

# 127-- Talking to Kids About Mass Shootings

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## SPEAKERS

Music, JJ Janflone, Kelly Sampson, Nancy Kislin



JJ Janflone 00:08

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Music 00:25  
Transition Music



JJ Janflone 00:38

Hey, everybody. Welcome back to Red, Blue, and Brady. And surprise, I'm one of your hosts, JJ.



Kelly Sampson 00:42  
Welcome, everyone. I'm also one of your hosts, Kelly.



JJ Janflone 00:46

We're hosts, who knew? But you know what we're not, Kelly?



Kelly Sampson 00:50

No, I don't.



JJ Janflone 00:52

We're not parents.



Kelly Sampson 00:53

Yes, can confirm that is true.



JJ Janflone 00:57

But we do have a lot of kids in our lives. And one of the questions we get asked a lot, because we work in gun violence prevention, is things like 'How should I talk to my kids about mass shootings?' or 'How should I talk to them about gun violence more broadly?' And I'll be honest, I don't really have good answers for that.



Kelly Sampson 01:11

Yeah, it's really not an easy question. So that's why we went to an expert to answer those questions for you and for us. Nancy Kislin is a licensed clinical social worker and a therapist who specializes in helping children deal with anxiety. And she's with us today specifically to answer your questions on how to navigate this difficult space.



JJ Janflone 01:30

This was a super hard conversation, but I love that we can farm out to all of these experts that we've had on the podcast. You know, we put out an ask for listener questions, and you all really showed up with some tough ones. But Nancy is such a comforting presence. I really do think this episode is going to be so helpful to people, even those without kids. I feel like I learned things. Hey, Nancy, thank you so much for joining us today. Can you go ahead and just introduce yourself and your work a little bit to our listeners who maybe haven't listened to the other two podcasts you've been on - though they should?

N

Nancy Kislin 02:06

Hi, I am Nancy Kislin, a child and adolescent psychotherapist, author of "LOCKDOWN: Talking To Your Kids About School Violence." I am extremely passionate about educating and empowering parents to have those really hard conversations with kids. Now more than ever, I believe we need to support the parents, the grandparents, because these are really challenging times.



JJ Janflone 02:37

And I think to kind of expand on this, when we're talking about these are being challenging times, you know, you mentioned your book "LOCKDOWN," which we've talked about on this podcast before. And in the book, specifically, you have this line about how American children are living in a climate of fear that is very unique to this time period. And I wonder if you could just sort of unpack that a little bit about what is leading to this climate.

N

Nancy Kislin 03:01

When I think about children coming of age today, whether they're five or 25, we are living in such challenging times, under this umbrella of so much fear. And I believe the driving force of that is the mass change in how quickly we have access to information. So my 86-year-old mother calls me the other day to say, 'Hey, there's a shooting happening in Long Island' that was still unfolding, but my mother saw it on her social media feed. Not kidding. And she then knows the work I'm doing - calls me. And what I think of is how many children, that's my first place I go to, how many children are there faster than we are? So what does that mean? They're seeing it on their social media, but what are they seeing? Because now, especially in the last year during COVID-19, lockdown, I believe it's hard to find a child who hasn't developed an even more addiction, intimate relationship with their technology. And I found, definitely if you guys are hearing this, but I have found that there's parents who have sort of surrendered, not at all of course, but there's a lot of 'Oh my goodness, my children need social content, they need social connection.' And it's just like 'OK, this is the world they're living in.' And there's this feeling of surrender. And now put that on the other side and think of how much gun violence and the increase in just the last couple of weeks, how much how much are children absorbing - not just information, but the general sense of the world's out of control, that adults are out of control, that people don't have a way, those adults that are supposed to keep us safe. Well, how can they possibly tell me this is a safe world?

K

Kelly Sampson 05:19

And could you tell us, have you been seeing more children experiencing stress and anxiety? And if so, what are some of the long-term effects of stress and anxiety on children?

