



Each year in the United States, nearly 260 children aged 17 and under gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else. Nearly 600 more die by suicide with a gun each year. We have the power to prevent tragedies like these from happening. Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America has developed the SMART framework to help parents and adults prevent child gun deaths and injuries.

## DID YOU KNOW

**4.6 million** American children live in homes with guns that are both loaded and unlocked.

**Nearly 260** children 17 and under gain access to a firearm and unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else—sometimes fatally.

Every year, **nearly 600** children 17 and under die by suicide with a gun.

## SAFETY IS ALWAYS AN ADULT RESPONSIBILITY

Kids will be kids. They won't always make smart decisions about their own safety. Always assume that curious or impulsive kids may find and touch an unsecured gun, even if they've been told not to. If a child handles a gun, a bad decision can quickly become a fatal one. SMART adults protect kids by storing guns locked, unloaded and separately from ammunition, and by making sure children are never in the presence of unsecured guns.

## OUR STORY

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America launched the Be SMART campaign to take action to promote responsible gun ownership and reduce child gun deaths. The campaign focuses on education and awareness about child gun deaths and responsible gun storage. Moms Demand Action volunteers encourage parents and caretakers to "Be SMART" and take these five simple steps to help prevent shootings by children: **Secure** all guns in your home and vehicles; **Model** responsible behavior around guns; **Ask** about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes;

**Recognize** the role of guns in suicide; **Tell** your peers to be SMART. Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America is a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and protect people from gun violence. Moms Demand Action campaigns for new and stronger solutions to lax gun laws and loopholes that jeopardize the safety of our children and families. Since its inception after the tragedy at Sandy Hook School, Moms Demand Action has established a chapter in every state of the country and, along with Mayors Against Illegal Guns and the Everytown Survivor Network, it is part of Everytown for Gun Safety, the largest gun violence prevention organization in the country with nearly 5 million supporters and more than 250,000 donors.

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## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

It's simple. Spread the Be SMART message. Talk to your friends and family about the importance of responsible gun storage, and get the word out in your community. Volunteers all over the country are available to deliver a 20-minute presentation entitled "Be SMART: A conversation about kids, guns and safety" to local groups and organizations.

Visit [BeSMARTforKids.org](http://BeSMARTforKids.org) to learn more and get involved. When it comes to kids' safety, we're all in this together!

For more information or to get involved visit [www.momsdemandaction.org](http://www.momsdemandaction.org)

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