

Do Not Stand Idly By

Take Action • Change the Gun Industry • Save Lives

www.donotstandidlyby.org

A Campaign of



A Campaign to Reduce Gun Violence in America **Based on Three Numbers**

30,000

That's roughly the number of Americans who, if trends continue, will be shot to death this year. Roughly one-third of these deaths will likely be homicides, and two-thirds suicides. This is a greater loss of life, per year, than in any war since World War II. Many of these deaths could be prevented.

19:16

That's the passage in the Book of Leviticus – *Do not stand idly by while your neighbor's blood is shed* – that calls us to act. We believe all of us with the power to act have the obligation to do so. And we know that the people with the most power to make a difference are the executives and investors who run the world's major gun manufacturers.

40%

That's the percentage of guns in America that are purchased by government. Roughly 25% of the guns sold each year are purchased by the military, and roughly 15% by police and law enforcement agencies – giving taxpayers and the public sector significant power in the firearms marketplace.

Metro Industrial Areas Foundation, a network of multi-faith citizens' organizations with a long track record of public victories (www.metro-iaf.org), launched this campaign to use the purchasing power of local, state and federal government agencies to leverage change in the firearms industry. We believe the public agencies that purchase firearms with taxpayer dollars should insist that the makers of those guns become industry leaders in practices that will save lives: bringing state-of-the-art gun safety technologies to market, maintaining a first-rate distribution network that excludes the dealers that sell a disproportionately large number of guns used in crimes, assisting law enforcement in fighting gun trafficking, and operating repurchase programs to limit the flow of guns to the "private" market.

Metro IAF and our allies are assembling a GUN BUYERS' RESEARCH GROUP made up of public officials committed to identifying gun industry leaders in these areas. Officials from 26 municipal and county governments in six states – ranging from Newtown, CT to Cook County, IL – have signed on to a Request for Information from major gun manufacturers on their capabilities and practices. We believe gun manufacturers will compete for this emerging market for safer guns and responsible sales.

Timetable for Action: Build Demand & Find Suppliers of Gun Safety

Spring 2014

- EXPAND THE GUN BUYERS' RESEARCH GROUP: Recruit dozens more mayors, police chiefs, sheriffs and governors who are willing to help lead this national effort. Ask these officials to sign on to the REQUEST FOR INFORMATION from manufacturers.
- Seek direct discussions, building on Metro IAF's March 2014 trip to Europe, with major gun manufacturers that make their living off U.S. taxpayers – Glock, SIG Sauer, Beretta and others – as well as with investors and potential investors in the gun industry.
- Continue to research the distribution practices of the major gun manufacturers that sell to the public sector.
- Continue to research promising gun safety technologies and to build relationships with the companies that develop and manufacture them.

Summer and Fall 2014

- Work with the GUN BUYERS' RESEARCH GROUP to evaluate manufacturers' initial responses to the RFI from public officials. Share these findings with public agencies across the U.S.
- Hold a variety of events to highlight gun safety technologies – those currently on the market as well as those in development.
- Continue to seek discussions and relationships with manufacturers and investors interested in meeting the emerging demand for safety.

2015

- Using the findings of the market survey, work with public officials across the country to update the specifications and policies used in public firearms procurement.

Throughout this Process...

- Seek a wide variety of allies who share the goals of this campaign: safer guns, and fewer guns accessible to those most likely to harm themselves or others.
- Explore a variety of opportunities to achieve these goals – and especially to reduce the day-to-day gun violence that plagues our inner cities.