



Mom Says

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2006 PLANNED EVENTS

Opening Day at the Legislature - Mid-January

Fund Raising Event - Late February

Outreach Booth at People's Fair - June

Ask Day - June 21

Monthly Bell Ringing for those lost to gun violence during the month

Who We Are

Founded in 1999, the Million Mom March is a national grassroots, chapter-based organization dedicated to preventing gun death and injury and supporting victims and survivors of gun violence by focusing on grassroots advocacy and education.

On October 1, 2001, the Million Mom March merged with the Brady and the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

We are dedicated to creating an America free from gun violence, where all Americans feel safe at home, at school, at work, and in their communities.

We are not an anti-gun organization. We want the industry and individuals to act responsibly. We want reasonable, common sense, enforceable laws. No matter how you feel about guns, there are certain principles everyone can support.

US Leads World in Gun Violence

From Firearm Facts and Children and Guns Papers, www.bradycampaign.org

In 2002, 30,242 people in the United States died from firearm-related deaths - 11,829: (39%) of those were murdered; 17,108 (57%) were suicides; 762 (3%) were accidents; and in 243 (1%) the intent was unknown. In comparison, 33,651 Americans were killed in the Korean War and 58,193 Americans were killed in the Vietnam War.

For every firearm fatality in the United States in 2002, there were estimated to be nearly two non-fatal firearm injuries.

In 2001, firearms were used to murder 6 people in New Zealand, 56 in Japan, 96 in Great Britain, 168 in Canada, and 331 in Germany. In comparison, firearms were used to murder 11,348 in the United States.

In 2003, there were only 163 justifiable homicides by private citizens using handguns in the United States.

In 2002, the most recent year for which data is available, nearly eight young people aged 19 and under were killed a day by a firearm in the United States. Nearly 36 per day were non-fatally wounded.

Economic Costs of Gun Violence

From Economic Costs of Gun Violence paper, www.bradycampaign.org

Medical costs of gun violence put a terrible burden on health service providers and governments. When indirect costs of gun violence - loss of productivity, mental health treatment and rehabilitation, legal and judicial costs - are figured in, gun violence costs the US at least \$100 billion annually.

In a recent study, the average costs for treating gunshot wounds were:

- \$22,400 each for unintentional shootings
- \$18,400 each for gun-assault injuries
- \$ 5,400 each for suicides.

Over the course of the lives of gunshot victims in the United States in 1997, medical treatment alone will amount to \$1.9 billion.

Most victims of gun violence are uninsured and the public pays! Of \$4 billion in medical costs in 1995, the public paid about 85 percent.

Human Costs to Society

From Gun Violence in the African-American Community paper, www.bradycampaign.org

Gun violence is a priority issue for African-Americans and other minorities. Nearly 350,000 Americans were victims to murders, robberies, and aggravated assaults in 2003 committed by perpetrators carrying a firearm, and our minority communities are the hardest hit:

In 2002:

- Firearm homicide was the number one cause of death for 15-34 year old African-Americans,
- The firearm death rate for African-Americans was over twice that of whites,
- African-American males accounted for 47 percent of all homicide victims, while they only account for 6 percent of the entire population,
- Firearms have become the predominant method of suicide for African-Americans aged 10-19 years, accounting for 64 percent of suicides in 2002.

What You Can Do

Help out with at least one activity. Select from one of our planned events or maybe your talent is better matched to one of the following activities:

- Assisting with our Quarterly 'Mom Says' Newsletter
- Testifying in committee at the State Capitol
- Calling your elected officials
- Writing letters to the editor
- Organizing a phone tree
- Holding an informal get-together in your home for members of your school, neighborhood and/or faith communities to learn more about gun violence prevention.
- Joining a local chapter of the Million Mom March
- Making a gift or provide in-kind support to the local chapter