UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING INTERPERSONAL GUN VIOLENCE IN U.S. CITIES

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Some U.S. Statistics...

- **14,500+** killed and **tens of thousands** violently injured by firearms in 2017
- ~ 40 people (5 **under 20 years old**) killed daily by interpersonal gun violence
- For every **one** young person killed, ~ **four** injured in nonfatal gun assaults

Source: CDC, FBI
Common Misconceptions about Community-Level Gun Violence in the United States
Misconception #1: There are entire cities or communities that are violent or “bad.”

Fact #1: Interpersonal gun violence has a disproportionate impact on some U.S. communities and is highly concentrated in certain places and among certain people.

U.S. Firearm Homicide Rates, 2017

Source: CDC's WISQARS™ (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System), Fatal Injury Reports, 2017, for National, Regional, and States (RESTRICTED)
Concentration of Gun Violence - Places

- 31% of gun homicides in 2014-2017 in 50 cities, home to 6% of the U.S. pop

- In most cities, about 4% of city blocks account for ~ 50% of violence

- “Hot spots” or “micro-places” – particular street corners, bars, liquor stores, dark parks, etc.

Source: Abt, 2019
Homicide Rates in California Counties/County Groups, 2015–2017

- California's statewide homicide rate is 3.4 homicides per 100,000 residents.
- Homicide rates are high in both rural and urban counties.
- Many of the counties with the highest rates are in southern California and the central valley region.

**Alameda:**
County rate ([8,6]) is significantly above the state rate. Four communities are significantly above the state rate, with rates from 6.7 – 21.4.

**Sacramento:**
County rate ([8,6]) is significantly above the state rate. Four communities are significantly above the state rate, with rates from 7.1 – 13.3.

**Los Angeles:**
County rate ([8,3]) is significantly above the state rate. Twenty-four communities are significantly above the state rate, with rates from 6.9 – 29.3.

**San Bernardino:**
County rate ([7,0]) is significantly above the state rate. Seven communities are significantly above the state rate, with rates from 6.0 – 18.3.

**Note:** Rate is significantly different than state rate (p<0.05).

In these sub-county community maps, communities are defined by California Office of Statewide Planning and Development (OSPD) "Medical Service Study Areas". In order to enhance statistical stability, the data in these maps are aggregated over five years (2013-2017).

Sources:
- U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B03001.

Prepared by: CDPH, Fusion Center.
Concentration of Gun Violence – People

- A substantial share of gun violence in any city is committed by a tiny fraction of that city’s population
- Even in communities with high rates of gun violence, the violence is committed by only a tiny fraction of the residents
  - Oakland → 60% of homicides occur within social network of about 0.3% of city’s population (Gilbert et. al, 2014)
  - New Orleans → 50+% of homicides occur within network of < 1% of pop (Aufrichtig et. al, 2017)
  - Chicago → 70% of nonfatal shootings and 46% of fatal ones occur within network containing 6% of pop (Papachristos et. al, 2015)

Misconception #2:
Those communities (with high rates of gun violence) are just inherently violent.

Fact #2:
Historical factors and institutional policies, particularly structural racism and discriminatory practices, have led to community conditions that foster gun violence.
Misconception #3: The community-level gun violence problem is all about gangs/illegal drugs.

Fact #3: Most gun violence in urban municipalities stems from interpersonal conflicts, disputes, or beefs. Arguments quickly become lethal with illegal gun carrying.
Misconception #3 Busters

- Most people in most gangs, crews, cliques, and groups are not violent (Abt, 2019; Pyrooz et. al, 2013)

- The most common drug associated with gun violence is **alcohol**
  - Some gun violence does stem from illicit drug markets (McGinty et. al, 2016)
“Hurt people hurt people.”

