



Narratives of Gun Violence

Gun violence has been prominent in the news in recent months. This selection of perspectives on gun violence is a starting point for exploring the full story. Some resources contain graphic images and descriptions and are intended for adult audiences.

Conversation Questions

1. How has gun violence in America affected you?
2. What action steps could be taken to reduce gun violence?
3. How do you talk to family and friends about gun violence?

Listen

“Harper High School - Part One” from *This American Life*

<https://goo.gl/B1yW2W>

This American Life spent five months at Chicago's Harper High School to understand what it's like to live with high-frequency gun violence.

“Shots Fired: Part 1” from *Radiolab*

<https://goo.gl/S6sSwr>

This podcast follows the investigations of Ben Montgomery, reporter at the *Tampa Bay Times*, who collected documents related to officers discharging their weapons from 2009-2014.

Watch

***The Interrupters* from PBS Home Video**

Adult DVDs nonfiction 306.0977311 |

This documentary features three violence interrupters in Chicago who try to protect their communities.

Explore

“Gun Control Around the World: A Primer” by Jonathan Masters

<https://goo.gl/Wf72WT>

Compare gun laws in America, Australia, Canada, Israel, the United Kingdom, Norway, and Japan.

“Gun Violence Trends” from Everytown for Gun Safety

<https://goo.gl/Kk9xXC>

Access up-to-date data about gun violence in America.





Read

***How Long Will I Cry? Voices of Youth Violence* edited by Miles Harvey**

Adult nonfiction 364.36 H

This book features stories told by people whose lives have been changed by Chicago gun violence.

“Fatal Police Shootings in 2015 Approaching 400 Nationwide” by Kimberly Kindy

<https://goo.gl/TJx1dh>

This analysis of police shootings in 2015 includes insights on demographics of the victims.

“Inside an Accused School Shooter’s Mind: A Plot to Kill ‘50 or 60. If I Get Lucky Maybe 150.’” by John Woodrow Cox

<https://goo.gl/Urm9wW>

This article references social media posts from Jesse Osborne, the accused Townville Elementary School shooter and psychiatric and investigator interviews of Osborne.

“Fatal Errors” by Albert Samaha and Sean Campbell

<https://goo.gl/BNi2Yn>

What happens when “good guys” with guns mistakenly shoot other “good guys”? This article recounts an instance where one roommate confused another for a burglar. Contains graphic images.

“What I Saw Treating the Victims from Parkland Should Change the Debate on Guns” by Heather Sher

<https://goo.gl/Xgv9bD>

A radiologist describes treating victims of the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and how the AR-15 causes more damaging wounds than handguns.

“The Enormous Economic Cost of Gun Violence” by Michelle Singletary

<https://goo.gl/FmtN5g>

This perspective piece discusses the economic and societal costs of gun violence.

