GUN VIOLENCE in the UNITED STATES
Some Indicative Data:

Gun Ownership
- The US has an estimated 283 million guns in civilian hands
- Each year about 4.5 million firearms, including approximately 2 million handguns, are sold in the United States
- An estimated 2 million second hand firearms are sold each year
- The percentage of American households with a gun has been steadily declining (high of 54% in 1977 to 33% in 2009)
- The average number of guns per owner has increased from 4.1 in 1994 to 6.9 in 2004.


Gun Deaths:
More than 30,000 people are killed by firearms each year in this country
More than 30 people are shot and murdered each day
  1/2 of them are between the ages of 18 and 35
  1/3 of them are under the age of 20
Homicide is the second leading cause of death among 15-24 year-olds
And the primary cause of death among African Americans of that age group

Gun Homicides (average annually):
Less than 50: Japan
Less than 150: Germany, Italy, France, etc.
Less than 200: Canada
More than 10,000: USA

Source: IANSA (International Action Network on Small Arms of the United Nations)

Injuries and Deaths from Guns
Everytime a gun injures or kills in self-defense, one is used:
- 11 times for a completed or attempted suicide
- 7 times in a criminal assault or homicide
- 4 times in an unintentional shooting death or injury


Per Capita Annual Gun Death Rate (per 100,000 population):
Highest: Louisiana (19.04, 45.6% households contain guns)
#25: Pennsylvania (10.90)
Lowest: CT, NY, New Jersey (4.99), RI, MA, Hawaii (2.20)
National: (10.32)
Source: Centers for Disease Control

Costs of Gun Violence
- Gun violence impacts society in many ways: medical costs, costs of the criminal justice system, security precautions such as metal detectors, and reductions in the quality of life because of fear of gun violence.
- U.S. lifetime medical costs for gunshot injuries total an estimated $2.3 billion
- U.S. taxpayers pay for almost half ($1.1 billion or 49%) of lifetime medical costs for gunshot injuries
**Guns Recovered from Crime**
- Only 1% of gun dealer account for almost 60% of crime guns recovered by police and later traced.
- In one year, at least 30,000 guns were "lost" out of gun dealers inventories.
- Guns with a short “time to crime” are disproportionately represented among crime guns. Guns manufactured and sold 3 years or less, prior to recovery by police in crime make up 34% of recovered and traced crime guns, but only 14% of the US gun stock.
- Guns sold as part of a multiple sale at a gun dealer were up to 64% more likely to be used in a crime than guns not part of such sales.
- “No background check” sales account for an estimated 40% of gun sales in the U.S.

*Sources: ATF (2000); Brady Center; National Institute of Justice (1993, 2007); Police Foundation (1997)*

**Distance From Legal Point of Purchase to Crime Recovery:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Within 10 miles</th>
<th>More than 100 miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>61.2%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>62.9%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)*

**Percent of Recovered Crime Guns First Legally Purchased In-State:**
- Pennsylvania: 78%
- New Jersey: 27% *(18% from PA)*
- New York: 28%

*Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)*

**Some Interesting Poll Data**
- 77% of NRA members favor a waiting period for purchase of a handgun
- 82% of American support limiting the sales of military-style assault weapons
- 94% of police chiefs favor requiring a background check for all handgun sales.

Support for background checks on private gun sales, including gun shows:
- 87% of American
- 83% of gun owners
- 69% of NRA gun-owners

Support for limiting handgun sales to one per person per month:
- 65% of Americans
- 59% of gun owners

Support for registration of handguns
- 79% of Americans
- 69% of police chiefs
- 61% of gun owners
- 59% of NRA members


For more information, please contact
info@HeedingGodsCall.org
267-519-5302