N

Nancy Kislin 05:31

Wonderful question. I would say 100%, I am seeing a rise in stress and anxiety within the children and within the family system. I was just connecting with a colleague of mine, who I trust so much, and she said 'I'm taking two days off, I'm so exhausted, I just need a break. I've never worked this hard.' And I felt like 'Yes, someone else is saying that, too.' Because it's not just the amount of clients, it's the intensity. It's the uncomfortableness that so many people are sitting in. To address your question about what is the long-term, what is the long-term effects of stress and anxiety? You know, that could be a whole podcast unto itself, but I guess a quick answer would be, one, is we don't know, of course, what the long-term result of this COVID lockdown, and all this gun violence, right, because this is uncharted territory. But what my research has shown, and so many others, is that we know that when children come of age with intense anxiety and stress and trauma that goes unchecked, unprocessed, that that person is more prone to having addictions, whether it be food, alcohol, drugs, anything else. We know that trauma and that kind of prolonged anxiety erodes a child's sense of self, self confidence, resilience, all those words that we tend to throw around right now. The way I look at it is - when I do work with a child, or mostly middle school and high school kids, if I want to go in and help them find their voice - what is their voice, and if you pull away all this noise and their video games, their social media feeds, their frustration of being locked in the house, whenever they're noise - and we go to I want to hear their voice. And what I'm finding is that has never been harder for me to do, because, I think of it like a seven layer cake. And I'm the person who goes through the layers. And what I'm finding is it's so hard to get through the immediate 'I'm so scared that my dad's gonna die from COVID. There was a shooting down the street from my school, I'm scared to go to school now.' We're dealing with so much up here, how can we get to that deeper work? So that makes me very nervous. Because I use the phrase a lot - part of our jobs as adults in children's lives is helping them build a strong, flexible toolkit that, they have different tools, because life does we all know, right, life throws us these incredible curveballs, these challenges. But how do we, the adults in these kids' lives, help them build that toolkit? And it's pretty hard to build that foundation when we're constantly like reacting, whether it's reacting to shooting over here, to more people getting sick, right? It's like, if you're always in reactive mode, how do you work on that solid foundation?



JJ Janflone 09:14

So Nancy, we had so many questions for you, but we decided that we were actually going to make this as interactive as possible, even during COVID. So what Kelly and I did is - we reached out to the listeners we have here at Red, Blue, and Brady, and normally we have folks call into our tip line for you to say this is something we want to cover, this is this is something we're concerned with, but for this one, we actually said specifically 'Hey, we have this expert coming on, what are the questions you have about your kids and mass shootings? What are the questions you have about talking to your kids about these hard things?' And so we're gonna actually just read directly a lot of these questions to you. And I apologize, because a lot of these are hard. I looked at a lot of these, and I was really frightened. So the first thing that we had was sort of all of these questions about you know how young is too young. So I'm condensing a few of these here. But one of the things that happened again and again is 'Can I talk to my five year old about this? Can I talk to my 10 year old about this? And how do I do that?'



Nancy Kislin 10:10

I think this story, I love stories, and it was shortly after February 14, 2018, the shooting in Parkland, Florida, and I threw that question around, as I started to decide to write this book. I started asking everyone and everyone was like 'I became researcher about mass shootings, specifically Parkland.' And I remember this mom telling me that she specifically decided not to tell her children. I believe she had one that was 11 years old and one that was younger. And she said that her children were not on social media much and and she monitored, yay for her, she's very good. She monitored how much news was blaring in the house, and she was very confident about her decision. But then something happened. She was standing outside her kids' elementary school waiting for the kids to be dismissed, and she sees her son and he comes, he doesn't look happy. And he comes running up to her. And he's like 'Mom, did you know that 17 people were killed on a school in Florida?' Oops. So she had actually reached out to me because she had heard what I was doing. And she said 'Help.' And I thought 'That is such a perfect story.' Because that is a great example of - she was very mindful of it, right? It was on her radar. She was thinking about 'How do I keep my children feeling safe?' which is a primary job of parents. The problem is they live in this outer world. So to answer your questions, specifically, one is, I do believe five is too young, just to jump off. But I also think that sometimes we as parents get anxious about certain topics. And in our anxiety, I know I'm guilty of this, we over talk, we give too much information, too many details. And that, in my experience, both with my own daughters as well, with so many people that I interview and work with, that's what often can create anxiety in the child. I use the phrase 'flooding.' So too much information about the shooting that happened in Parkland flooded many children - that was mine. So what is a

