

# Sue Klebold

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- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fSKsPwP2JI>

# Where Do We Go From Here?

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Laurie Woods, PhD



# NRA – More Guns?

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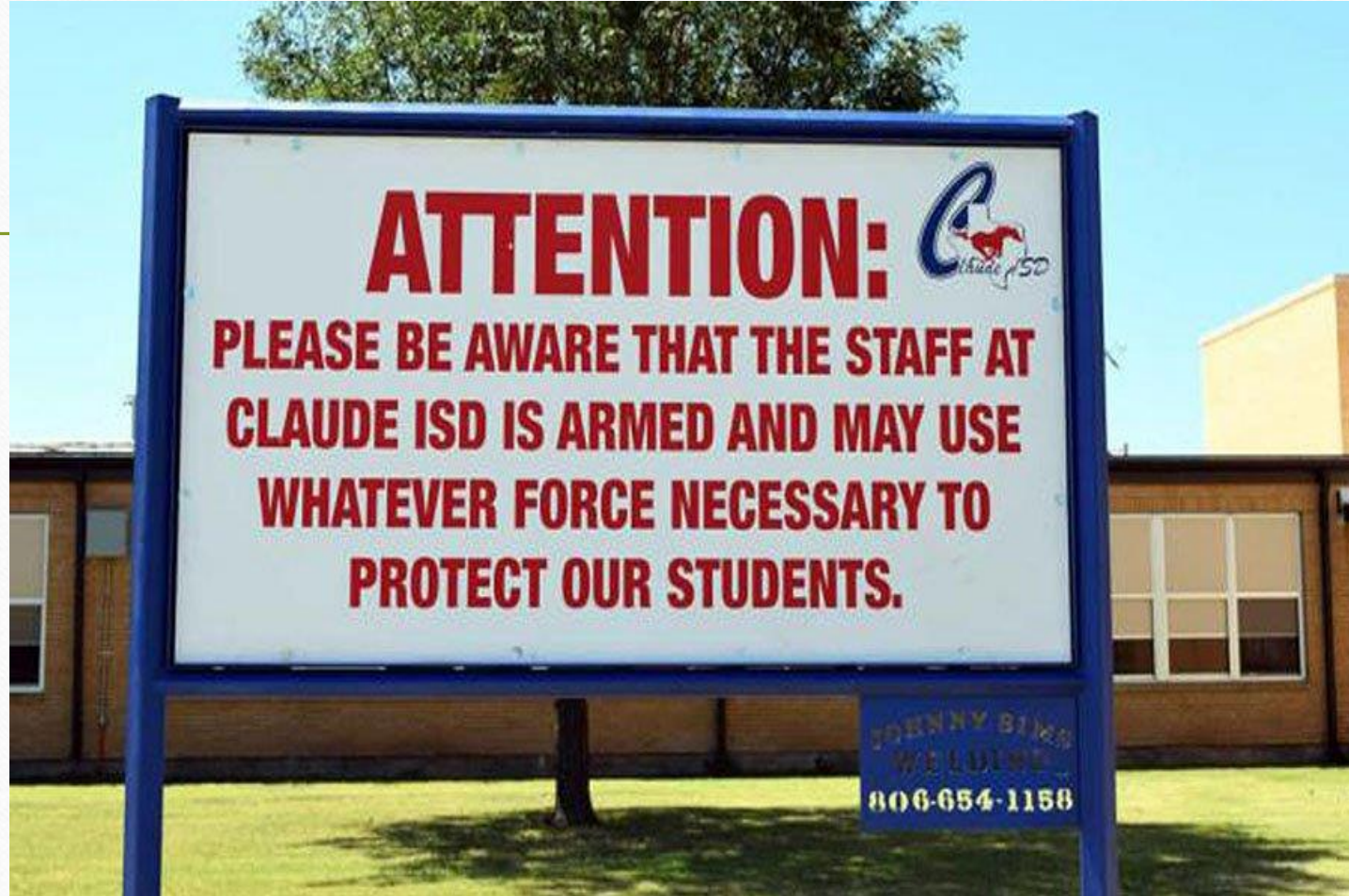
- “The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun, is a good guy with a gun,” the NRA president, Wayne LaPierre, infamously declared after the Newtown shooting.

