



What is Family Fire?

Family Fire is a shooting involving an improperly-stored or misused firearm found in the home. Unintentional shooting, suicides as well as intentional shootings can all be forms of family fire.

Why is Family Fire an Issue

Every year in the United States, almost 35,000 people are killed and 90,000 people are injured by gun violence. Family Fire accounts for a large portion of these tragedies.

- Every day 8 children and teens are unintentionally injured or killed due to family fire.
- 4.6 million children live in homes with guns, many loaded and unlocked.
- 73% of children aged 9 and under report knowing the location of their parents' firearms.
- Suicides account for 60% of all gun deaths.
- Access to a gun increases the risk of death by suicide by 300%.
- Since 1999 children have committed at least 145 school shootings, 80% of them with a firearm taken from the child's home or the home of a relative.

What You Can Do to Help

- Promote the term and meaning of "Family Fire." Start using the term in conversation about safe firearm practices.
- Encourage responsible gun ownership.

Solutions for Ending Family Fire

ASK: "Is there an unlocked gun where my child plays?"

[Asking Saves Kids \(ASK\)](#) encourages parents and guardians to always ask about unlocked firearms in homes where their children play.

ACT responsibly and always practice safe storage.

- Prevent firearms from falling into the wrong hands by storing them in a gun safe or securing them with a safety lock.
- Store ammunition separately.
- Transport guns in a locked storage container.
- If you are not confident about owning a gun, consider home protection alternatives such as home security systems, alarms or guard dogs.

TALK with your family, friends and community about responsible gun ownership.

- Having regular conversations about gun safety reduces the chance of family-fire incidents.

LEARN about firearm policies in your city and state.

- [Child Access Prevention \(CAP\) Laws](#) hold gun owners accountable for safe storage of firearms and impose liability for failing to take measures to prevent guns from falling into young hands.
- [Safe Storage Laws](#) require gun owners to keep their firearms out of the reach of children, thieves and prohibited persons. California law holds a person criminally liable for keeping a loaded firearm where he or she knows or reasonably should know a child is likely to gain access to it. (CA Penal Code §§ 25100 – 25200)
- [Extreme Risk Protective Orders](#) (ERPOs) provide household member, intimate partners, and law enforcement a safe and effective way of removing firearms from individuals at risk of harming themselves or others. ERPOs are civil court orders that enable guns to be removed from a home for a fixed period of time.

For more information, please visit
www.EndFamilyFire.org

