

## In The News

**1.5 million U.S. children are living with unlocked, loaded guns.** Deaths and injuries from unsecured guns are preventable. Watch and share [States United new video, Monster in the Closet.](#)



The American College of Physicians, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, [Reducing Firearm-Related Injuries and Deaths in the U.S.](#), offers nine strategies to address the societal, medical, and regulatory barriers to reducing gun violence deaths and injuries. ACP recommends that **firearm safety be approached as a public health issue so that policy decisions are based on scientific evidence.**

Nearly 100 U.S. Senate and House Democrats are [asking President Obama to take executive action to close loopholes to ban imports of military-style firearms.](#) The ban began during the George H.W. Bush administration but was allowed to lapse under President George W. Bush.

For the [second time in less than five years President Obama travels to Fort Hood in Texas to honor the memory](#) of U.S. Army soldiers killed in a shooting. Gunman killed 3, wounded 16 before committing suicide.

Christian Science Monitor, [Why NRA battles courts for right to carry a concealed weapon.](#) The NRA employs about two dozen in-house lawyers and hires many more outside lawyers fighting to expand the right to carry guns outside the home. So far, federal judges across the country have rejected the NRA's legal challenges.

St. Louis, Missouri, Public Radio, Dr. Saaid Khojasteh and Dr. David Jaffe contend that [when children are exposed to gun violence, it becomes a public health issue.](#) Dr. Jaffe sees gun regulation as akin to regulations put in place for driving or smoking. "We've come, through research, to understand that appropriate regulation is good for the public health."

[Lawmakers send letter to U.S. House Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi urging them to block gun riders](#) included in appropriations bills in recent years that have put prohibitions on gun control research at the CDC and have restricted ATF's ability to require gun dealers to keep inventories.

[The White House honored nine Champions of Change](#) who work to prevent gun violence across the nation and advocate for stronger gun laws. Honored were James Johnson, Glenn Garrett Grayson, Jamira Burley, Mark Barden, Nosheen Hydari, Pamela K. Simon, Sarah Clements, John Woods and Teresa A. Crawford.



## Community Support

Retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, [The five extra words that can fix the Second Amendment,](#) looks at the effective marketing campaign by the gun lobby that changed the interpretation of the Second Amendment and offers a simple fix.

Cliff Schechter, Daily Beast, [Florida's Zombie Apocalypse Gun Bill.](#) In case of riots, emergencies, or World War Z, Florida may throw out all rules on guns. This is crazy, even by Florida standards.

Tim Steller, Arizona Daily Star, [In Arizona, if you get scared to death, you can kill the person scaring you.](#) David Mota shot and killed a man who never made any clear physical threat. The man didn't have a gun. In AZ that doesn't matter. Feelings matter. **Fears matter. Facts don't matter.**

Joanna Zelman, Huffington Post, [The One Question I Am Asked in Every Country I Visit.](#) "Why do Americans love guns so much?" When I ask my international friends why they don't own guns, I get blinks of confusion.

[At Amnesty International's annual Human Rights Conference, gun violence was one of the 10 issues addressed.](#)



"One issue in particular that we're hoping to engage on a greater degree is gun violence and talking about it in a human rights lens," said deputy executive director Cammie Croft.

Chad MacDonald, Quiet Mike, [Guns in America: Freedom from the Fear of Firearms.](#) Taking down pro-gun talking points one at a time.

Timothy Johnson, Media Matters, [The Gun Is Never the Problem: A Guide to Right-Wing Responses to Mass Shootings.](#) Conservative media rush to blame mental health, video games, a lack of armed people present - anything but the fact that the shooter was able to get a gun.

Rev. Dr. James H. Cooper, Rector of Trinity Wall Street, New York, fights to include a proposal in Wal-Mart's shareholders proxy [asking if Wal-Mart should sell products that are especially dangerous to the public,](#) like high capacity ammunition magazines.



Phillip Morris, The Plain Dealer, [Gun companies must play a greater role in stopping the slaughter of innocents.](#) And we must start to ask more about where shooters get their guns.

Lt. Col. Robert Bateman, Esquire, [Maybe Our Wallets Can Help Solve Our Gun Problem.](#) The simple solution is not a new law or judicial ruling. It is "voting" with our wallets. Tell every store, every restaurant, "I am never coming back to this store until you ban guns on your property."

## What the Gun Lobby is Doing

Open Carry Texas [publicly posted on YouTube the name and phone number of a woman who called Plano, Texas police](#) with concerns after seeing men with assault rifles on the street.

Think Progress, [Stand Your Ground/Shoot First Is About to Get Even Worse in Florida.](#) A bill to extend Stand Your Ground-like protections to those who point a gun at an attacker or fire a gun as a warning has been sent to Gov. Rick Scott. The law is likely to expand immunity for violent conduct and includes a provision to keep Stand Your Ground records secret.

Media Matters, [NRA Picks Reverend Who Blamed Sandy Hook on Secularism to Keynote Prayer Breakfast.](#) Dr. Franklin Graham will lead prayer breakfast at NRA's 2014 annual convention in Indianapolis. Said massacre at Sandy Hook is "what happens when a society turns its back on God."

## Blogs

Joan Peterson, Common GunSense, [Every day guns?](#)

Art On Issues, [The Link Between Gun Violence, Race and Politics in](#)

Protest Easy Guns, [Most Likely to Secede](#)

Armed With Reason, [Do We Have a Gang Problem or a Gun Problem](#)

National Gun Victims Action Council, [If you are such a loser that you](#)

Cathie Whittenburg [Ohh Shoot Blog](#), 2-year-old unintentionally shoot

## Advocacy



Brady Campaign, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and Newtown Action Alliance [protested outside](#) the National Shooting Sports Foundation's fundraising dinner in D.C.

Mary Anne Royal, Maine Citizens Against Handgun Violence, op-ed, [Maine should hold statewide vote on universal background checks for gun sales.](#)

Shira Goodman, Ceasefire Pennsylvania, op-ed, [Sane background checks are a path to common ground gun violence prevention.](#)

Violence Policy Center, [Fort Hood Shooter Shot and Killed 3 and Wounded 16 with the Same Brand of Gun Used at Aurora, LAX Shootings](#)

Eileen McCarron, Colorado Ceasefire, op-ed, [Why the gun safety laws made in Colorado stayed in Colorado.](#)

Moms Demand Action, [Mothers quilt against gun violence.](#) The Massachusetts chapter joins with other chapters across the country to produce the Dream Quilt.

New Yorkers Against Gun Violence joins with State Legislators Against Illegal Guns to [push for continued strengthening of state gun laws.](#)

Gabby Giffords, Americans for Responsible Solutions, [talks about stronger gun laws to a packed audience](#) in Oakland, California.

Protect Minnesota rallies at the state Capitol to support a bill that would allow courts to [bar people under domestic violence restraining orders from having guns.](#)



Connecticut Against Gun Violence [marks the one year anniversary of CT's sweeping firearm regulations](#) and promises to support the reelection of legislators who voted for a safer Connecticut.

## Worst of the Week

73-year-old Frazier Miller, a former ["grand dragon" of the Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan has been arrested and charged with killing three people at two different Jewish community facilities](#) in Overland Park, Kansas. One of the victims was a 14-year-old boy. The attack came a day before the start of the Jewish holiday Passover.