# Why?

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- After a gunman at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Fla. killed 17 people on Valentine's Day, Trump proposed arming "well trained, gun adept" teachers who had special training or military experience
- Trump said his goal was 20 percent or more — and giving them bonuses for carrying guns.
- A CBS News poll showed 44 percent of respondents favored allowing more teachers and school officials to carry guns and 50 percent opposed, though Republicans were more strongly for it and Democrats against it.





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CLAUDE ISD IS ARMED AND MAY USE  
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PROTECT OUR STUDENTS.**

JOHNNY BIRD  
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# Pros

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- Having more people armed would deter shooters looking for an easy target: National Rifle Association head Wayne LaPierre argued this Thursday in a speech to the Conservative Political Action Committee, and Trump echoed his words closely at a discussion in the White House later that day.
- "Our banks, our airports, our NBA games, our NFL games, our office buildings, our movie stars, our politicians — they're all more protected than our children at school," LaPierre said. "We surround and protect so much with armed security, while we drop our kids off at schools that are so-called 'gun-free zones.'"



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- Armed staff on-site could respond to a shooter before police:
  - In rural school districts or districts without dedicated school resource officers, police and medics could be responding from a distance, said Pennsylvania State Sen. Don White, R-Indiana County, who proposed a bill that would let school districts and teachers volunteer to be armed.
  - In communities without local police departments, state police could be their only protection and could take five minutes, 10 minutes or longer to respond to a rural school, White said. A Broward County deputy was on-scene at the South Florida high school during the shooting but never went into the building or confronted the shooter, officials said.

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- Districts and teachers could have more control and flexibility over their security: Trump indicated he didn't think hiring armed, dedicated guards or police was efficient and proposed using federal money to train teachers to handle guns.



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- Mark Zilinskas, an Indiana Area High School teacher who attended firearms training sessions in Ohio, where armed teachers are allowed, derided the current training that emphasizes locking down, hiding, escaping and using improvised weapons to distract or delay a shooter. The Ohio course, he said, required participating teachers to get better scores on a firing range than police officers.
  - "I'm not just going to sit and hide and accept waiting, and seeing kids get shot or listening to kids die," said Zilinskas, who worked with White on his bill.

# Arming Teachers?





# Cons to Arming Teachers

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- Teachers want to focus on teaching: "Teachers don't want to be armed, we want to teach. We don't want to be, and would never have the expertise to be, sharp shooters; no amount of training can prepare an armed teacher to go up against an AR-15," Randi Weingarten, president of the National Federation of Teachers, said in a statement responding to Trump's proposal.
- "When you have seconds to act when you hear the code for an active shooter, is a teacher supposed to use those seconds getting her gun instead of getting her students to safety?"

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- Even for those who would volunteer to carry guns, training and qualifying to be the kind of "experts" Trump wanted to make split-second decisions would take time and effort outside the classroom, and "checking and monitoring and retraining" would be a burden on districts, according to Avery Gardiner, co-president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence



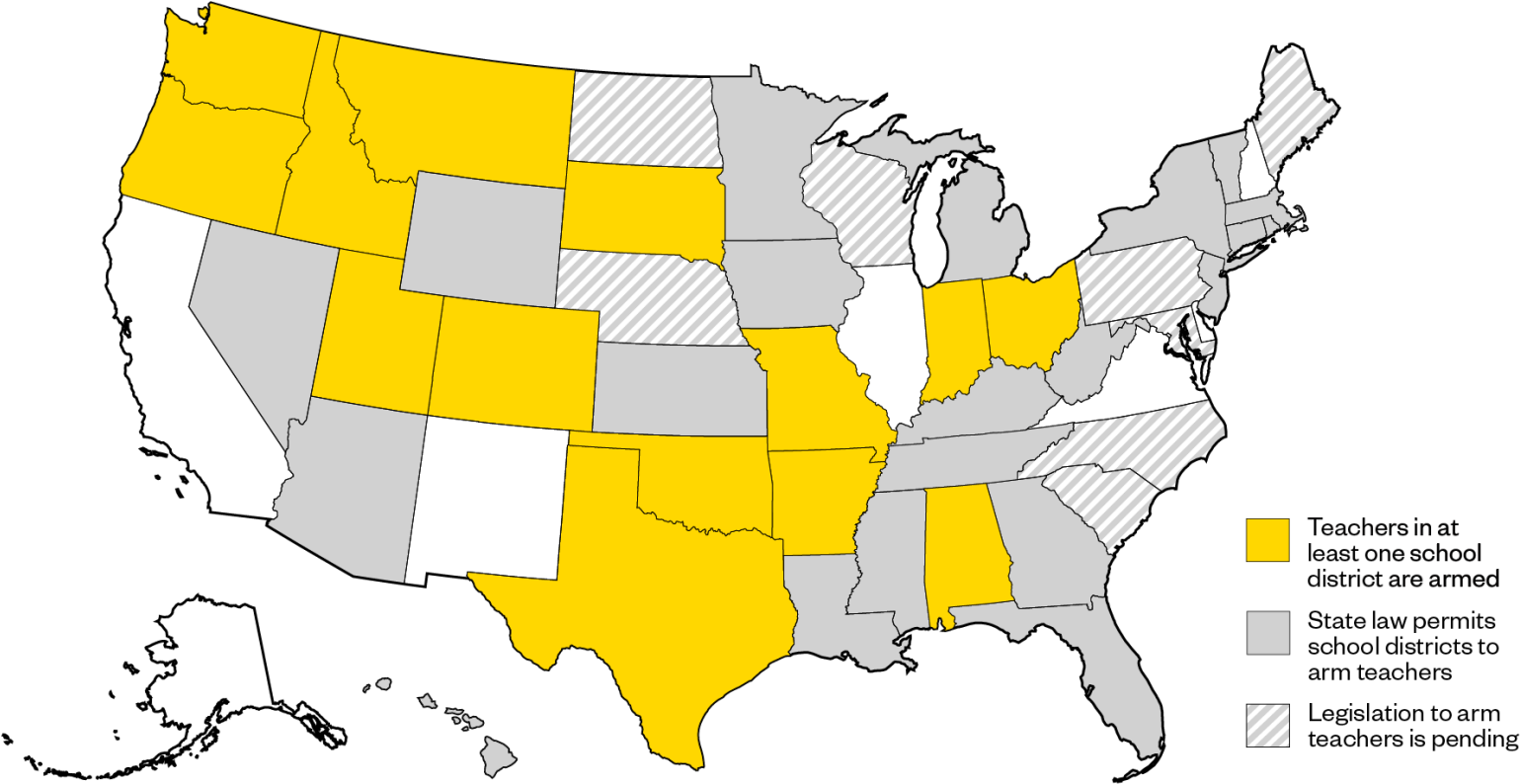
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- The guns teachers carry could be taken and turned against them, or used on the wrong people: Having guns in schools or classrooms could lead to them ending up in the wrong hands, said a representative of CeaseFire PA, a gun-control group.
  - "Almost any two students could figure out a way to get a gun away from a teacher; one distracts them and the other sneaks or wrestles the gun off of them," said Robert Conroy, organizing director. The current proposal to arm teachers in Pennsylvania included no restrictions on how guns were to be stored on-campus, whether teachers would keep them holstered, in their desks or in gun safes, he said.

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- Armed teachers could make things harder for first responders:
  - Another argument questioned whether police responding to a school shooting could easily distinguish between gunfire from school shooters and armed staff shooting back, and whether the staff shooting back would be proficient enough not to injure bystanders or first responders.
  - Mo Canady, executive director of the National Association for School Resource Officers, warned that law enforcement officers might mistake an armed teacher, or anyone else not in uniform, for an adult assailant.