parent to do? So let's say the shootings that have just happened in the last couple of weeks, how does that parent have that conversation? I say start with where your child's at. Don't go in there. Don't give a monologue. Don't be a news reporter. Be an investigator be curious. Lead with your curiosity, ask open-ended questions. Don't point at them. Some many parents are like 'Do you know what's happening?' Besides the pointing - because that is something that I hear for years from kids hate when parents point their finger, even if they're not yelling at them, the child feels that intensity of that parents energy. So in terms of open-ended questions would be 'There's been a lot of unrest in the country.' You know, again, age appropriate. I'm talking to middle schoolers, you know, 'I know you like to follow people on TikTok, anyone that you follow on TikTok talk about what's happening with racial injustices, with gun violence?' There, you're you're asking a mature question, but you're not flooding them. Then, let them guide you. They're so smart. They're so curious. And that way you are connecting, and what we know and from all the research I do and parenting work, is the most important thing that a parent can do is connect with that child. So if you and I are talking about something that's uncomfortable, right, it could be any of these topics. But what the child needs is to feel connected, not judge, not fearful, not flooded - connected. And then when you're in there, and it's safe, that's where you can sort of massage those conversations and also bring in your thoughts, your concerns, your guidance of you know, let's say your child walks home from middle school and they live in an inner city, that's where you drop in your guidance. 'Hey, be smart. Don't walk around staring at your phone when you're walking fown the street.' Another thing, I think all these, I call them 'sacred conversations,' is how does a parent helps shape the moral compass of a child? And these are the places, these sacred conversations, is where you have the opportunity, you have just created the open window, the open door, where you can inject your family view - what's good, what's bad. You don't like what you're seeing happening in this state? OK.' Imagine I'm screaming on a megaphone, this is where the conversation can go that can so help that child their sense of self and find their voices. Questions like 'What are you thinking you can do about it to make the world a safer place?' And maybe that's too strong a word. 'What are you thinking we as a family can do to help the community? Oh, you don't know? Well, let's brainstorm all that. Let's problem solve it.' And, again, just because you're having this conversation, parents think they have to get everything out in that second, like 'Let's get it all done.' No, no, no, leave it open-ended. 'You know, I'm really curious. I'm gonna think about this. You think about this, let's talk about this again.' omething like a one little sentence - that goes so far.



Kelly Sampson 16:30

That's wonderful and really helpful.



Nancy Kislin 16:32

Oh, thank you.



Kelly Sampson 16:34

Even, if I'm thinking about people in my life, you know, you talked a little bit about we started this question talking about mass shootings, and then you also mentioned, what if you're a child in a community where there's everyday gun violence, and how do you talk about that? And so I'm wondering, just to drill down into that a little bit more, are there any sort of particular ways to talk to a child who might be in a community that's experiencing gun violence every day, and then they also see a mass shooting on the news?



Nancy Kislin 17:03

Such an important question, and thank you so much for asking it. Because the first thing is - I have a very dear friend who I met several years ago through some of this work, and he is a reverend and his wife is a teacher at a very large high school in Newark. And I asked her different questions like this. And she says, sometimes more days than not, she thinks of her job as being that safe place in these children's lives. She told me that on Monday morning, she looks around her high school class, and she counts the kids, and she hopes that nobody has been shot or killed or family members been shot and killed. And she thinks of it as her job is to be that safe port in these children's lives. I guess the only thing I would add there is that when, and I don't know if you want to include this, but when we think about the reality of how many children in America are living with fear of gun violence, whether it's intimate, meaning that someone they know or it's happening in their environment, or they live in a nice suburb where there isn't necessarily environmental, or the same level of environmental violence, we're still traumatizing children by the way in which we are conducting lockdown drills, school security drills, right now. And again, there's lots of change coming in and working on that. But right now, what I want the message for parents to hear is that they have power. They might feel powerless, but their power is in the fact that they can have conversations with their children. 'Hey, I know we're in this hybrid, and you're barely going to school, but are they still conducting school security drills?' Again, it just comes back to parents being empowered to have these conversations.



