

Project Sentry

United States Attorney's Office

Southern District of Florida



Project Sentry is the juvenile prevention, intervention, and enforcement focused initiative of Project Safe Neighborhoods. Project Sentry is a 6th grade based program that includes United States Attorney's Office personnel, State Attorney's Office personnel, and medical professionals, who teach youth the importance of staying away from guns, violence, and gangs in a 90 minute multi-media presentation. Project Sentry is in Miami-Dade and Broward County Schools.

Common Myths about Guns and Getting Shot

- Gunshot wounds always kill the person.
- Gunshot victims usually make a complete recovery from their injuries.
- Gunshot wounds do not hurt.
- Guns are an effective way of protecting you and others.
- Most people who die from gunshot wounds were shot by a stranger.
- Having and or/using a gun will make your problems go away.

Youth Gun Violence Fact Sheet

- The number of children and teens in America killed by guns in 2006 would fill more than **127** public school classrooms of **25** students each.
- In 2006, more preschoolers (**63**) were killed by firearms than law enforcement officers (**48**) killed in the line of duty.
- Since 1979, gun violence has ended the lives of **107,603** children and teens in America. Sixty percent of them were White; 37 percent were Black.
- The number of Black children and teens killed by gunfire since 1979 (**39,957**) is more than 10 times the number of Black citizens of all ages lynched throughout American history (3,437).
- More **10- to 19-year-olds** die from gunshot wounds than from any other cause except motor vehicle accidents.
- Guns kill **8** children and teens every day in America.
- Children or teens are killed by guns **every 2.5 hours** somewhere in America.
- Black males **ages 15 to 19** are almost **5 times** as likely as their White peers and more than twice as likely as their Hispanic peers to be killed by firearms.
- In 2006 alone, the **3,184** children and teens killed by firearms nearly equaled the total number of U.S. fatalities (**4,373**) in Iraq since the war started in 2003.
- **Million** Children come home to a **house with a gun** and **no parent**.
- **Over 90%** of unintentional shootings involving children is due to a family handgun.
- In 2009, there was a reported **7,301** patients with firearm injuries between the ages of 10 to 19.

Source: Children's Defense Fund 2006, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, American College of Surgeons, National Trauma Data Bank Pediatric Report 2009, CNN world