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- "Discharging a firearm in a crowded school is an extremely risky action, with consequences that can include the wounding and/or death of innocent victims,"
  - "Law enforcement officers receive training and practice in evaluating quickly the risks of firing. They hold their fire when the risks to others are too high."
    - Mo Canady, National Assn of School Resource Officers

# Here's where teachers can have guns at school



Source: National Council of State Legislatures, Giffords Law Center, state education departments, and school board associations



# Safe Storage Laws

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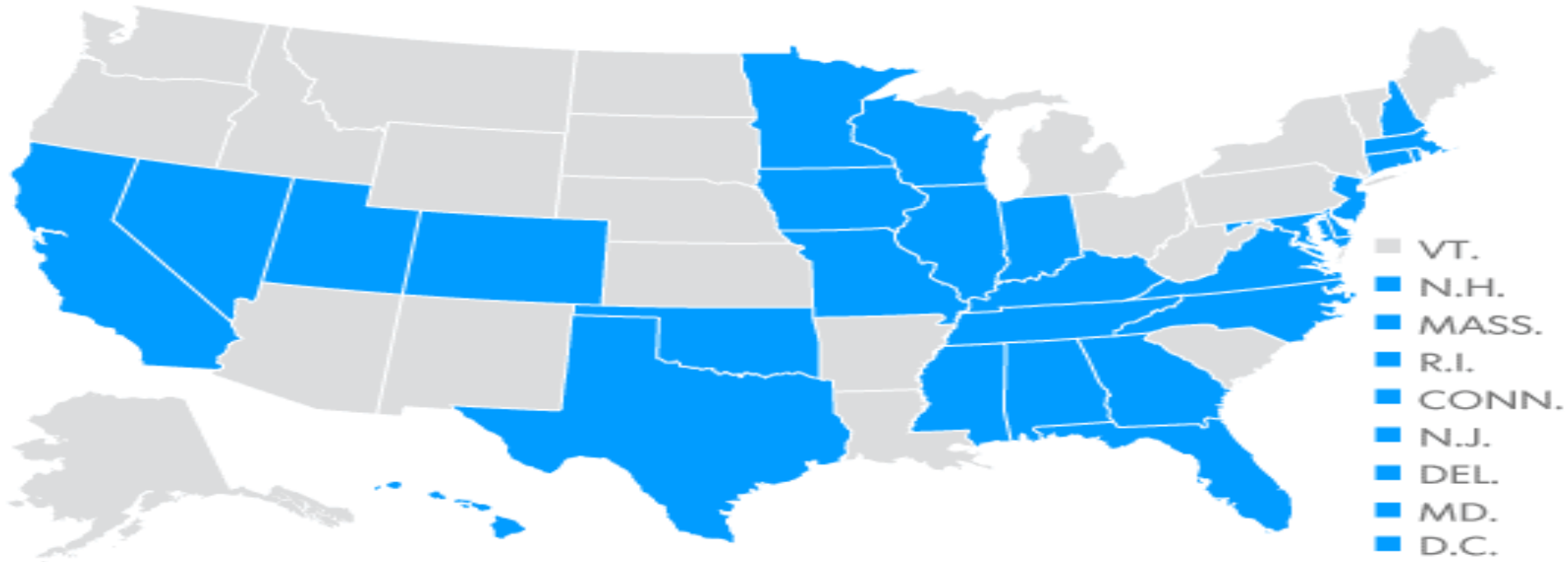
- A 2018 study found that 4.6 million minors in the US live in homes with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm.)
- Another study of firearm storage patterns in the US found that “[o]f the homes with children and firearms, 55% were reported to have one or more firearms in an unlocked place,” and 43% reported keeping guns without a trigger lock in an unlocked place.
- Alarming, a large-scale study found that this number includes a large number of minors with major risk factors for suicide. (Journal of Urban Health, 2018)