JJ Janflone 19:19

Another question we got a lot of is, like this one that we got from Samantha, which is 'I

don't want to scare my kids, but I also don't want to leave them unprepared if they are in a mass shooting. How do I thread that needle?' And when I say a lot of people wrote this, I would say actually that and the age question were the most common questions that we got in.

N

Nancy Kislin 19:40

So Samantha, I hear your fear. I hear your concern that you want to teach your children, you want them to be ready and able to handle what life throws them. In this case, you don't want to scare them with too much information like 'Oh my god, there was another school' or 'There was a shooting at the grocery store.' On the other hand, you don't want them to be so fragile that they won't know what to do, god forbid something terrible happens. And there's actually work that I'm doing right now on schools security drills - where we talk about it with the language of option based. And basically what that means, in terms of answering your question is, how, again, I keep using these words, but how do we help teach the child to think to that they're smart, they're observing, and how do they think in any situation? If they're crossing a street, and they hear the roar of a car, and even though it's a green light, there's a car that's roaring, that they better not be staring at their phone, and that they better jump back, right? The same kind of thing holds true for being prepared for a possible shooting. And I hate even saying that we as parents, that you as parents, have to even think about preparing your children for gun violence. So I would put the emphasis on teaching the child to be resilient. You know, what do you do when - yesterday was so funny I was like, five miles from where my mom lives, and I was heading over for a visit. And I was in between a canal, and on the side of the road, I was driving, it's all sunny and beautiful. And I call my mom to see if she needs anything before I get over there. And she's like 'I can't talk to you, I'm on the front porch and I'm gathering all my chairs and my plants.' And granted my mother's 86. The picture of this was not good, right? And why? Because my mother, where she was, it was thundering and lightning, the clouds were dark, and she was preparing. So point is, is that from the youngest time as a child, my parents always prepared us. I would say my parents did too good a job about, where I became very anxious as a child, because there was always a dark cloud going to happen, something bad was going to happen. So I share that with the hope that - we don't want to flood the children with so many bad things. More is 'Hey, remember, we talked about resiliency? I trust that you are an aware kid, that you pay attention, that you listen to adults in your world, that you will be able to make a good decision if things ever got scary.

K

Kelly Sampson 22:52

That's so helpful. And so we're gonna go to another question from Marshawn And he says

'My son has autism and hates loud noises. So he wears noise cancelling headphones most of the time when we're out. His little sister, though, is now scared that he will be hurt or killed in a shooting and doesn't want him to wear them when we go to the store. And it's causing fights between the two of them.'

N

Nancy Kislin 23:15

I guess what I want to start with is, I just wanna honor how incredibly challenging that situation must be for you. And thank you so much for sharing your story with us. And I guess what I would start with is: I would challenge you to find some time that you can be alone with your daughter to create space for her to talk through her fears. 'When did they start? What are they?' Just saying 'I'm afraid he's gonna get shot?' 'OK, I hear you. Do you think that'll happen in the grocery store? You know, help me understand what you're thinking.' I often use the example of the ping pong game. Keep serving. Our job as parents is to keep serving the ball back to our children and let them talk about it, tease it out, process it, whatever words you want to use - and did your daughter see something on the news that made her think this? Did she hear a classmate? Something triggered this thought. And then, she sounds like a very brave and empathetic child, help her honor that. 'That's such a beautiful thing that you care so much about your brother.' And just sit with that. Because that is how you help her, your child, grow up and feel confident. And then engage her left side of the brain, as we talked about it 'How can we be problem solvers? Let's try and problem solve it. Because we know your brother, he really needs those headphones on, so let's problem solve it. Maybe we'll make sure that we - I'm just thinking out loud - but we buddy up, and that either that I'm the buddy with him or you be the buddy in the store. So if he's not alone, we're buddying up.' You know, there's probably a lot of other thoughts or ideas that she then has. But just giving her that space, my hope is that you're helping her by honoring and letting her voice be heard.



