

FACT SHEET

- An average of 8 kids and teens are killed by firearms every day and 42 additional children and teens are seriously injured (Injury Mortality Reports, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC, 2010; 2011).
- 27 children and teens are seriously injured by BB or pellet guns every day (Injury Mortality Reports, 2011).
- Studies show that between 33% and 40% of American households with children have guns (Johnson, Renee, "[*Firearm Ownership and Storage Practices, U.S. Households, 1992-2002.*](#)" American Journal of Preventive Medicine 27, 2004; Peter Hart Research Associates Poll, 1999, American Journal of Public Health, April 2000).
- 1 in 4 kids and teens whose parents own guns say they have seen or touched a gun without their parents' knowledge. (Global Strategy Group Youth Study commissioned by CPYV, 2011).
- Almost 90 percent of accidental shootings involving children are linked to an easy-to-find, loaded handgun in the house (Society of Pediatric Nurses, 1998).
- Eighty-eight percent of the children who are injured or killed in unintentional shootings are shot in their own homes or in the homes of relatives or friends (Pediatrics 2005).
- 42% of parents with guns keep at least one unlocked; 25% keep at least one loaded, and 14% keep one unlocked AND loaded (Global Strategy Group Parent Study commissioned by CPYV, 2011).
- Over 75% of kids in homes with guns say they know where the gun is hidden (Benenson Strategy Group Study commissioned by PAX, July 2002).

THE ASK SOLUTION

- Less than 50% of parents reported being concerned about guns in other homes, but 79% would be concerned if they knew there was a gun in the home their child was visiting (GSG Parent Study).
- Only 23% of parents said they had asked in the past, but by the end of the survey, 89% said ASKing was important (GSG Parent Study).
- 97% of parents who owned a gun said that they would not be offended if another parent asked about a gun in their home (GSG Parent Study).

TIPS FOR STARTING THE CONVERSATION

- “We all know how curious kids can be...”
- “I hope you don’t mind me asking a few questions about the kids’ safety...”
- “I heard the most surprising fact from my pediatrician...”
- “Do you remember that tragic story about the kids who found a gun?....”
- “All of us on the PTA have committed to making sure our kids are safe...”
- “Remember what we found in our houses when we were kids!”