

CeasefireUSA: The GVP Report - August 19, 2014

In The News

[Gun Wars](#) is the 2014 project of the **Carnegie-Knight News21** program. Journalism student fellows spent five months researching guns. Then 29 fellows traveled to 25 states, producing **the most exhaustive report ever published by News21**.

Americans for Responsible Solutions and **Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence** have released a new toolkit for lawmakers and advocates: [Commonsense Solutions: How State Laws Can Reduce Gun Deaths Associated With Mental Illness](#). The toolkit gives a manual for understanding the breakdowns in state laws that allow the dangerously mentally ill easy access to guns.

[A federal judge upheld Maryland's new law that bans assault weapons and large-capacity magazines](#). The judge concluded that "the Act substantially serves the government's interest in protecting public safety."

[Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick signs gun violence prevention bill into law](#). The bill includes provisions focused on school safety, mental health, background checks and enhanced criminal penalties for gun crimes.

New state efforts to stop gun violence: **Delaware** has [created a statewide unit targeting illegal gun sales](#) and distribution of firearms. **New York City** will [create a Gun Violence Crisis Management System](#).

A preliminary report from the **American Bar Association** Task Force finds that [Stand Your Ground/Shoot First laws are associated with increased homicide rates and reinforce racial bias](#). The report concludes that "the application of SYG laws is unpredictable, uneven, and results in racial disparities."

The annual **National Poll on Children's Health from the University of Michigan** shows childhood obesity remains the top health concern for children, but [when asked about national concerns, adults put school violence and gun-related injuries in the top 10](#).

The Atlantic, [The Question Doctors Can't Ask](#). Is there a gun in your home? If so, is it secure? A Florida law now prevents physicians from discussing firearm safety with patients.

A Detroit [jury found Theodore Wafer guilty of second-degree murder in the shooting death of Renisha McBride](#), rejecting his "castle doctrine" defense. Renisha's mother said that the jury's verdict showed that "her life mattered."

Community Support

The Economist, [The Ferguson Protests: Guns, police and the people](#). The killing of Michael Brown happened because America's citizens and its police are too heavily armed, and too quick to believe they have a legitimate right to shoot someone in a disagreement.

A new [art exhibit in Indianapolis "Kin Killing Kin", depicts deadly gun violence involving young black males](#). The exhibit trains local high school students to serve as tour guides. The art will travel across the country after it leaves Indiana.

Keith Boykin, Huffington Post, [Does the Second Amendment Only Apply to White People?](#) Imagine what might happen if black people started buying up scores of weapons at gun stores and posting pictures carrying them on the streets.

Becky Mason, Ohio Domestic Violence Network, [A Gun Increases The Chances the Victim Will Die](#). American women are 11 times more likely to be murdered with guns than women in other developed countries. Perhaps the most tragic element here is that many of these deaths could have been prevented.

Brenda Gazzar, Los Angeles Daily News, [Jewish Community Center Shooting Survivors Turn Pain into Action](#). 15 years after a gunman's shooting spree at a Jewish center in Granada Hills, survivors and their families work to prevent gun violence.

Diane R. Girardot, MA, LPC, [How To Prevent Suicide and Other Gun Deaths](#). The most pressing issue in gun violence prevention is addressing suicide, not gang-related crime or mass shootings. When you add statistics about domestic violence intimidation, coercion and unintentional death from firearms, a very real national crisis becomes evident.

Francis Wilkinson, BloombergView, [NRA Defeats Politicians, Loses on Internet. The Internet preserves the NRA's folly, then amplifies the ensuing mockery](#). It also reminds people of the many innocents killed just because some reckless or insecure person had a gun.

Beau Bridges, actor, [Why I Helped Jim Brady Fight for Gun Control](#). The man walked directly to me in a restaurant and placed the business end of his pistol between my eyes. The stranger quickly became the most important person I had ever met.

The Colbert Report, [Open-Carry Trailblazers](#). **Stephen Colbert** reviews the children's book *My Parents Open Carry*. "This book is long overdue," Colbert concluded. "I wish there were more

What the Gun Lobby is Doing

[The NRA is quietly fighting for your right to kill elephants for their ivory](#). The organization is pushing for a law that would allow wealthy safari elephant hunters to bring home their large ivory trophy.

[U.S. gun owners see Obama conspiracy in sanctions on Russia's AK-47](#). The recent blacklisting of Russian arms manufacturer Kalshnikov is seen by some as an insidious means to curb Second Amendment rights.

[Texas board considers allowing alcohol at gun shows](#). The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission has proposed rules allowing alcohol sales during some gun shows. Venues would be required to prohibit live ammunition in the facility during shows and require any firearms be disabled.

[How a new book revises the gun lobby's post-Newtown intransigence](#). Frank Miniter's forthcoming book *The Future of the Gun* presents a revisionist history of the NRA's extremism during the legislative battle over guns following the Newtown shooting.

Blogs

Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, Bullet Counter Points, [Be Careful What You Wish](#)

Joan Peterson, Common GunSense, [Scary Gun Stuff](#)

National Gun Victims Action Council, [Ferguson Unrest Good for Business - Gun Lobby](#)

Mikeb302000, [Militarized Police](#)

Walmart Shootings, [Running List of 2014 Walmart Shooting Incidents](#)

Protest Easy Guns, [Gunshine State 8.11](#)

Cathie Whittenburg, [Ohh Shoot Blog](#), Tourist killed by ricocheted bullet from unintentional gun discharge in Georgia

Advocacy

CeasefirePA launches new campaign [What kind of America do YOU want?](#)

Moms Demand Action [pressures Kroger grocery store to ban the open carry of firearms](#) in its stores.

Stephen Dunlop, **Hoosiers Concerned About Gun Violence**, [gun violence remains a public health issue](#).

Donna Dees Thomases, **Million Mom March**, [recounts the "aha!" moment behind the MMM](#).

Toby Hoover, **Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence**, [delivered more than 6,200 petition signatures](#) collected by **Coalition to Stop Gun Violence** in protest of a Ted Nugent concert hosted by the Toledo Blade.

Violence Policy Center on Rep. Honda's legislation to [prohibit certain types of body armor for civilians](#).

Tom Mauser, **Colorado Ceasefire**, comments on the upcoming Castle Rock [open-carry special election](#).

Andy Pelosi and John Johnson, **Campaign to Keep Guns Off Campus**, [The Important Work of Keeping Guns Off Campus](#).

Sign up for **Connecticut Against Gun Violence's** [CT Voters for Gun Safety Conference](#), Saturday, September 13, 2014.

Bryan Miller, **Heeding God's Call**, [Keep out-of-state guns out of New Jersey](#).

Leah Gunn Barrett, **New Yorkers Against Gun Violence**, [Regulate Guns for Safety](#).

John Rosenthal, **Stop Handgun Violence**, [looks on as Massachusetts Gov. Patrick signs bill](#) strengthening gun laws

Worst of the Week

A 10-year-old Longview, Washington girl called 911 just after midnight on Wednesday. ["My dad's shooting my mom right now," she told the dispatcher](#). "Even though it was a very traumatic event, she stayed calm and was able to provide her address," said police. Police arrived to find 27-year-old Chante Milian shot once in the back. 30-year-old Miguel Milian was dead of a self-inflicted gunshot to the chest. A .22-caliber handgun was found nearby. Chante is expected to recover. The couple's children are with relatives and are doing well.