence Against Women (2017)
- Youth Violence (2016)

Gun Law Factsheets
GHEL repository link: http://repository.ghel.harvard.edu/repository/12363
These fact sheets from the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence provides information on a variety of topics and laws related to firearms in the United States. Available fact sheets relate to access to firearms, background checks, domestic violence, guns in public, and gun violence protection orders, among many others.

State Gun Laws
These state profiles from the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action provide information about each U.S. state's gun laws, separately presenting laws related to handguns or rifles and shotguns. Within each state profile, information is provided in an interactive map about which other states within the U.S. recognize that particular state's permit. Finally, more detailed information about laws that specifically pertain to each state is also available.

Global Violence Prevention 2014: Country Profiles
GHEL repository link: http://repository.ghel.harvard.edu/repository/11228
This web portal, offered by the World Health Organization (WHO), provides the country profiles accompanying the Global Status Report on Violence Prevention 2014. This report reflects data from 133 countries and is the first to assess national efforts to address interpersonal violence, such as child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder abuse. Jointly published by WHO, the United Nations
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Development Program, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the report reviews the current status of national violence prevention efforts and calls for their scaling up; advocates for stronger legislation and enforcement of laws relevant to violence prevention; and proposes enhanced services for victims of violence. The accompanying country profiles are provided as a single set and as individual downloadable documents.

TOPIC PORTALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The Coalition to Stop Gun Violence
The Coalition to Stop Gun Violence was founded with the vision that all Americans have a right to live in communities free from gun violence. With this vision, the organization addresses gun violence through strengthening research, engagement, and policy advocacy. The organization addresses a wide range of issues including creating innovative policy, taking on the National Rifle Association (NRA), disarming domestic abusers, and preventing suicide.

Journalist's Resource: Criminal Justice
GHELI repository link: [http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11543](http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11543)
This topic portal from the Harvard Kennedy School's Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy provides a wide range of research on current topics around gun violence policy including right-to-carry laws, background checks and mental illness, the online gun market, shooting sprees, carrying weapons on campus, the impact of background checks on gun deaths, and analyses of existing gun-control legislation. Overall, this topic portal shares criminal justice research that can impact future changes in policy.

Everytown for Gun Safety
Everytown for Gun Safety represents a coalition of mothers, mayors, and survivors of gun violence who advocate for gun safety legislation. The organization amplifies opportunities for individuals to advocate against and prevent gun violence, including grassroots campaigns to replace lawmakers with gun lobby connections, and writing and calling legislators in support of gun safety policies. Everytown also shares reports and fact sheets on topics from guns in public places, to online gun sales.

Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence
Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Control Violence provides assistance to people working towards preventing gun violence by providing technical assistance. This includes making information around regulations accessible and accurate, providing reports and analyses around legal issues, sharing media coverage, presenting workshops and trainings, providing legal research and analysis, creating model laws, providing pro bono representation of local governments, and much more. This organization shares facts and figures around gun violence in order to spread awareness and create changes in gun policy. These numbers are shared through factsheets, scorecards, trend-watches, and other publications.

PBS News Hour: Gun Violence
This topic portal from PBS News Hour showcases videos and articles about current events on gun violence to explore gun policy reform. These resources explore stories of gun violence survivors, reactions from current political administration, and proposals for changes in gun policy. Current topics include ‘March for Our Lives’ and the shooting in Parkland, Florida.
Harvard Injury Control Research Center
https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/hicrc.

GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12366

The Harvard Injury Control Research Center aims to reduce gun violence and other means of injury through surveillance, research, intervention, evaluation, outreach, and training. It focuses on violence and cross-cutting issues to hone in on reducing injuries in vulnerable populations. This includes suicide, transportation safety, and injuries related to alcohol, tobacco, and firearms. This organization uses a multidisciplinary approach to promote training students and practitioners to spread knowledge around injury prevention.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, started in response to the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012, advocates for “common-sense” gun reforms. Highlighting that 7 American children and adolescents are shot on a daily basis, Moms Demand Action calls for a national effort towards stronger gun safety laws and policies. The website shares pathways to join the effort, take action, explore campaigns, view news stories, and hear personal narratives.

