

Gun Free South Africa

Reducing gun violence
Making South Africa safer



Newsletter, September 2023

www.gfsa.org.za

More women murdered

**Women's Month a stark reminder of how far we have to go
before South Africa is truly safe for women**

While the latest quarterly crime statistics (April to June 2023) show that 196 fewer people were murdered compared to 2022, forty more women were killed.

In total 895 women were murdered in these 3 months – an average of 10 women every day.

Guns remain the weapon of choice to murder in SA – 46% of analysed murders in April to June were shooting-related.

Research consistently shows that easy access to guns increases the risk that a woman will be murdered by an intimate partner.

*Angry women change the world self-defence class
at the Bokomo factory in Atlantis*



Women are taught from a young age to fear “stranger danger”. Yet women and girls are most at risk from men they know.

"Femicide is predictable because it usually follows prior incidents of abuse."

Jody van der Hyde

Warning signs that a woman is at risk of being murdered



Studies show that a woman is at high risk of being killed by an intimate male partner when the partner has:

- Direct access to a gun
- Tried to strangle her
- Raped her
- Threatened to harm her
- Threatened her with a weapon
- Shown controlling behaviours

Source: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1524838018781101>

Any woman who lives in fear of a gun being used against her or her loved ones can ask the magistrates court or the police to remove the gun immediately. Find out how [HERE](#)

In other news

We continue working with communities to create safe spaces through our Gun Free Zone project.

Find out how to make your space a Gun Free Zone [HERE](#)



**GUN FREE
ZONES ARE
NOW VISIBLE
ON GOOGLE
MAPS**



Working on Fire in Mamre declared a Gun Free Zone



Our two project officers, Marlene and Monique, were chosen to participate in a year-long DG Murray Trust Innovation Fellowship



In partnership with the African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum, we published a research report exploring the feasibility of outsourcing SA's Central Firearms Registry.

The State of the Central Firearms Registry in South Africa Challenges and Opportunities



A functional Central Firearms Registry is key to dealing with illegal guns in SA and ensuring that Prinsloo Guns never happens again.

Download The State of the Central Firearms Registry in South Africa report [HERE](#)

Our submission to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights was included in its report on the *Impact of the civilian acquisition, possession and use of firearms*. The report includes a series of recommendations to mitigate the negative human rights impacts of the civilian firearms industry.



We attended a 3-day Policing Indaba hosted by the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union. With the aim of finding solutions to SA's crime situation, the importance of effective gun control was a key feature of discussions.