

Gun Violence in the United States

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Gun Violence in the U.S. – The Numbers

- 33,000 gun deaths every year
 - 11,000 murders
 - 21,000 suicides
 - 600 accidents
- 82,000 non-fatal gunshot injuries

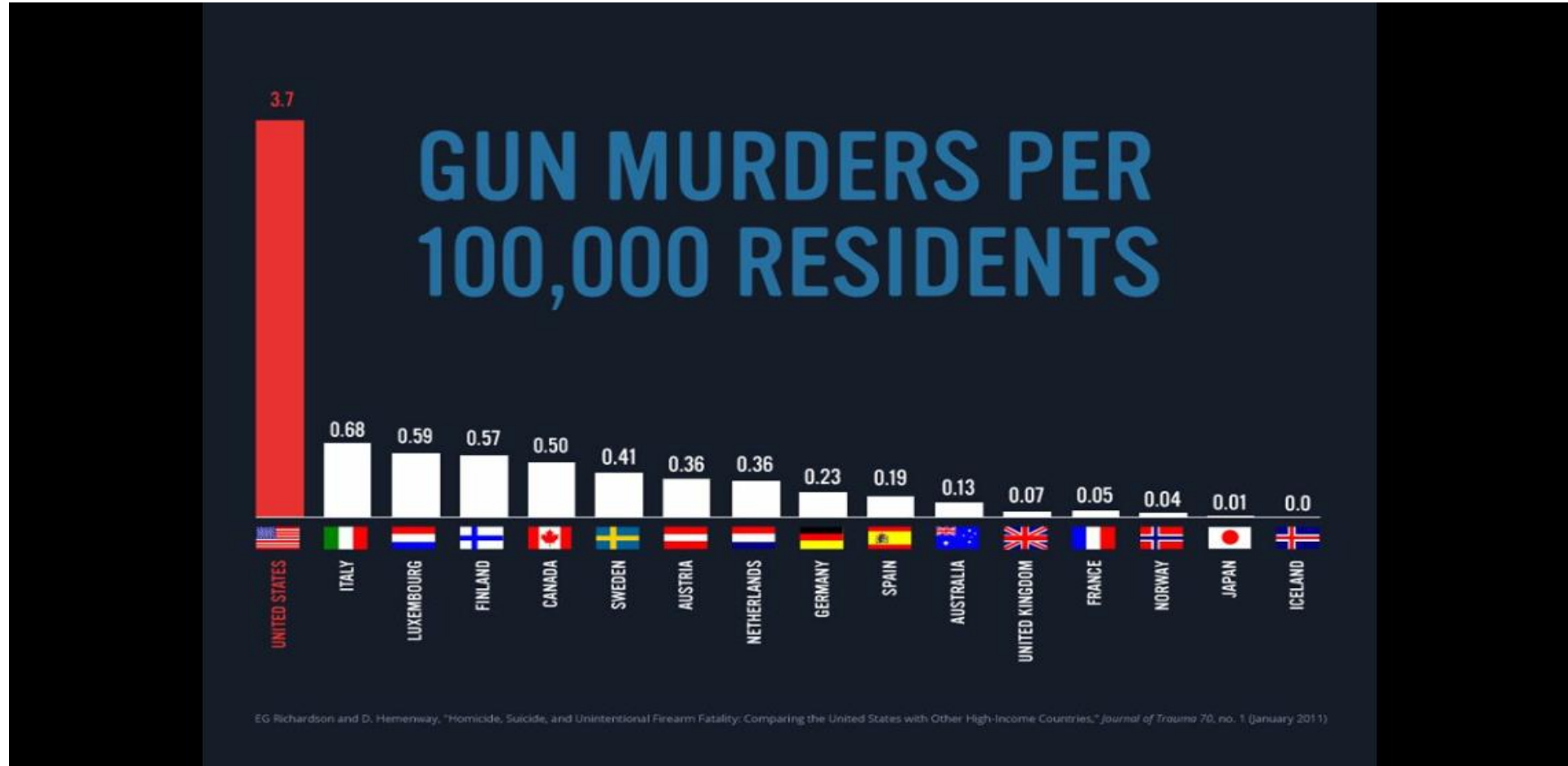
Who is most impacted?

- Communities of Color
 - 58% of gun murder victims are African American
 - Hispanics in the U.S. are murdered with guns at a rate that is 59% higher than their white peers
- Young People
 - In 2015, gun violence became the leading killer of young people under age 30, overtaking car accidents

Domestic Violence

- Access to guns by domestic abusers drastically increases the risk that a woman will be killed:
 - The presence of a gun in a home with a history of domestic abuse increases the risk of homicide by 500%
 - Between 2003 and 2012, one-third of women murdered in the U.S. were killed by an intimate partner
 - 55% of those murders were committed with a gun

A Uniquely American Problem



Mass Shootings

While mass shootings gain the most media attention, these incidents represent less than 1% of all gun murder victims in the U.S.



Gun Laws in the U.S.

- Combination of federal, state, and local laws
- Federal law
 - Sets minimum eligibility standards for gun possession
 - Creates the national background check system for gun sales
 - Creates a regulatory framework for the gun industry
- State laws
 - Add additional eligibility standards for gun possession
 - Regulate gun carrying (who and where)
 - Impose additional requirements on gun sales, gun owner responsibilities (storage and reporting), and limitations on the sale/possession of certain types of guns

What about the Second Amendment?

- The Supreme Court outlined the boundaries of the Second Amendment right in *District of Columbia v. Heller* in 2008:
 - Establishes an individual right to possess guns for self defense in the home
 - This right is not unlimited and is “not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose.”
 - “Nothing in our opinion should be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibitions on the possession of firearms by felons and the mentally ill, or laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings, or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms.”

6 WAYS TO REDUCE
GUN VIOLENCE
IN AMERICA

- Ban assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines
- Enable the CDC to research gun violence as a public health issue
- Require background checks for all gun sales
- Support local violence prevention and intervention programs
- Disarm all domestic abusers
- Make extreme risk protection orders available in every state

CAP

Gun Laws Work

- CAP study: the 10 states with the weakest gun laws have more than three times the levels of gun violence as the 10 states with the strongest gun laws.
- In states that require background checks for all handgun sales:
 - 46% fewer women are fatally shot by intimate partners
 - 48% fewer law enforcement officers are killed with handguns
 - 48% less gun trafficking
- Background checks have prevented more than 3 million prohibited people from buying guns.