Stop Handgun Violence

Stop Handgun Violence is a Massachusetts-based organization aimed at preventing gun violence in America through spreading education, awareness, and influencing law enforcement. The organization shares an advocacy toolkit focused around ending handgun violence without banning guns entirely. This organization has multiple pathways to getting involved, such as receiving a newsletter, volunteering time, taking responsible measures at home, contacting congress, and donating funds.


GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/11308

This topic portal features recent resources about violence and injury prevention, including reports, data, news, and key facts. There are subpages dedicated to violence, road traffic injuries, child injuries and violence, care and services, injury-related disability and rehabilitation, national policies, and capacity building. This resource was developed and is maintained by the World Health Organization (WHO) Department for Management of Noncommunicable Diseases, Disability, Violence and Injury Prevention (NVI), which advances global health through the management of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs); the improvement of the quality of life of people with disabilities; and the prevention of violence, injury, and vision and hearing loss.

MULTIMEDIA AND NEWS

The Trace

The Trace is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news organization that examines current topics surrounding gun reform and shares facts on startlingly high rates of gun violence in America. The news organization is dedicated to defining the problem, highlighting the stories of the communities most affected by gun violence, and reporting on possible solutions to the ongoing crisis. In addition to reporting on timely topics such as the Parkland shooting, The Trace provides resources like an interactive map plotting nationwide gun violence incidents and analyses of child gun use.
CDC Now Has Authority To Research Gun Violence. What's Next?
GHEL repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/12367
This radio clip from National Public Radio is an interview of Dr. Mark Rosenberg, who used to work in gun violence research at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) until the Dickey amendment halted that work. Reacting to the 2018 spending bill that allows the CDC to potentially conduct research on gun violence, Rosenberg points out that this legislation acknowledges that science can help keep gun use safe without necessarily infringing on people's rights to have guns. He continues by reflecting on his relationship with former Republican lawmaker Jay Dickey and the directions that new gun violence prevention research could take.

Spending Bill Lets CDC Study Gun Violence; But Researchers Are Skeptical It Will Help
This article from National Public Radio addresses the implications of a 2018 spending bill for government agencies to be able to conduct research on gun violence. The bill notes that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) can engage in research about the causes of gun violence, potentially reversing or softening the rules of Dickey Amendment in 1996 that prohibited CDC funding from being used for gun control. The article presents multiple perspectives on whether or not this change in policy will result in any tangible changes to gun violence research.

Congress Quashed Research Into Gun Violence. Since Then, 600,000 People Have Been Shot
This article from The New York Times reports on the 2018 spending bill that allows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to investigate the causes of gun violence. It begins with an overview of the 1996 Dickey Amendment that essentially blocked study of gun violence by the CDC and continues by chronicling some of the key political events related to addressing gun violence over the last three decades. It finishes by considering the potential for the CDC to now turn over a new leaf and more purposefully pursue research on gun violence in the United States.

My Town, Chi-Town
This podcast produced by The Center for Investigative Reporting discusses gun homicides in Chicago, particularly the impact of community policing on annual homicide rates. Rebutting previously held views, Kevin Stark and Darnell Little from Chicago's Data Reporting Lab present research that has shown recent drops in gun deaths do not reflect declines in gun violence, but rather improved medical care.

#NEVERAGAIN: How Parkland Students are Changing the Conversation on Guns
On March 20, 2018, the Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics hosted a conversation with Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School students, Ryan Deitsch, Matt Deitsch, Emma Gonzalez, David Hogg, Cameron Kasky, and Alex Wind on the ways young people are changing the conversation on guns in America. The students represented March for Our Lives, a student-led social activist movement aimed at stemming the national epidemic of gun violence, and specifically discussed the issue of passing national comprehensive gun control legislation.
Gun Violence and Public Health: Resource Pack

At Gun Violence Press Conference, Students, Mothers Call for Action
Following the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, the organization Mothers for Justice & Equality held a press conference in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston to discuss the impact of gun violence locally. U.S. Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Dean Michelle Williams attended with students and community members to join a call for increased gun control. This news story summarizes key points raised at the event, including the lack of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funding for research on gun violence, and data presented by Harvard researcher Matthew Miller describing the substantially greater impact gun homicides and suicides have on young people in the U.S. compared to those from other countries. A video of the event is also provided for readers to view in its entirety.

