

HUNTING

- Relied on by many families for food
- Allow children to feel sad about animals being killed
- Talk about the benefits of healthy meat and conservation, and most of all, GUN SAFETY
- Always keep guns locked and unloaded, not trusting in children's gun safety training to stop their natural curiosity



RESOURCES ON FIREARM SAFETY & CHILDREN

- How to ask people if they have unlocked guns in their homes: <http://askingsaveskids.org/>
- Suicide prevention: www.suicideproof.org
- Hunting safety: <http://www.projectchildsafe.org/safety/safe-storage>
- Hunting with children: <http://www.realtree.com/big-game-hunting/articles/10-mistakes-adults-make-when-hunting-with-kids>
- Talking to children about guns: <http://www.projectchildsafe.org/>
- Firearm child safety pledge: http://www.crickett.com/pdf/safety/ParentsGuide_recreation_shooting_for_youngsters.pdf

INFORMATION & TAKING ACTION

- <http://www.gunpolicy.org/>
- https://www.aacap.org/aacap/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/Facts_for_Families_Pages/Children_And_Firearms_37.aspx
- <http://www.bradycampaign.org/>
- <http://everytownresearch.org/>
- <http://www.childrensdefense.org/campaigns/protect-children-not-guns/>
- <http://frgo.parentsagainstgunviolence.com/>
- <http://www.iansa.org/home>
- <http://www.armedwithreason.com/>

“A firearm is not a status symbol, or indicator of strength. Do not use it as one.” - Taurususa.com



Canadian Physicians for Research and Education in Peace (C-PREP) is a charitable organization to support research and education in peace from a health perspective. Visit <http://cprep.ca/> for more information in the Peaceful Childhoods Series.

CHILDREN AND GUNS



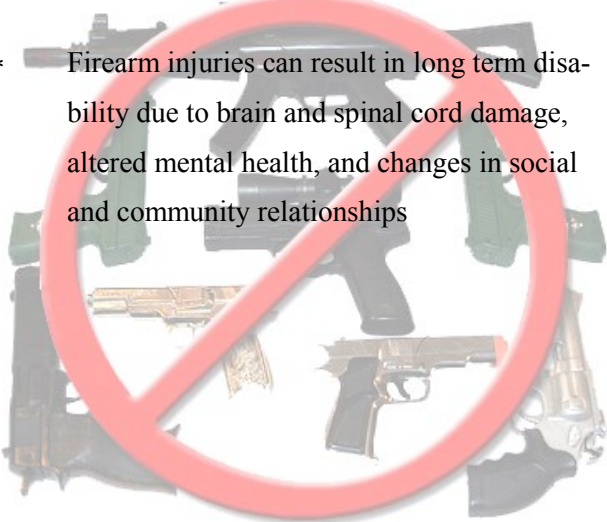
CIPREP

Canadian Physicians for Research and Education in Peace

THE PROBLEM

Firearms including handguns pose a huge risk to youth and children globally, causing hundreds of intentional and unintentional deaths per year, due to their lethal power and often easy accessibility.

- * Gun violence exposure may be associated with anger, withdrawal, aggression, PTSD, violence desensitization, and decreased concentration in school
- * Suicide and homicide were the 2nd and 4th leading cause of death in 2012 globally for youth ages 15-29
- * The rate of homicides committed with firearms varies from 10% to 66% of all homicides depending on the region of the globe
- * Firearm injuries can result in long term disability due to brain and spinal cord damage, altered mental health, and changes in social and community relationships



SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

- Between December 2012 – December 2014, there were 95 school shootings in America, almost one per week

GUNS IN AMERICA

- American children are 16x more likely to be accidentally shot and killed than children in other developed countries
- 82% of American youth suicides committed with a firearm used a firearm belonging to a family member
- States which require background checks for all gun sales, including online and gun shows, had 48% fewer gun suicides than states which did not require background checks for unlicensed sales

STRICTER GUN LEGISLATION

Better gun legislation can contribute to decreasing gun violence. Legislation should include banning the sale of guns to people with backgrounds of domestic abuse, criminal felonies, and dangerously mentally-ill people. In order for this to be effective, background checks should be mandatory for all gun sales.

TALKING ABOUT GUNS

- Ask other parents whether they have unlocked guns in their homes BEFORE your child visits or goes to play
- The responsibility to keep guns away from children always lies with the adult, as children are naturally curious even after being warned of the dangers

Firearm Safety Tips

Treat every firearm as if it was loaded, never pointing it at someone

Keep your hands off the trigger

Always keep the firearm unloaded when not in use

Never simply hide a firearm—always keep all guns and ammunition safely locked up, and stored separately

Do not mix alcohol or drug use with firearm use