JJ Janflone 25:29

I think it's interesting, Nancy, that you mentioned monitoring screentime, because we did get this question from Tony. And this is something that popped up and other folks' questions as well, which is: 'I know, my kid has seen TikToks and YouTubes and things of mass shootings, you know, so they have seen people be shot in this way. How do I know how much is too much? How should I talk to them about these things?'

N

Nancy Kislin 25:51

I'm going to start with a quick story, because I so appreciate that question. Because I

think that is happening to millions of children around the country. And I so appreciate that you as the parent realize that's happening. When I was doing research for my book "LOCKDOWN," I interviewed a mental health professional in Parkland. And she told me that her middle schooler had watched a child, a teen, die in real time at the shooting in Parkland, so that by the time her middle schooler had gotten home from school that horrific day, she had already seen someone die in real time. Hearing that story, first of all propelled me to write the book, but also continues to motivate me that I need to empower parents to have this conversation. This conversation takes so many different shapes and sizes. I think parents need to have these conversations, because I hate to say this, but if you have a high schooler and probably a middle schooler, but certainly a high schooler in the USA today, you can assume that your child has seen someone die in real time. And I honestly don't know of any research yet that shows what the long-term consequences of that are. But we certainly know that it's not great for the developing brain, that it's potentially traumatizing, that it causes anxiety, like we talked about in the beginning of today. So what do you as the parent do? So let's say Nancy, researcher and author, is correct and your child, middle school or high schooler has seen that, what do you do? You use a lot of the tips I've already shared, but you make a point to have the conversation. Because we cannot, and this is so so important, we cannot normalize seeing people die in real time is OK or healthy. Like, I'm sure so many people are like me, where every time they showed George Floyd dying, I had to turn the channel after a while or look away. And I would question like 'Am I not standing up for what's right? Ahen I realized when I was quiet with myself, it's not normal. We're not wired to see other people die. And I took the lesson that I needed to take from his horrific death. I didn't need to see that image over and over, and I share my personal reaction - when I know myself well enough to know if I keep seeing that, it will make me more anxious, it will make me less hopeful. It will make me tired, it will make me less wanting to connect with other people. Because there's something just really obviously dark and sad about that. And it's showing the dark side of the human mind. And as children, there's so much good in the world. Teach gratitude, teach joy. So OK, yes, those images are there. How do you create space? And then the next conversation, which is so incredible important is 'Why are you watching this? Where did you see this? Who are you following?' And you know, if you don't already have it, and you could go to my website to see it, I do a lot of work on: 'What is the digital diet that your kids are on?' Whatever you want to call it, plan, diet, do they share with you? Because again, we cannot normalize children seeing all this violence and gun violence and death. It's certainly not healthy, and it's raising a generation so fragile. I don't know if any of the questions came in, but that's what I'm hearing is that 'My kids are so fragile.' Well, yeah, look what we're feeding them, look what they're consuming.'



JJ Janflone 30:21

Yeah, now I'm thinking like 'What what do we consume?'

**N** Nancy Kislin 30:24  
Oh, I know.

**K** Kelly Sampson 30:25  
Yeah, exactly.

**N** Nancy Kislin 30:26  
And I think the key point is, just going back to all this social media and screen time, that a message parents can use this opportunity as is: 'Be alert and present when you're out in the world. This is not a time to be staring.' When I used to go to my office, I would pass the kids from the middle school would come out, and they'd walk right past my front windows. And they used to make me crazy. As the years went on that the kids would be like, down, you know, staring at their phone, as opposed to you and I walking down the street together and talking. This is a time to have that kind of conversation, too.

**K** Kelly Sampson 31:10  
I take that to heart as an adult as well. And we have another question here from Abby. And she says 'We have open carry in my county, which means my kids do see guys walking around with guns a lot. They are very curious about it, but so far haven't asked any questions? Should I say something?'