Seven Steps. 27,000 Lives
This Boston Globe piece depicts state-level data on gun violence in U.S. using a unique animated infographic that puts both the costs of gun deaths and potential benefits of prevention into a national perspective. Readers can choose a given state from a drop-down list to see its gun death rate, safety rank, and the presence of existing gun control legislation. Enacted laws described in the article include allowing local police to determine who can possess a gun, regulation of gun manufacturing, protective order laws that permit the removal of guns from high-risk households, assault weapon bans, gun storage requirements, regulation of gun sales (e.g. point-of-sale background checks), and federal funding for the study of gun violence. Contact information for state leaders are also provided.

Data on Mass Shootings at School Don't Live Up to the Hysteria
This opinion piece in the Washington Examiner presents the viewpoint that the response to mass shootings at schools has been unreasonably forceful, given that there have been approximately 15 deaths per year in the last 20 years from school shootings. The author goes on to point out that while the approximately 33,000 gun deaths per year in the United States are indeed cause for concern, they pale in comparison to the top causes of death in America: heart disease, cancer, and chronic lower respiratory diseases. He argues that a high number of these deaths are preventable through changes in lifestyle and diet behaviors and that they therefore should receive more attention as a threat to American lives than gun violence.

Why Gun Violence Can't Be Our New Normal
This TED Talk by gun control activist, Dan Gross, summarizes how implementing required background checks on all gun sales could improve public safety and reduce the prevalence of gun violence in America. Dan Gross is the former president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, a U.S.-based non-profit organization that aims to reduce gun deaths in half by 2025 through the implementation of gun laws that require background checks for all purchasers and stop “bad apple” gun dealers. To learn more about the Brady Campaign's mission and gun control as a public health issue, instructors can view their 16-minute video, “Pathology of Gun Violence.”
Some Inconvenient Gun Facts for Liberals
This opinion piece in The New York Times is an attempt to balance conservative and liberal viewpoints on gun violence in the United States, citing various pieces of data that could be used to support either position. It then turns to possible responses to the crisis, urging Americans to focus on “gun safety” rather than “gun control” or ideological disagreements. It ends by urging readers to support policies that are supported by evidence to be effective.

TEACHING MATERIAL

The Gun Violence Epidemic: Protecting the Public’s Health
This webcast seminar from The Forum at the T.H. Chan School of Public Health examines the epidemic of gun violence in the United States and the status of proposed gun control and school safety measures. Experts in mental health, violence, and gun policy discuss the status of background check laws, describe the appropriate way to discuss mental health in the conversation without creating stigma or a chilling effect on individual seeking care, identify the skills and training that educators should have in order to spot warning signs and respond in crises, and consider whether policymakers have the information needed to effectively study these questions given the restrictions on federally funded gun-related research. This event was presented jointly with Reuters as part the Forum’s “Policy Controversies” series.

Resource Pack: Gender, Education and Violence
This resource pack on gender, education, and violence was curated by the Global Health Education and Learning Incubator. Materials cover key concepts in girls’ education and girls’ health and wellbeing, as well as key concepts about violence and public health, specifically violence against girls and women in schools.

