



FACT SHEET RADIO PRODUCTION GUIDE OUTREACH GUIDE

GUN VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

GUN CONTROL

EFFECTS OF GUN VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Encountering gun violence can traumatize children and youth not just physically, but emotionally as well. It's important to understand the visible and not-so-visible risks of gun violence. Children and youth exposed to gun violence commonly experience:

- Difficulty concentrating in the classroom, which can lead to lower marks and lower educational and career aspirations.
- Emotional detachment from friends and family.
- Difficulty seeking support.
- Difficulty expressing emotions.
- Anxiety and stress about their surroundings.
- Decreased interest in activities they used to enjoy.
- Future of Children.

GUN LAWS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Currently, the Firearms Control Act says:

- Gun ownership is NOT a right, but a privilege governed by law.
- A person must meet certain requirements and complete a license and registration process to be considered 'fit and proper' to legally own a firearm.
- A person must be over the age of 21, not dependent on drugs or alcohol and not convicted of any crimes to apply for a competency certificate.
- Only with a competency certificate can a person apply for a firearm licence.
- Guns must be registered to the licensed owner.
- Renewals of registered guns are required to ensure that existing gun owners are responsible for their guns and to make sure the firearm has not been stolen, lost or illegally traded.
- The Minister of Police has the power to declare a space a Firearm Free Zone (FFZ), in which no person is allowed to carry or store a firearm.

Provisions in the Domestic Violence Act (DVA) and the Firearms Control Act (FCA) say:

The South African Police Service (SAPS) and the courts have the power to remove dangerous weapons from homes and from the hands of abusive gun owners.

Any person who lives in fear of a gun or other dangerous weapons in their home can ask the magistrate's court or the police to remove the gun or weapon immediately, even if they do not have a protection order against the owner of the gun ([more information here](#)).

SOURCE [Gun Free South Africa](#)

LICENSE THE PERSON, REGISTER THE GUN

The Firearms Control Act created the license and registration system to link gun owners to their guns. The information linking owners to their firearms is important because it:

- Holds gun owners responsible for their firearms.
- Decreases the criminal use of guns.
- Decreases the illegal trade in guns.
- Enhances police work.
- Lessens danger to police.

WHAT ARE GUN FREE ZONES?

A Gun Free Zone is a space in which no guns are welcome or allowed. It limits who can carry a gun where. A Gun Free Zone:

- Creates spaces where people feel safe from violence.
- Helps to shift people's attitudes.
- Challenges the idea that guns offer security.
- Helps to reduce demand for guns.
- Want to learn how to declare a space in your community a Gun Free Zone? Learn more [here!](#)

SOURCE SaferSpaces

“There has been significant growth of corruption since 2010, resulting in people who are not ‘fit and proper’ being given gun licences and guns.”

- Gun Free South Africa

DEFINITIONS

Domestic violence: violent, aggressive, intimidating, threatening behavior within the home, typically involving a partner taking power and control away from the other partner

Firearm: a rifle, shotgun, pistol or revolver

Femicide: the killing of women and girls, often by partners or ex-partners involving abuse in the home.

Legal gun: a gun that is registered in the name of the gun owner and possessed by that gun owner

Illegal gun: any gun that is NOT registered or in the possession of its licensed gun owner
Remember: a legal gun can become an illegal gun if it is stolen, traded or sold and no longer in possession of the licensed gun owner

DID YOU KNOW?

**FIREARMS ARE USED IN 14% OF SUICIDES IN SOUTH AFRICA
LEGALLY REGISTERED GUNS ARE FREQUENTLY STOLEN, LOST OR ILLEGALLY TRADED AND USED FOR CRIME.**

A GUN IN THE HOME INCREASES THE RISK FOR WOMEN BEING SHOT AND KILLED

GUNS ARE THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF NON-NATURAL DEATH IN YOUNG PEOPLE 15 YEARS AND OLDER

THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE WHO OWN GUNS ARE MEN



Femicide

WOMEN ARE MOST LIKELY TO BE KILLED BY AN INTIMATE PARTNER

**1999: 4 WOMEN PER DAY
2009: 3 WOMEN PER DAY**

(2009 data)

DID YOU KNOW?