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- Among teens living in homes with guns, the study found that roughly 40% of those who had serious risk factors for suicide (such as recent depression or suicidal thoughts),
  - Roughly 40% who had attempted suicide in the past year reported having “easy access” to the guns in their home. In addition, 73% of children under age 10 living in homes with guns reported knowing the location of their parents’ firearms. (JAMA Psychiatry, 2015)



# GUN LAWS PROTECTING YOUTHS

- Has child-access prevention laws
- No such laws



Larry Fenn, AP  
Jim Sergent, USA TODAY

**AP**



**USA TODAY**

# States Requiring that All Firearms be Stored with a Locking Device in Place

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- Massachusetts is the only state that requires that all firearms be stored with a locking device in place when the firearms are not in use. The state bars storing or keeping any firearm unless it is secured in a locked container or equipped with a tamper-resistant mechanical lock or other safety device. This requirement does not apply to any firearm “carried by or under the control of the owner or other lawfully authorized user.”
- The District of Columbia has established a strong, yet non-binding policy that each firearm registrant should keep any firearm in his or her possession unloaded and either disassembled or secured by a trigger lock, gun safe, locked box, or other secure device.



# States Requiring that Firearms be Stored with a Locking Device in Place if the Person Resides with a Prohibited Person

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- Three states require firearms to be stored with a locking device in place if the person resides with someone who is ineligible to possess firearms.
- New York enacted a law in 2013 that requires a firearm owner to keep his or her firearm locked if he or she lives with a convicted felon, a domestic abuser, or a person with a federally prohibitive mental health history.
- California enacted a similar law that requires a firearm owner to keep his or her firearm in a locked container or secured with a locking device if he or she lives with a person prohibited under state or federal law from possessing a firearm. Connecticut's law is also similar, but it only applies to loaded firearms.

# States Requiring Locking Devices with All Firearms Manufactured, Sold or Transferred in the State

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- California has the most comprehensive laws with respect to firearm locking devices. In California, all firearms manufactured in the state, or sold or transferred by a state licensed dealer (including private transfers conducted through licensed dealers) must include or be accompanied by a firearm safety device approved by the state Department of Justice.
- A firearm safety device is defined as “a device other than a gun safe that locks and is designed to prevent children and other unauthorized users from firing a firearm. The device may be installed on a firearm, be incorporated into the design of the firearm, or prevent access to the firearm.” Sales and transfers by licensed dealers are exempt if the purchaser provides proof of ownership of an approved safety device or gun safe meeting state standards.
- In Massachusetts, any handgun or assault weapon sold without a safety device designed to prevent discharge by unauthorized users is considered to be defective. The sale of such a weapon constitutes a breach of warranty and an unfair or deceptive trade act or practice.



# States Requiring Locking Devices on All Firearms Transferred by Licensed Dealers

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- New York prohibits retail sales of firearms without a locking device, which may be an external device or integrated in the design of the firearm. Michigan prohibits licensed dealers from selling a firearm unless the sale includes a trigger lock or gun case or other storage container.
- This does not apply if the purchaser presents to the dealer at the time of sale of the firearm a trigger lock, gun case or storage container, together with a copy of the receipt for the trigger lock or storage container.
- In Ohio, at the time of sale of any firearm, a dealer must offer to sell the purchaser a trigger lock, gun lock or gun locking device appropriate for that firearm.

# States Requiring Locking Devices with Handgun Sales

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- Connecticut and New Jersey require locking devices on all handguns sold in the state.
- Illinois, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island require trigger locks only on all handguns sold by retail dealers.
- New Jersey prohibits the delivery of a handgun to any person unless it is accompanied by a trigger lock or locked gun case, gun box, container or other secure facility.
- Connecticut, all handguns sold or transferred (other than at wholesale) must be equipped with a trigger lock or other locking device.



# California

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- California has the most comprehensive standards for locking devices.
- California requires testing of and sets standards for firearm locking devices.
- Locking devices are tested by certified laboratories, and those found to meet standards are listed in a roster of approved devices that may be sold in the state.
- The state may randomly retest samples to ensure continued compliance. California prohibits any person from commercially selling any firearm safety device that is not listed on the roster.

