



No Guns For Abusers Act Of 2019

- Sets forth procedures to withdraw guns from domestic violence offenders:
 - Authorizes Department of Justice (DOJ) to make grants to the state and federal governments
- Additionally, the bill sets forth the following requirements:
 - The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) must report to Congress and contract with nongovernmental entities for implementation and studying the effectiveness of such procedures.
 - DOJ must submit federal legislative recommendations in accordance with the best practices.
- “Best Practices”:
 - A list of 18 criteria that detail the specifics, circumstances, and criteria for a relinquishment order
 - Relinquishment is defined as “the removal of a firearm or ammunition from a person’s possession or control”

MAP’s Perspective on H.R. 1287

MAP supports this bill. H.R. 1287 helps decrease the gun violence epidemic by taking firearms out of the hands of people who have shown a tendency to commit acts of violence, specifically those who have been charged or convicted of domestic violence misdemeanors.

Domestic violence is a devastating issue in the United States, and because MAP is a youth-driven organization, this issue strikes close to home. MAP speaks for our generation in adamant support of H.R. 1287 as it protects families from the destructive impacts of domestic violence, one of which are severe mental health issues.

Due to inadequate funding for mental health support services and the ever-increasing demand on our students, American youth are facing a mental health crisis. Implementing this policy will address the domestic violence facet of the crisis, enabling them to maintain their focus on educational growth without violent interference.

Youth Perspective on Gun Violence

We believe that gun violence is a life issue: one that affects our most fundamental right to life. Everyone deserves the liberty to live without threats of violence imposed on them by members of their own family.

Gun violence and family violence are detrimental to youth’s mental health. Situations that are perceived as unpredictable and uncontrollable are much more likely to bring on high levels of helplessness, anxiety, and fear. Due to this, youth are often left with overwhelming feelings of stress and fear from witnessing shootings either at school or at home.

What our generation believes is plain and simple: enough is enough. It’s time to end gun violence.

Catholic Perspective on this Issue

Gun Violence fails to respect the inherent dignity and value of every human life. The terrible atrocities that have resulted from mass shootings have stolen many innocent lives in an instant. Violence that inflicts an incredible amount of suffering, grief, and death is simply not tolerable in any society.

As such, the USCCB consistently and vehemently urges policy changes in the wake of gun violence tragedies that have become far too frequent in our nation. Specifically, the USCCB supports measures that control the sale and use of firearms, along with universal background checks for gun purchases.