MEN AND WOMEN

MEN SHOT AND KILLED:

5,711 89%

WOMEN SHOT AND KILLED:

717 11%

RESOURCES

- > [I Wanna Grow Up - Don't Shoot Music Video](#) Helps to shift people's attitudes
- > [Put the Guns Down Music Video](#)

MYTHBUSTERS

MYTH	FACT
Women and children are more likely to be shot and killed by guns than men.	The majority of victims shot and killed are men.
Keeping a gun in the home for self-defense protects me, my family and possessions.	The presence of guns puts everyone at risk of injury and death. The presence of guns actually increases the risk of individuals and families being targeted for theft, assault and murder, as well as suicide, femicide (when women are murdered by their intimate partners) and accidental injury or death.
Women are at risk of being shot by strangers or home invaders.	Women are more likely to be shot and killed in the home by an intimate partner including husbands, boyfriends and romantic partners, than by a stranger.
We need to control crime, not guns.	Guns are a primary tool of violent crime in South Africa. Strong gun laws reduce gun violence.

RADIO PRODUCTION GUIDE

GUN VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA



PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

WAYS TO TALK ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Youth experiences of gun violence in their community
- Risks and consequences of guns in the home
- Effects of guns in schools
- Guns and intimate partner violence
- Men, boys, masculine stereotypes and gun violence
- Reducing gun violence through strong gun laws

CHOOSE AN ANGLE

Youth experiences of gun violence in the community

Different ways to talk about: Youth experiences of gun violence in their community

- Why do people have guns in your community?
- How are men and women affected differently by gun violence?
- How are girls and boys affected differently by gun violence?
- What is it like to grow up in a community with guns?
- How do guns affect relationships between community members?
- Who gets shot? How old are they?
- Who is doing the shooting? How old are they?
- Where do shootings happen in your community?
- What types of guns are being used?
- Are there any campaigns or programmes in your community to help reduce gun violence?

FORMATS



VOX POP



Aim

To get many opinions on one topic.



Who do you talk to

Youth who have encountered a gun.



Question

What is it like to grow up in a community with guns?



AUDIO COMMENTARY



Aim

To get people's opinion about a topic that they care deeply about.



Who do you talk to

Talk to a young person under the age of 18 who has encountered guns at home or at school.

FORMATS



AUDIO PROFILE



Aim

To get a first person account of someone's experience, passion and journey. Audio profiles often aim to inspire.



Who do you talk to?

Talk to a young person under the age of 18 who has encountered guns at home or at school.



Questions

- Who brings the gun(s) into the home or school?
- What is it like to know that someone has a gun in your home or at school?
- How do guns affect the relationships between people who have guns and people who do not have guns?
- How is the gun stored?
- Is the gun visible or out of sight?
- Describe what it might feel like to live in a home and go to a school where no one had a gun.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (PSA)



Aim

To create a public awareness message



Voice 1: Hey Lucy, I've noticed you seem pretty tense lately and you aren't coming out with us for our girls' nights out anymore... Is everything ok?

Voice 2: Eish, my boyfriend gets in a scary mood when I stay out. I still haven't gotten used to him having a gun in the house. I'm afraid of coming home to that and one of his moods.

Character: More than half of women shot and killed, were murdered by a partner, not a stranger. The threat of a gun is a threat on your life. If any person fears that a gun will be used against them or their loved ones they can ask the court or the police to remove it immediately.

Slogan

Raise your voice. Public participation is your right!

REMEMBER

Find different ways to talk about the topic and structure your show outline.



HOW TO PRESENT YOUR SHOW

Use your produced radio formats, your research and the suggested script and questions to write your own script.

Suggestions questions for interviews with other young people (Please note these could also be pre-recorded).

- Why do you think people want guns?
- What are the risks of having a gun?
- What do you think the responsibilities of gun owners should be?
- Does gun violence affect youth in your community?
- How does gun violence affect youth in your community?
- If you imagine a world without guns, what would it look like?

[INTRO:]

Host 1: It's just gone [TIME] and you're just in time for the [NAME OF SHOW] on [RADIO STATION]. My name is [NAME].

Host 2: And my name is [NAME], and today's show is all about gun violence in South Africa and how it affects young people in particular.

Host 1: We'll be talking about why it's so important to recognize young people's experiences of gun violence in their communities. As children and young people growing up in communities with overwhelming rates of gun violence, it's high time we reflect and speak out about how gun violence affects our lives, our relationships and the way we interact with our surroundings. Whether we're going to class, playing outside, enjoying a party, hanging out with friends or just living at home, when guns are present everyone is at risk. It's critical that we have the information on gun laws and gun violence, that we are able to get support when we need it and participate in dialogues that influence the law.

Host 2: We'll be focusing on young people talking about their encounters with guns in their neighborhoods, schools and homes.

Host 1: Let's hear more about how young people experience gun violence in their community.