- In most community-level gun violence, people who cause violent harm:
  - Have histories of violence, often with juvenile or criminal justice experience
  - Frequently have substance abuse/dependence problems
  - Come from impoverished and difficult backgrounds
  - Overwhelmingly have had extensive trauma in their own lives
    - “The person harmed yesterday is often the person causing harm tomorrow”

Source: Abt, 2019

Health Effects of Witnessing or Experiencing Violence

- Psychiatric
  - Traumatic stress disorder (toxic stress), personality change, depression, hypervigilance, sleep problems
- Emotional
  - Anger, withdrawal, low aspirations, survivor guilt, despair, loneliness, nervousness
- Behavioral
  - Decreased academic performance, risky sexual behavior, substance use, delinquency, perpetration of violence
- Physical
  - Asthma, low birthweight, heart disease
- Vicarious trauma to health care and service providers

Misconception #4: The only way to address community-level gun violence is with more law enforcement.

Fact #4: Successful community-level gun violence prevention requires focus, supports, and behavior change through BOTH positive and negative incentives.
A. Focus on individuals at greatest risk for violence victimization and perpetration.

- Identify those at greatest risk with help of law enforcement, community members, “credible messengers”
- Use precision vs. blanket approach

B. Provide supports to those individuals at greatest risk.

- Person-centered; “YOUR LIFE MATTERS”
- Recognize and respond to trauma (intergenerational/structural/historical/personal)
- Employ the use of “credible messengers”
- Establish authentic, nurturing relationships
- Expose to new experiences and ways of thinking/living, offer skill building
- Engage other residents in comm. development, empowerment, accountability
- Encourage and foster continual personal growth
- Raise awareness/support linkages to services
- Celebrate and support advocates and service providers
Examples of Community-Driven Initiatives with Proven Violence Reduction

- Becoming A Man youth programming (Chicago, IL)
- Pennsylvania’s Horticultural Society’s greening & vacant rehab project (Philadelphia, PA)
- Detroit’s environmental changes initiative (Detroit, MI)
- One Summer Plus jobs program (Chicago, IL)
- Community revitalization by formerly incarcerated individuals (South Central Los Angeles, CA)
- Youth Empowerment Solutions (YES) (Flint, MI)
- Fathers and Sons program (Flint, MI)
- Cure Violence (replicated in over 40 cities nationwide and internationally)
- Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs (in over 35 U.S. hospitals)
- Oakland Ceasefire (Oakland, CA)
- Operation Peacemakers Fellowship (Richmond, CA)

C. Have a well-functioning and just system to hold individuals accountable for violent behavior.

- People who commit violence must be held accountable.

- Policing and the criminal justice system must work equitably for ALL.

- People must not be criminalized for living in communities with high rates of gun violence.
D. Address system inequities and advance justice and equity across communities to prevent future violence.

- Economic opportunity and income inequality
- Mental health services
- Housing
- Education
- Substance abuse/dependence treatment
- Transportation
- Etc.

Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO) in CA

- Law implemented in January 2016
- 414 total ERPO cases 2016-2018
- Of 159 records reviewed to-date, ERPO used to prevent mass shootings in 21 cases
  - 14/21 cases were initiated by law enforcement, based on info from members of public
  - Subjects were mostly male, non-Hispanic White, 35 years old (avg)
  - 52 firearms recovered (26 in 1 case)
  - No individuals have gone on to commit gun violence to-date
THANK YOU!

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES CALIFORNIA
Background on Organization

- Originated in Parkland

How We Operate

- Decentralized structure

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Background

- State Board
  A. Political
  B. Logistics
  C. Deputy Director
  D. Social Media

Twitter: MFOL_California

Instagram: mfolcalifornia

Website: https://marchforourlivescalifornia.org/
National

- Largest single day protest
- Voter Registration and Youth Turnout
- 46 NRA backed officials lose seats
- Maintaining Focus

Work California
Work California

- AB 1603, AB 61, SB 61 (Cal VIP, GVRO, trafficking)
- Priority Legislation
  
  AB 963 (Student Civic Empowerment)
  AB 59 (Public Building Expansion)
  SB 172 (Transfer/Storage)
  AB 61 (Trafficking)
  AB 164 (Out of State Jurisdiction)
  AB 521 (Health Providers)
  AB 645 (Suicide Prevention label)
  AB 879 (Precursor Parts)