# San Francisco, California

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- San Francisco prohibits any person from keeping a handgun within a residence unless the handgun is stored in a locked container or disabled with a trigger lock unless the handgun is carried on the person.
- Unlike the laws of some other jurisdictions, San Francisco does not exempt a person who keeps his or her handgun within his or her immediate control from the requirements of the statute.



# Sunnyvale, CA

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- Sunnyvale prohibits a person from keeping a firearm in any residence owned or controlled by that person unless the firearm is stored in a locked container, or the firearm is disabled with a trigger lock, when it is not carried on the person or in his or her immediate control and possession.
- The ordinance requires a person who chooses to use a trigger lock to use one that is listed on the California Department of Justice's list of approved firearms safety devices.

# Albany, New York

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- In September, 2015, the City of Albany enacted an ordinance prohibiting any person who owns or is a custodian of a firearm from storing or leaving out of his or her possession and control, a firearm that is not disabled by a locking mechanism or securely locked in a safe storage depository.
- The depository must be incapable of being opened without the key, combination or other unlocking mechanism and capable of preventing an unauthorized person from obtaining access to and possession of the firearm contained therein.



# Negligent Storage Laws

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- Texas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia.
- The laws generally apply when a gun owner “knows or reasonably should know” that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm, according to the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

# Criminal Liability

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- In 2015, a babysitter in North Carolina was charged with involuntary manslaughter when a 2-year-old she was watching shot herself with a 20-gauge shotgun she found on a table.
- Two months later, police and prosecutors in Colorado opted not to charge a babysitter after a 9-year-old boy was shot by his brother. The sitter had briefly left the boys unattended, and they found his loaded .38 Special in his pickup.



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- Grandparents in Detroit, both 65, faced manslaughter and weapons charges that could have sent them to prison for 17 years after their 5-year-old granddaughter found a loaded pistol under their pillow and shot herself in the neck.
  - Illinois, a grandmother pleaded guilty to a minor gun charge and received probation after a 6-year-old boy found a revolver in a bedroom closet and shot himself, “Oh my God, I killed my baby!” she screamed to police at the scene.

# USA Today and AP

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- Studied cases where children either killed themselves or were mistakenly shot and killed by another child.
- The review found that about half of those deaths led to a criminal charge, usually against adults who police and prosecutors say should have watched the children more closely or secured their guns more carefully. The rest of the time, officials decided the grown-ups had broken no laws, or perhaps had simply suffered enough. In many cases, there was little to distinguish those deaths that led to a criminal charge from those that did not.
- Felons were the only exception. Because it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to possess a gun, almost every felon involved in an accidental gun death faced criminal charges.



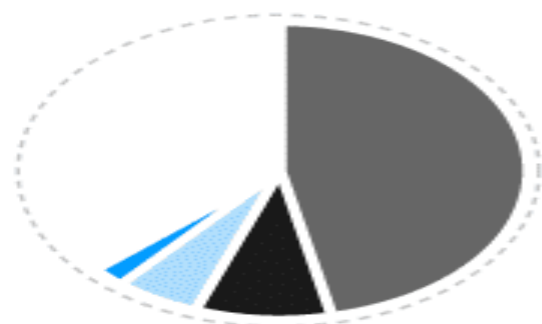
## CONSEQUENCES FROM SHOOTINGS

**152** child-related accidents (2014-2016)



**72** resulted in criminal charges ...

... against 90 people. The outcomes:



- Not guilty **2**
- Dismissed **5**
- Pending and other **33**
- Plea **42**
- Conviction after trial **8**