**N** Nancy Kislin 31:27  
Oh, my God, great question. Abby, thank you so much for that question. I am sure there are so many parents who are listening that share in this struggle. How do you have that conversation with your child? And I think you start with what is your family's values around guns? Are you a home that has guns? If you do keep guns in the house, are they safely stored? If they're not, please get on that and make your guns safely store. Explain to your children, remember, your job is to make your children feel safe. Explain to them that many people have their guns safely stored, part one. Part two is: 'The other day when we were walking down Main Street, I noticed that you were looking at that man in front of us who was carrying a gun, that you saw his gun.' Remember, be curious. Ask your child what did they see? What did they notice? What are they thinking? And listen, don't go on a rant about what you think guns are and all that. That's not the time. The time is to hear

what your child's thinking. Let them lead the conversation. And always bring it back to 'Momm, Daddy, I am here to keep you safe. That is my job. If I thought it wasn't safe when we were walking down the street, I would have told us to go into a store and wait till that man walk by or we would have crossed the street or we would have done something. So I'm so glad you asked me that question. But remember, I'm also here, I am always here to keep you safe. Who are some people when Mom or Dad isn't around, were those people that are safe people for you to go to?' Pause, listen, get curious. And then you're creating that sacred space to have some really important meaningful conversations.



Kelly Sampson 33:35

And speaking of you know, media diets and things like that: Where can parents or caregivers or people who have a child in their life, what resources can you share with people who want to understand gun violence better or want to understand how to have conversations better or both?



Nancy Kislin 33:55

It's such an important point in conversation. And I welcome everyone to join my parenting anxious kids, especially during lockdown journals. It's my Facebook page where I offer lots of resources and information. But more importantly is parents bring their questions and share ideas. The other thing is you're welcome to go to my website, where go to 'Resource page.' It's 'nancyjkisling.com,' and on the resource page, I list lots of resources. I always recommend to people, I really do, go to bradyunited.org for wonderful information. It's always a good idea to check with your kids' school and the guidance department or the psychologist at the school often should have some resources. And if you can't find what you're looking for, don't hesitate to email either any of us to help but also what I know for myself is - if I don't find what I'm looking for, then I will keep working on it. And that's sort of how I got to this place where 'Hey, there's a problem with the way schools are doing lockdown drills and scaring children, nobody's talking about this. OK,, I need to talk more about this.' And so I think this is a time for parents to really get involved, whatever your cause is, whatever you're concerned about. And talk about that with your kids. Don't do it in a vacuum, find other parents, the status quo does not have to be the way it is. We have the ability to create change. And when we come from that positive place, we are being our children's role model, and that makes them feel safe and hopeful and grateful. So there, you're helping your kids in so many ways, and you're helping your community.



JJ Janflone 36:00

Well, Nancy, I want to say 'Thank you so much' on behalf of Kelly and I, and all of the parents whose questions you answered today, for coming on and chatting with us. And there'll be links in the description of this episode to how to get in contact with you or get in contact with Brady. Because I'm sure you're going to get a lot of tweets with more questions after this.



Nancy Kislin 36:18

Thank you so much. I hope this was helpful.



JJ Janflone 36:34

So, Kelly, I have more horrifying NRA news.



Kelly Sampson 36:37

Great.



JJ Janflone 36:38

Yeah, this one features the killing of an elephant.



Kelly Sampson 36:41

I mean, what happened? Because that's just sickening.



JJ Janflone 36:43

Yeah, right. Because elephants have episodic memory, Kelly. They remember everyone. They mourn their dead. Anyway. This isn't the elephant podcast. But this this story is something. So it's 2013 in the story, when LaPierre, the head of the National Rifle Association, and his wife Susan, they go to Botswana's Okavango Delta to film a television episode for the show "Under Wild Skies." And this is where they're meant to hunt African bush elephants for this TV show. But the episode never airs.



Kelly Sampson 37:12

Hmm, fly across the world to film a television show. Wayne LaPierre is so down with the

common man. I mean, really, like whoo among us has not? But anyway, why didn't it air?



JJ Janflone 37:23

Yeah, so it didn't air really because of Wayne's So guides found an elephant for LaPierre, his first shot wounds the elephant, but it didn't kill it. So guides brought him close to the animal, who's laying on its side. LaPierre, and we know all of this by the way by a video found by The Trace in the New Yorker who published this story, and I don't recommend that you watch it, but LaPierre then fires three times from point blank range and still hit the animal in the wrong place.