California Chapters

NorCal Active Chapters
- Fremont
- Fresno
- Monte Vista HS
- Sacramento
- Elk Grove
- Silicon Valley
- San Jose
- Stanford University
- River Valley High School (Yuba City)
- Brentwood

SoCal Active Chapters
- Arnold O. Beckman
- Antelope Valley
- Beverly Hills High School
- The Buckley School (LA)
- Corona
- Edison High School
- Huntington Beach
- John Burroughs HS
- Los Angeles
- Orange County School of the Arts
- Redlands HS
- San Diego
- SOAR HS
- Torrance
- UC Irvine
- University of Redlands
- Ventura County
- Westside Los Angeles
- Yorba Linda
Goals for 2020

National Peace Plan
Comprehensive (Holistic)
California Peace Plan

A Peace Plan for a Safer America:
Change the standards of gun ownership
Halve the rate of gun deaths in 10 years
Accountability for the gun lobby and industry
Name a Director of Gun Violence Prevention
Generate community-based solutions
Empower the next generation
California Court System

Supreme Court
Highest Court in State

Courts of Appeal
Six Appellate Districts

Superior Courts
58 Counties / 58 Trial Courts
# Under What Circumstances Does the Court Issue Gun Prohibition Orders?

California Superior Courts issue gun prohibition orders every hour, every day, every week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Gun Restraining Order</th>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Compliance Review Hearing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Criminal Protective Orders in Domestic Violence Cases (CPO)</td>
<td>Criminal Court</td>
<td>Penal Code 136.2; 1203.097</td>
<td>Required Cal Rule of Court 4.700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Conviction for Any Felony</td>
<td>Criminal Court</td>
<td>Penal Code 29800-29810 (lifetime)</td>
<td>Required prior to sentencing PC 29810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Conviction for Designated Misdemeanor Offenses</td>
<td>Criminal Court</td>
<td>Penal Code 29805</td>
<td>Required prior to sentencing PC 29810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Designated Persons (any person found incompetent to stand trial, not guilty by reason of insanity, or found to be a mentally disordered sex offender)</td>
<td>Criminal Court</td>
<td>Welfare &amp; Inst. Code 8103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Domestic Violence Restraining Orders (DVRO)</td>
<td>Family Court</td>
<td>Family Code 6200 et seq</td>
<td>Encouraged Cal. Rule of Court 5.495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Emergency Protective Orders (EPRO) - Issued telephonically 24/7</td>
<td>Family Court</td>
<td>Family Code 6240 et seq</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Juvenile Restraining Orders (JRO)</td>
<td>Juvenile Court</td>
<td>Welfare &amp; Inst. Code 213.5</td>
<td>Encouraged Cal. Rule of Court 5.495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Elder Abuse Restraining Orders (EARO)</td>
<td>Probate Court</td>
<td>Welfare &amp; Inst. Code 15657.03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Civil Harassment Restraining Orders (CHRO)</td>
<td>Civil Court</td>
<td>Code of Civil Procedure 527.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Workplace Violence Restraining Orders (WVRO)</td>
<td>Civil Court</td>
<td>Code of Civil Procedure 527.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 School Violence Restraining Orders (SVRO)</td>
<td>Civil Court</td>
<td>Code of Civil Procedure 527.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Designated Persons (any person found to be a danger to self or others or gravely disabled)</td>
<td>Civil Court</td>
<td>Welfare &amp; Inst. Code 8103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVRO)</td>
<td>Civil Court</td>
<td>Penal Code 18100 et seq</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Newest Gun Prohibition Order: Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO)

Penal Code 18100 et seq
Operative 1/1/2016

Permits law enforcement or an immediate family member to petition the superior court for an order permitting law enforcement to seize someone’s firearms (guns & ammunition).

The petitioner must prove that the person “poses a significant danger of causing personal injury to himself, herself, or another by having in his or her custody or control, owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving a firearm or ammunition” and that no less restrictive alternatives exist.

The court may issue a 21-day temporary GVRO or a 1-year final GVRO.

Effective 9/1/2020 employers and schools may also petition for a GVRO, and the duration expands to 5 years.