

Peace & Justice Report

July 7, 2017

STATISTICS ON YOUTH GUN VIOLENCE & GUN ACCESS

- Firearm injuries are the **cause of death of 18 children and young adults** (24 years of age and under) **each day** in the U.S.
- **Children and young adults** (24 years of age and under) constitute **38%** of all firearm deaths and non-fatal injuries.
- In the United States, over **1.69 million kids** age 18 and under are living **in households with loaded and unlocked firearms**.
- More than **75% of guns used in suicide attempts and unintentional injuries** of 0-19 year-olds were **stored in the residence** of the **victim**, a **relative**, or a **friend**.
- A 2000 study found that **55% of U.S. homes with children and firearms** have one or more firearms in an unlocked place; 43% have guns without a trigger lock in an unlocked place.
- In another study, **73% of children aged nine and under reported knowing the location** of their parents' firearms and **36% admitted that they had handled the weapons**, including many whose parents had reported their children did not know the location of their

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ACTION



- Share this information with a friend or talk about it with a new friend.
- Call your mayor, city council member, state representative or senators to share your concern about the availability of guns for young people.
- Write a letter to the editor of the local newspaper.
- Join a local group addressing gun control
- **We need to support people who are also concerned, but who need to be free to voice their concerns about the dangers of gun violence.**

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firearm. It is therefore unsurprising that **89% of accidental shooting deaths among children occur in the home** and that most of these deaths occur when children are playing with an unsecured loaded gun in their parents' absence.

- The practices of **keeping firearms locked, unloaded, and storing ammunition in a locked location** separate from firearms may assist in reducing youth suicide and unintentional injury in homes with children and teenagers where guns are stored.
- Many young children, including **children as young as three years old**, are strong enough to fire handguns.



BECAUSE SMART GUN LAWS SAVE LIVES

<http://smartgunlaws.org/youth-gun-violence-gun-access-statistics/>