**SOURCE** AP-USA TODAY Network analysis of Gun Violence Archive, news reports and police records

Larry Fenn, AP  
Jim Sergent, USA TODAY

**AP**

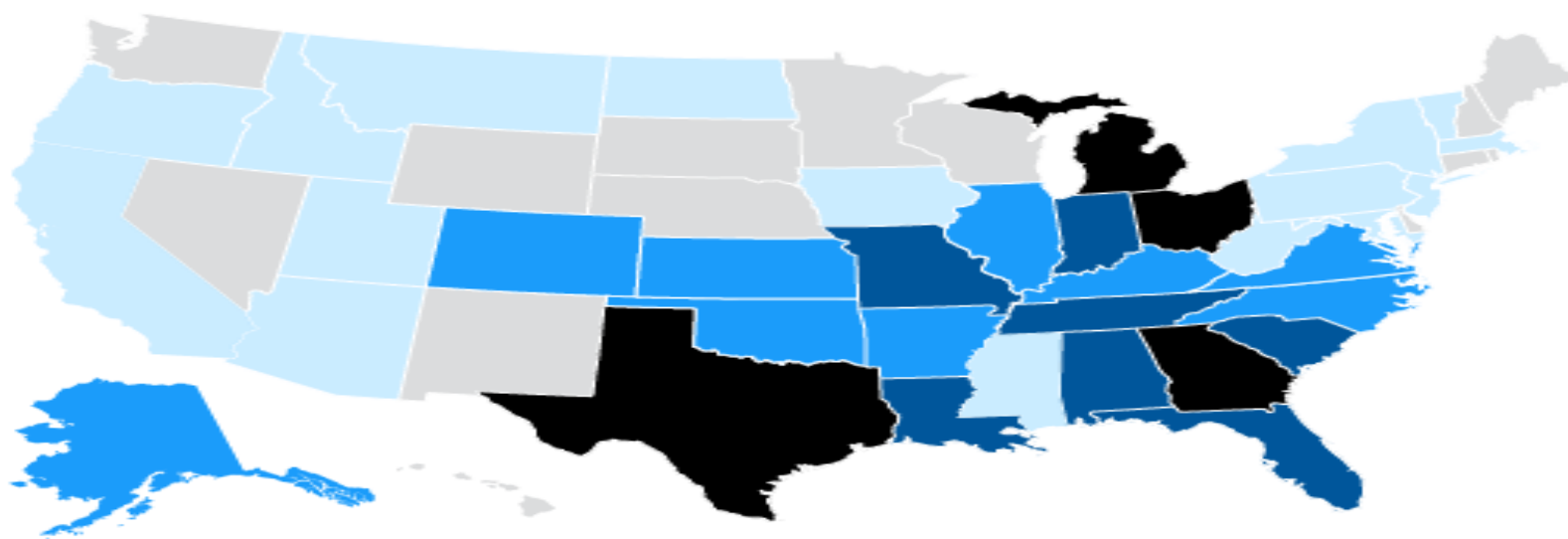


**USATODAY**

## YOUTH SHOOTINGS IN THE U.S.

152 children under age 12 either killed themselves or were mistakenly shot and killed by another child between 2014 and 2016. Where they took place:

● None   ● 1-2   ● 3-5   ● 6-9   ● 10+



SOURCE USA TODAY Network, AP  
Frank Pompa, USA TODAY

AP



USA TODAY



# Red Flag Laws

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- 30 states have or plan to enact such laws
- Extreme Risk Protection Orders
- Law enforcement or family members (depending on state)

# Univ of AZ Study

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- Surveyed 13 states with this type of law
- Most effective laws allow family members rather than law enforcement to apply for orders
- Encourage family to have discussion with older members about guns and gun access



# Later Life Suicide Growing Problem

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- Suicide in late life is a growing issue across America.
- CDC and Prevention finds that older adults commit suicide at a disproportionately higher rate compared to the general population.
- Men aged 65 and over are more likely to commit suicide than Americans of all other age groups, and three-quarters of them use a gun.
- Red Flag states report decrease in gun suicides

# Another Suggestion

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- To bring down the number of guns in circulation, the federal government should take three major steps:
- Purchase the entire domestic handgun manufacturing industry;
- Ban the import of all handguns;
- Offer cash buybacks for all handguns in circulation.

