

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

June 3, 2022

Wear Orange (<https://wearorange.org>)

This year, we once again unite in our call to end gun violence as we come together for Wear Orange. We honor the communities shattered by gun violence alongside the more than 110 people who are shot and killed, and hundreds more who are wounded, every day in our country. Together, we call for meaningful action to save lives.

We should not have to live in fear that gunfire can ring out at any moment, whether it's at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, while grocery shopping at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, a party in San Bernardino, or graduations across the country. We deserve more. Raise awareness by participating in Wear Orange online and in your community.

wear orange is june 3-5

In the wake of multiple tragedies, the fight to end gun violence has never been more urgent. During National Gun Violence Awareness Day and Wear Orange Weekend, we join together to demand a future free from gun violence once and for all.

why orange?

On January 21, 2013, Hadiya Pendleton marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade. One week later, Hadiya was shot and killed on a playground in Chicago. Soon after this tragedy, Hadiya's friends commemorated her life by wearing orange, the color hunters wear in the woods to protect themselves and others. Wear Orange is now observed every June. Thousands of people wear the color orange to honor Hadiya and the more than 40,000 people who are killed with guns and approximately 85,000 who are shot and wounded every year.

Event:

[VA-Alexandria-Wear Orange Rally](#) on Friday June 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Market Square
301 King St
Alexandria, VA 22314

Join us for a Wear Orange Rally to remember lives lost to gun violence and raise awareness about this public health crisis. All are welcome to our family friendly rally where we will join community partners and hear from survivors and special guests. Remember to Wear Orange!

Be SMART (<https://besmartforkids.org/>)

Secure firearm storage is an essential part of home safety. With more guns in more homes due to an unprecedented surge in gun sales over the past two years, it's more important than ever for parents and caregivers to know how secure storage protects children. During the COVID-19 pandemic there has been a rise in unintentional shootings by children and gunfire on school grounds. And in 2020, gun suicide among children ages 17 and under reached the highest rate in more than 20 years and firearms became the leading cause of death among children in the United States. Storing firearms securely can help prevent these tragedies and keep kids safe.

What is Be SMART?

The Be SMART framework is designed to help parents and adults normalize conversations about gun safety and take responsible actions that can prevent child gun deaths and injuries.

Secure all guns in your home and vehicles

Model responsible behavior around guns

Ask about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes

Recognize the role of guns in suicide

Tell your peers to be SMART

4.6 million

American children live in homes with guns that are both loaded and unlocked.

Every year, nearly 700 children, 17 and under, die by suicide with a gun.

ASK (Asking Saves Kids)

<https://www.bradyunited.org/program/end-family-fire/asking-saves-kids>

ASK family, friends, and members of your community about unlocked or loaded guns in the home to prevent family fire.

ASK (Asking Saves Kids) is a simple way to help keep kids safe and a fundamental part of our End Family Fire campaign. Parents and guardians ask all sorts of questions before they allow their children to visit other homes; they ask about pets in the house, discuss allergies and Internet access, and ask questions about supervision. Our End Family Fire campaign encourages parents and guardians to add one more question to this conversation: **“Is there an unlocked gun in your house?”**

As families grow and circumstances expand, here are other questions to ASK to prevent family fire:

- **Parents dropping off their kids for a playdate:** *“My kid is pretty curious, and our doctor recommended that I ask — is there an unlocked gun where my child will play?”*
- **Teens taking their first babysitting job:** *“Is there an unlocked and/or loaded gun in your home?”*
- **Young adults moving into a group home:** *“Does anyone own a gun? If so, how is it stored?”*
- **When considering the care of an elderly family member, especially those who may suffer from a form of dementia:** *“Do we need to rethink how we safely store the guns?”*

ASK, “Is there an unlocked gun in your house?” before sending your child to a playdate, caretaker, or relative’s home. Have your teens ask about guns in the home before going on a babysitting job or entering a new group housing situation. And especially ask about guns in the home if you know someone is in crisis and at risk of harming themselves or others. Doing so can help prevent family fire and save lives.

History of ASKING SAVES KIDS

For more than a decade, supporters of ASKING SAVES KIDS (ASK) have partnered with over 400 grassroots organizations to spread its message in neighborhoods nationwide. Beginning as a collaboration between Brady and the American Academy of Pediatrics, the ASK Campaign has successfully inspired 19 million households to ask if there are guns where their children play. Brady has since expanded upon this question and created the End Family Fire campaign to ensure that families with firearms in the home store them locked and unloaded and, most important, revisit what constitutes safe storage as their families or household circumstances change.