



Presbyterian
Peace
Fellowship

<https://www.presbypeacefellowship.org/gun-violence-prevention>

Documentation/Reference Sources for Gun Safety Card 2026

Just talking to your child about gun safety is not enough. Children are naturally curious and open to peer pressure. With guns in 40% of American homes with children, practice these safety tips to keep your children safer:

TIP 1: If you own a gun, secure it: unload it, lock it up, lock ammunition in a separate lockbox, and keep the keys with you at all times. It will take less than a minute to unlock and load if needed. When out of storage:

- *never* leave a firearm unattended, *not even for a moment*, while handling or cleaning;
- *always* check to be sure there is no bullet in the chamber before cleaning a firearm;
- make sure that *no one* who is living or staying with you is keeping an unsecured firearm in your home or vehicle.
- *always* secure firearms in homes *and* vehicles. Most school shooters use firearms taken from a relative's home or vehicle. Don't let that happen to yours.

For more information:

<https://www.everytown.org/issues/child-teen-safety/>

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2789269>

http://kidshealth.org/parent/firstaid_safe/home/gun_safety.html

https://www.secretservice.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/Protecting_Americas_Schools.pdf

TIP 2: Always ask if there is a gun in another family's home and, if so, how it is secured, *before* sending your child or your teen there. If you have doubts, invite children and teens to your home or meet up at a park or other public setting.

For more information:

<https://besmartforkids.org/>

<https://www.bradyunited.org/programs/end-family-fire/ask-to-end-family-fire>

TIP 3: Store firearms off-site if you suspect a family member or friend may be suicidal. You may save a life.

For more information:

<https://erpo.org/>

<https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/past-tolls>

<https://brady-static.s3.amazonaws.com/Gun-Suicide-Prevention.pdf>

TIP 4: Don't buy firearms for another person - ever.

Never buy firearms for your friend, boyfriend, husband, or anyone else who asks. Being a 'straw buyer' for a person who is not allowed to buy a firearm is a felony: Punishment can include \$250,000 in fines and 10-25 years in prison.

For more information:

<https://www.atf.gov/firearms/tools-services-law-enforcement/atf-firearms-programs/dont-lie-other-guy>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2023/04/27/results-of-new-gun-control-laws/11734545002/>

Learn more about how important gun safety is for the health of America's youth at:

<https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-safety-and-crisis/school-violence-resources>

<https://www.presbypeacefellowship.org/gun-violence-prevention> - Protecting Children Action Circles

PREVENT UNINTENTIONAL SHOOTINGS OR HAVING YOUR GUN USED AGAINST YOU:

For each time a gun is used in self-defense, there are 7 assaults or murders, 11 suicide attempts, and 4 accidents involving guns in or around a home.

<https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/full/10.7326/M21-3762>

A person carrying a gun is almost 5 times more likely to be shot in an assault than one not carrying. <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/fact-sheet-weakening-requirements-to-carry-a-concealed-firearm-increases-violent-crime/>

A woman's chances of being killed by her abuser increase by 10 times (1000%) if he has access to a gun, including her own.

<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/relationships/a40407340/megan-montgomery-domestic-violence-murder/>

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/WorkGroups/House%20Judiciary/Bills/H.133/Witness%20Documents/H.133~Sarah%20Robinson~Risk%20Factors%20for%20Male%20Perpretration%20and%20Femal%20Victimization%20of%20Intimate%20Partner%20Homicide-%20A%20Meta-Analysis~2-23-2021.pdf>

If you or a loved one is a victim of abuse, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233, or log on to [thehotline.org](https://www.thehotline.org) for help, or call 911 if physical abuse is happening or imminent. For more about the warning signs of domestic abuse, visit the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) website at [womenslaw.org](https://www.womenslaw.org).

PREVENT SUICIDES:

Suicide is often an impulsive act spurred by a break-up, job loss, legal trouble, etc.

85%-90% of suicide attempts with firearms result in death.

Fewer than 5% of suicide attempts using other methods succeed, and 90% of survivors will not die by suicide later. They get the help they need.

From teens to seniors, all ages are at risk when firearms are accessible.

For more information on firearms and suicide:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15701912/>

<https://convergencepolicy.org/our-work/health-and-wellbeing/guns-and-suicide-prevention/>

<https://brady-static.s3.amazonaws.com/Gun-Suicide-Prevention.pdf>

If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts or mental health matters, please call the **Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988** or **800-273-8255**, or visit [988lifeline.org](https://www.988lifeline.org).

YOUR VOICE MATTERS:

Finally, let your elected representatives know that you want gun safety laws - laws like background checks on all gun sales and transfers, as well as requiring that guns be sold with gun storage devices and smart technology. Elected officials count every call, letter or email they receive. Speak up and tell them where you stand.

<https://www.bradyunited.org/the-brady-plan>

We can keep our families and communities safer from gun violence by taking simple precautions and calling for commonsense laws.

Thank you for sharing these tips with friends and loved ones.

Find more Gun Violence Prevention resources at
presbypeacefellowship.org/gun-violence