Selected Resources on Children and Injuries
These compiled resources on children and injuries are part of the resource pack on children’s health curated by the Global Health Education and Learning Incubator. Although every child in the world has the right to a safe environment and to protection from injury and violence, hundreds of thousands of children still die from injuries or violence every year, and many more suffer in the aftermath of non-fatal injuries. Everywhere in the world, children are exposed to different hazards and risks in their daily lives. The particular circumstances in which they live, however, differ greatly and shape the distribution of these vulnerabilities to injury. These selected resources introduce both unintentional and intentional injuries and violence. “Unintentional injuries” refer to things like traffic accidents, drowning, burns, poisonings, and falls. In contrast, “intentional injuries” refers to things like child abuse, armed violence, and suicide.
¡Alto a la Violencia! Reducing Gun Violence in Honduras
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/10674
This fictional case begins with an open letter from the Honduran President mourning the rampant gun violence in Honduras. In a call to action he announces a public competition open to anyone in the world to develop a solution to end gun violence in Honduras. Given the complexity of the situation, the president seeks a multi-disciplinary solution that considers all the social, structural and transnational factors connected to gun violence. The case presents readers with background sections on Honduras in the areas of: basic facts, social and political history, a description of the societal impact of gun violence, overview of causes, gangs and crime, law and gun laws as well as past initiatives to address gun violence. Based on this information readers are expected to develop a feasible recommendation for the president. This case was used for the 2015 International Global Health Case Competition at Emory University. Cases from past competitions are available through the Emory Global Health Institute.

Recovery in Aurora: The Public Schools’ Response to the July 2012 Movie Theater Shooting (A)
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/10783
This case study considers community mental health and resiliency through the example of a movie theater mass murder in Aurora, Colorado, in 2012. It is the first in a 2-part case that follows the Aurora Public Schools (APS) Superintendent’s emergency management process for addressing community trauma, and details the range of reactions to and stakeholders’ perspectives on recovery. The case prompts students to consider what it means for a community to recover mental health and resiliency, and explores coordination challenges within and across public and private sectors. The case is part of a series produced by the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Case Program, hosted by the HKS Strengthening Learning and Teaching Excellence (SLATE) initiative, the world’s largest producer and repository of case studies designed for teaching about how government works and how public policy is made. This case may be purchased for a nominal fee; registered educators may obtain a free review copy. Online supplemental resources include short free documents and videos on how to teach with the case method, as well as downloadable related tip sheets and questions for class discussion.

Recovery in Aurora: The Public Schools’ Response to the July 2012 Movie Theater Shooting (B)
Teaching Case. Tannenwald D. Recovery in Aurora: The Public Schools’ Response to the July 2012 Movie Theater Shooting (B). HKS Case No. 2025.0. Harvard Kennedy School Case Program 2014
GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/10784
This case considers community mental health and resiliency through the example of a movie theater mass murder in Aurora, Colorado, in 2012. It is the second in a 2-part case that follows the Aurora Public Schools (APS) Superintendent’s emergency management process for addressing community trauma, and details the range of reactions to and stakeholders’ perspectives on recovery. The case prompts students to consider what it means for a community to recover mental health and resiliency, and coordination challenges within and across public and private sectors. The case is part of a series produced by the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Case Program, hosted by the HKS Strengthening Learning and Teaching Excellence (SLATE) initiative, the world’s largest producer and repository of case studies designed for teaching about how government works and how public policy is made. This case may be purchased for a nominal fee; registered educators may obtain a free review copy. Online supplemental resources include short free documents and videos on how to teach with the case method, as well as downloadable related tip sheets and questions for class discussion.
In the Crossfire: Guns, Legislative Leadership and Recall Politics in Colorado

GHELI repository link: http://repository.gheli.harvard.edu/repository/10781

This case study illustrates how grassroots efforts affect the politics of gun control legislation in Colorado. It describes what happened when Democratic senators in Colorado who supported gun control legislation were “recalled” out of office, and explores the implications for those who remained. Using the backdrop of Colorado’s 2013 gun control laws, the case allows students to explore the efficacy of grassroots campaigns and the power of a vocal minority to affect the political landscape. The case asks students to consider how elected officials can govern effectively if their legislative voting record is unpopular with their constituents. The case is part of a series produced by the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Case Program, hosted by the HKS Strengthening Learning and Teaching Excellence (SLATE) initiative, the world’s largest producer and repository of case studies designed for teaching about how government works and how public policy is made. This case may be purchased for a nominal fee; registered educators may obtain a free review copy. Online supplemental resources include short free documents and videos on how to teach with the case method, as well as downloadable related tip sheets and questions for class discussion.