[PRESENT WHO IS BEING INTERVIEWED]
[PLAY THE INTERVIEW]

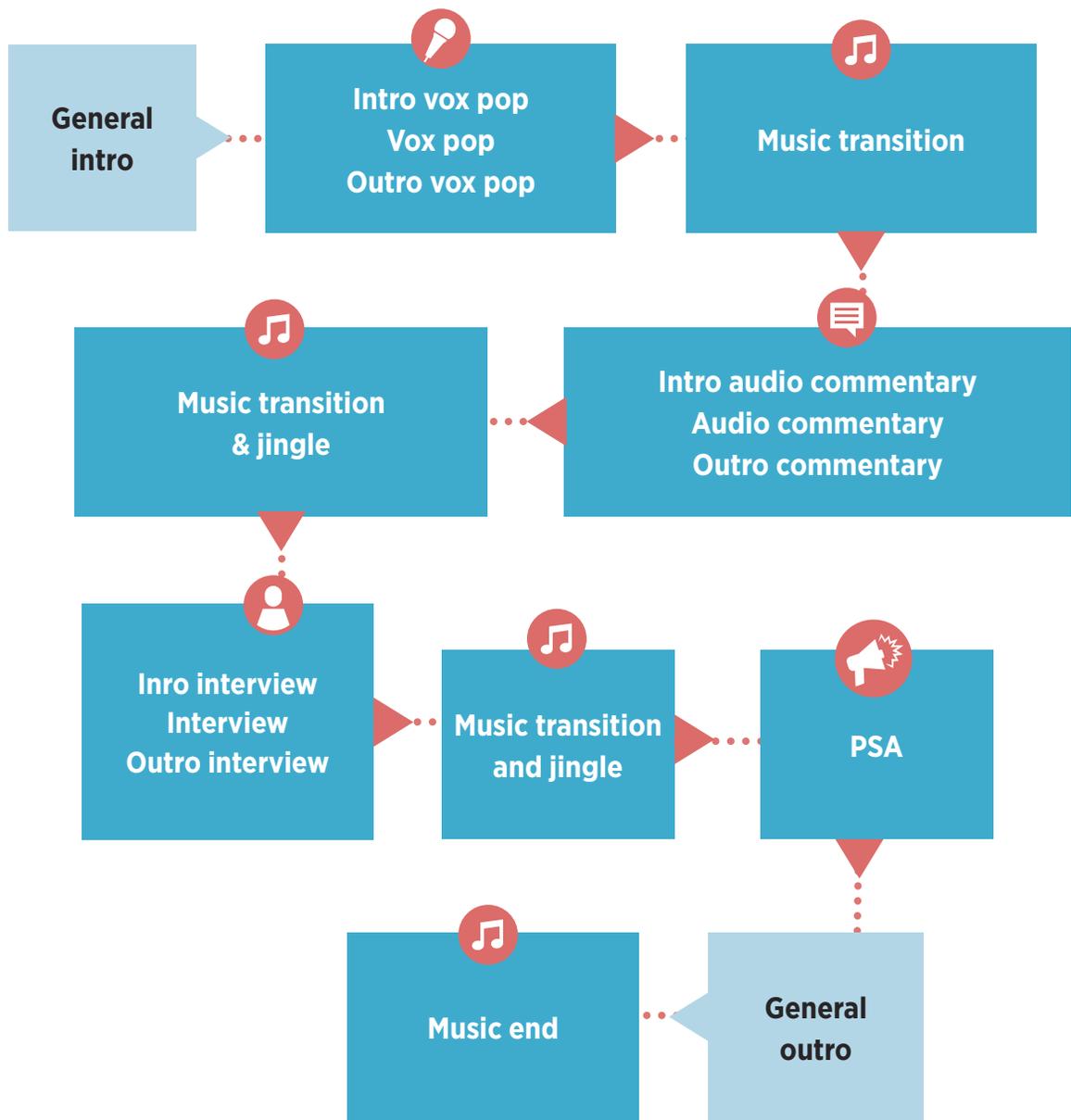
[OUTRO:]

Host 1: Today, we've learnt so much about the experiences of young people encountering gun violence in their communities.

Host 2: Yes, it's so important to understand how gun violence affects the younger generation and shapes the way we experience and grow in our communities. It's exciting to imagine what South Africa would look like without the risks and fear of gun violence.

Host 1: Next week on [DAY] at [TIME] we'll be talking all about [NEXT WEEK'S SHOW TOPIC]. Until then, it's bye from us!

SHOW OUTLINE



ETHICS AND CONSENT

This may be a sensitive topic for some, so make sure you inform your audience to respect those who share personal stories in the space.

When you create your outreach outline, be aware of the flow and the energy that certain activities generate. You don't want to start with a bang and end on a whisper.