The Role of Nursing in Promoting Gun Safety and Preventing Violence

ANA Dialogue Forum Topic 2023
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Heidi has her Doctorate in Nursing Practice and Certificate in Healthcare Design from the University of Minnesota. She has been a nurse for over 30 years and an executive for over 12 in population health, product design, acute care, and as a consultant. Her nursing practice was in pediatric oncology, labor and delivery, neonatal care, community health nursing and geriatric case management. Heidi also speaks regionally and nationally on topics related to population health and mental health and the employer.
As of May 15, 2023

**GUN VIOLENCE ARCHIVE 2023**

Evidence Based Research - since 2013

PUBLISHED DATE: May 16, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Number of GV Deaths - ALL Causes</strong></td>
<td>15,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide/Murder/Unintentional/DGU</td>
<td>6,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>8,976</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Number of Injuries</strong></td>
<td>12,785</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mass Shootings</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Murders</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There have been more mass shootings than days in 2023, database shows

There have been 202 mass shootings so far this year.

January 1 - May 16, 2023

[gunviolencearchive.org](http://gunviolencearchive.org)
The Impact of Gun Violence on Health

There are ~45,000 deaths and ~115,000 injuries/year in the United States due to firearms. Recent trends show this problem worsening.

Guns are involved in:

- ~50% of suicides
- ~80% of homicides
- 4,357 children's deaths
*in 2020 the leading cause of death

How healthcare providers can help:

Healthcare providers can play an effective role to reduce the risk of harm from firearm-related suicide and unintentional injury by:

- Educating the community on gun safety,
- Providing care for survivors and families, and
- Supporting legislative efforts to increase research on gun violence prevention, and evidence based interventions.

Gun ownership: 400 million firearms 45% of homes

Resources

1. Learn to talk to your patients about firearm safety
2. Promote safe firearm storage with gun locks and education
3. Learn how you can help prevent youth suicide
4. Practice trauma-informed care
5. Connect with experts specialized in treating survivors of gun violence
6. Advocate for legislation and policies that will reduce gun violence

Want to join the MDHEQ Gun Violence Prevention workgroup? Email us! info@MDHEQ.org
Situation: The ANA Dialogue Forum Committee requests that MNORN review dialogue forum position statement #2: "The Role of Nursing in Promoting Gun Safety and Preventing Violence" and provide feedback and/or approval ahead of the June 2023 ANA Membership Meeting.

Background: MNORN will review background demonstrating the call for nursing’s role in promoting gun safety and preventing violence.

Assessment: MNORN will discuss the statement’s background and proposed recommendations.

Recommendation: MNORN will either accept the statement and recommendations as written or provide written feedback. MNORN leadership will communicate tonight’s response to the statement authors.
**Situation:** The ANA Dialogue Forum Committee requests that MNORN review dialogue forum position statement #2: “The Role of Nursing in Promoting Gun Safety and Preventing Violence” and provide feedback and/or approval ahead of the June 2023 ANA Membership Meeting.

The dialogue forum topic makes the proposed recommendations. [Link]

- Request to endorse AAN Statement on Firearm Safety and Violence Prevention [Link]
- Request update to ANA position statement on incivility, bullying and workplace violence to include gun violence and prevention in healthcare settings [Link]
- ANA, C/SNA’s and the IMD should promote nursing knowledge on the relationship between gun violence and public health, the risk and protective factor of violence, evidence-based strategies to prevent violence, and the role of nurses in promoting gun safety and preventing violence. (examples included)
- Advocate for meaningful legislation to address gun safety and firearm access and increase funding allocations toward gun violence and prevention research, prioritizing research on gun violence against health care workers and in health care settings.
Background: MNORN will review background demonstrating the call for *nursing’s role in promoting gun safety and preventing violence* Link

Gun violence is a social justice issue that disproportionately affects marginalized communities and contributes to health inequities and affects the safety and wellbeing of individuals and communities across the nation.

ANA has long considered gun violence to be a public health issue and has made calls related to policy actions related to gun access, assault weapon bans, and waiting periods for background checks (1994, 2018).

Nurses are directly and indirectly impacted by gun violence in the workplace and community. Exposure leads to trauma for themselves and those in their care.

Nurses are well positioned to engage in critical conversations with individuals and policy makers on the social justice issue of gun violence, evidence-based risk factors and social and health impacts.

ANA as the leading nursing organization should take a strong leadership position in addressing gun safety, preventing violence and studying the impacts of violence.
Assessment: discuss the statement’s background and proposed recommendations. Thoughts?
**Recommendation:** Accept the statement and recommendations as written or provide written feedback?

MNORN leadership will communicate tonight’s response to the statement authors.