Kelly Sampson 37:49

So, first of all, that's horrific. Second of all, I just want to point out, we've heard a lot of gun owners push back on this idea that an AR-15 is a sporting rifle, pointing out that if you need an AR-15 to hunt, you're a really poor shot. And hearing how LaPierre was a very poor shot, I think I kind of understand a little bit more why he may be so amped on AR-15s as sporting rifles.



JJ Janflone 38:16

Right? I mean, in the video the guide is literally moving LaPierre's gun for him, and still he can't do it. It's just torturing the animal. And the host of the show ends up having to put the elephant out of its misery and do the final shot.



Kelly Sampson 38:29

Yeah, I mean that, again, that's just awful on so many levels because it's showing kind of the hypocrisy. It's also just awful for the elephant, especially because I didn't know they had episodic memory. So I'm really sad now.



JJ Janflone 38:40

Yeah, they have graveyards, Kelly. They remember themselves. Anyway, I also want to add on top of this horribleness that these hunts can cost tens of thousands dollars per person.



Kelly Sampson 38:51

Again, Wayne LaPierre fighting against the coastal elite, one expensive hunting television trip at a time.



JJ Janflone 39:01

There's just so much we could talk about, but the final two things I want to point out is that this was in 2013. African bush elephants weren't declared endangered until 2020. But that doesn't make it any less horrible. Also LaPierre and his wife made sure they got their trophies, even though the footage from the show never aired, and they did that to avoid bad publicity. The New Yorker article shared that parts of the elephant were shipped to the U.S. in a hidden manner, intentionally, with an employee of LaPierre's, having made someone travel two hours to remove the LaPierre's name from the crate. But now, Wayne and his wife Susan have stools made from elephant feet in their home. So there's that.



Kelly Sampson 39:38

One That is a nightmare. That's all I can say. This week, the Nevada Assembly passed AB 286, and it will now move on to the Nevada Senate. The bill AB 286 would ban and prevent the further proliferation of ghost guns - firearms constructed from unfinished and unserialized frames and receivers that are often sold in kits and can be assembled into fully functioning firearms. These untraceable guns have become weapons of choice for gun traffickers and individuals seeking to skirt existing gun safety laws at the state and federal level. For more on ghost guns, I really recommend you check out our recent podcasts on them. And the great video made by our Team ENOUGH member, Stephen Abrams, that really lays out how easy it is to gain access to these firearms. We'll link to that in the description of this episode.



JJ Janflone 40:33

And continuing on in sort of things happening in the news that I'm taking as a positive. On Wednesday evening, President Biden came out and called on Congress to pass common-sense gun violence prevention laws during his first address to a joint session of Congress. This actually marked him as the first president since Bill Clinton to highlight gun violence prevention in his first address, which is a bit shocking, I think, because, based on what President Biden himself reiterated, which is the scope of our nation's gun violence crisis. In his address, he mentioned his recent executive action to prevent the proliferation of ghost guns and called out Congress to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. Also to expand and strengthen brief background checks and pass a ban on assault weapons and high capacity magazines. Obviously, we here at Red, Blue, and Brady, and Brady more

broadly, join him and calling for these policies. And we are incredibly supportive of him and any and all elected officials who are fighting so hard to prevent gun violence through policy.



Music 41:29  
Transition Music



JJ Janflone 41:30

Hey, what to share with the podcast? Gt in touch with us here at Red, Blue, and Brady via phone or text message. Simply call or text us at 480-744-3452 with your thoughts, questions, concerns, ideas - whatever. Kelly and I are standing by.



Music 41:41  
Transition Music



Kelly Sampson 41:44

Thanks for listening. As always, Brady's lifesaving work in Congress, the courts, and communities across the country is made possible thanks to you. For more information on Brady or how to get involved in the fight against gun violence, please like and subscribe to the podcast. Get in touch with us at [bradyunited.org](https://bradyunited.org) or on social at [@brady buzz](https://twitter.com/bradybuzz). Be brave, and remember, take action - not sides.



Music 42:20  
Transition Music