WHAT IS FAMILY FIRE?

Family fire is a shooting involving an improperly stored or misused gun found in the home that results in death or injury. Unintentional shootings, suicides, and intentional shootings are all forms of family fire.

WHY IS FAMILY FIRE AN ISSUE?

Every year in the United States, nearly 40,000 people are killed and 90,000 people are injured by gun violence. Family fire accounts for a majority of these terrible tragedies.

EVERY DAY 8 CHILDREN & TEENS are unintentionally injured or killed due to family fire

4.6 MILLION children live in homes with access to an unlocked or unsupervised gun

1 IN 5 kids have handled a gun when an adult wasn’t around.

75% of kids know where a gun is stored in their home

Access to a gun increases the risk of death by suicide by 300%

51% of all suicides are by firearm

60% of all gun deaths are by suicide

75% of school shootings are facilitated by kids having access to unsecured and/or unsupervised guns at home

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HOW CAN YOU HELP?

There are easy, everyday steps that each of us can take to prevent family fire tragedies. Our solutions are focused around four key pillars: Ask, Act, Talk, and Learn.

ASK “Is there an unlocked gun where my child plays?”

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. End Family Fire encourages parents and guardians to add one more question to this conversation: “Is there an unlocked gun in your house?” It’s a simple question, but it has the power to save a child’s life.

As life events change, there may be more circumstances where one needs to ask this question, such as:

- Teenagers taking their first babysitting job.
- Older teens and young adults moving into their first shared home with roommates.
- A family taking in and caring for an elderly family member, especially one who may suffer from dementia.

ACT responsibly and always practice safe storage in your own home.

- Always store guns locked, unloaded, and out of children’s reach.
- Always store ammunition separately from its gun - this reduces the risk of family fire by up to 61%
- Consider offsite gun storage options in your area.
- From gun locks to safes, there is a range of effective solutions best suited for both gun and home.
- Always transport the gun locked inside a cool, clean, dry carrying case or storage box. These should always have numerical combinations or fingerprint recognition locks.
- Have ongoing conversations with family and friends about responsible gun ownership and gun safety.
- If you are not confident or have doubts about gun ownership, consider other home protection alternatives, such as: home security systems, alarms and guard dogs.

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

Having regular conversations about gun safety with those close to you reduces the chance of family fire incidents. Gun owners in particular are highly encouraged to help end family fire incidents by educating friends, family, and members of their community on responsible gun ownership.

LEARN about safe storage and policy options available in your area which help reduce the risk of family fire. Local police departments are a great first resource to learn about community programs.

- **Child Access Prevention Laws** hold gun owners accountable for the safe storage of firearms, imposing liability for failing to take simple yet important measures to prevent guns from falling into young hands.

- **Safe Storage Laws** promote responsible gun-owning practices by requiring gun owners to keep their firearms out of the reach of others, such as children or prohibited persons, who could use the weapon to deadly effect.

- **Extreme Risk Laws** provide family, intimate partners, household members and law enforcement officials, and in some cases - healthcare professionals, a safe and effective way of removing access to firearms from individuals at risk of harming themselves or others. Extreme risk laws are civil court orders that enable guns to be removed from the home, and further purchases prevented, for a fixed period of time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT ENDFAMILYFIRE.ORG AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM (@ENDFAMILYFIRE).