- Washington Monthly Nov/Dec 2018  
William J. Glasris, Jr, Chairman, Fabretto Children's Foundation



# \$ Smart Guns \$

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- 1999 I-Gun by Mossberg. Computer chip-equipped.
- Colt had unveiled a smart-watch-activated pistol, and Smith & Wesson pledged to explore “authorized user technology” for its weapons.
- Both projects were abandoned in the face of withering criticism from the National Rifle Association, which led a boycott of Smith & Wesson.
- 2005, under pressure from the NRA, Congress passed the Protection fo Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, making gun manufacturers immune from lawsuits related to gun accidents or misuse—and removing another incentive to develop smart guns.
- Today, NRA says it doesn’t oppose smart guns but claims they are an attempt to make firearms more expensive and “would allow guns to be disabled remotely.”

# Principles for a Responsible Civilian Firearms Industry

## Enacted November 14, 2018

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- **Signatories include (as of November 14, 2018):**
- California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)
- California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS)
- Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds
- Florida State Board of Administration
- Maine Public Employees Retirement System
- Maryland State Retirement and Pension System
- Nuveen, the asset manager of TIAA
- OIP Investment Trust
- Oregon Public Employees Retirement Fund
- Rockefeller Asset Management
- San Francisco Employees' Retirement System
- State Street Global Advisors
- Wespath Investment Management



# Principle 1

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- Manufacturers should support, advance and integrate the development of technology designed to make civilian firearms safer, more secure, and easier to trace.

# Principle 2

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- Manufacturers should adopt and follow responsible business practices that establish and enforce responsible dealer standards and promote training and education programs for owners designed around firearms safety.



# Principle 3

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- Civilian firearms distributors, dealers, and retailers should establish, promote, and follow best practices to ensure that no firearm is sold without a completed background check in order to prevent sales to persons prohibited from buying firearms or those too dangerous to possess firearms.

# Principle 4

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- Civilian firearms distributors, dealers, and retailers should educate and train their employees to better recognize and effectively monitor irregularities at the point of sale, to record all firearm sales, to audit firearms inventory on a regular basis, and to proactively assist law enforcement.



# Principle 5

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- Participants in the civilian firearms industry should work collaboratively, communicate, and engage with the signatories of these Principles to design, adopt, and disclose measures and metrics demonstrating both best practices and their commitment to promoting these Principles.

# Mental Health and Guns

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- In a Feb. 28, 2018 meeting at the White House, in addition to suggesting stricter gun laws, the President said he thought due process for mentally ill people was not as important as making sure that they do not have guns.
- “I don’t want mentally ill people to be having guns. Take the guns first, go through due process second,” Trump said.



# Who Decides?

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- No one suggests who will decide whether a patient with mental illness should not have access to firearms – a psychiatrist, an independent forensic psychiatrist, a committee of psychiatrists or a judge?
- How about those who do not seek psychiatric evaluation and treatment?
- Should a psychiatric examination be integrated into the background check process for each person who wants to purchase a gun?
- As severe mental illness can start at any point in life, will gun owners need periodic psychiatric assessment (like a vision exam for renewing a driver's license)? Who will pay for the visits?

# American Journal of Public Health

(Jonathan Metzl, VU, 2015)

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- Forging opinion and legislation so centrally on the psychopathologies of individual assailants makes it harder for the United States to address how mass shootings reflect group psychologies in addition to individual ones.
  - Persons in the United States live in an era that has seen an unprecedented proliferation of gun rights and gun crimes, and the data we cite show that many gun victims are exposed to violence in ways that are accidental, incidental, relational, or environmental.
  - Yet this expansion has gone hand in hand with a narrowing of the rhetoric through which US culture talks about the role of guns and shootings.
  - Insanity becomes the only politically sane place to discuss gun control. Meanwhile, a host of other narratives, such as displaced male anxiety about demographic change, the mass psychology of needing so many guns in the first place, or the symptoms created by being surrounded by them, remain unspoken.