

STANDING OUR HOLY GROUND

A YEAR-LONG LOOK AT **GUN VIOLENCE** & WHAT THE FAITH COMMUNITY CAN DO ABOUT IT

Study Guide

Law Enforcement Stands Up to Gun Violence

Timestamps

Opening Remarks

[3:13](#) - Common Understandings

Introductions of Guest Facilitator & Panelists

[6:23](#) – Joe Vince, President of Crime Gun Solutions, & Criminal Justice Program Professor at Mount St. Mary's University

[7:53](#) – Kim Dine, Former Chief of Police, Frederick, Maryland Police Department (FPD) & United States Capitol Police (USCP)

[9:11](#) – Frank Fernandez, Former Police Chief and Assistant City Manager in Coral Gables, FL & Hollywood, FL, & Vice-Chairman, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Firearms Committee

Panelist Presentations

[13:56](#) – Emerging successes and best practices by law enforcement that are showing promise in addressing gun violence and violent crime

[28:38](#) – Stolen firearms from citizens and gun stores circumvent law enforcement efforts to trace and use data. The current state of stolen firearms and efforts to address them.

[35:38](#) – Proper procedures civilians should follow if they have an encounter with police and are in legal possession of a firearm.

[41:00](#) – What the faith-based community can do to address gun violence.

Q&A

[47:07](#) – Does law enforcement have a lobbying arm that advocates on behalf of officers on issues of gun violence and how effective is it?

[52:49](#) – What is it like to be a law enforcement officer in a country with 350 million guns?

Helpful References

[International Association of Chiefs of Police – Firearms Committee](#)

[Presbyterian Peacemaking Program](#)

[Presbyterian Peace Fellowship](#)

[Standing Our Holy Ground Webinar Series](#)



General Questions

1. How did this webinar engage your **mind**? What thoughts came to mind as you heard from the panelists?
2. How did this webinar engage your **heart**? What emotions and feelings did you experience while hearing from the panelists?
3. How did this webinar speak to your **soul**? What spiritual wonderings emerged while listening to the panelists?

Guided Questions

1. How did this webinar change your perspective on the challenges faced by law enforcement with regard to gun violence? How did it change your perspective on the solutions proposed by law enforcement?
2. Chiefs Dine and Fernandez emphasize the importance of relationships and partnerships between faith-based communities and local law enforcement. Churches can provide the space to have conversations and education about gun safety. Law enforcement will come to them to be a part of that conversation. What is your congregation's relationship with local law enforcement? Would your congregation be comfortable hosting a discussion or training about gun safety? Why or why not?
3. Chief Fernandez mentioned that children without fathers in the home, particularly boys, have a significantly higher chance of ending up in jail or being involved in gun homicides. This is not the only time this topic has come up in the webinar series. How can faith-based communities provide access to good male role models and conflict resolution training to children during their formative years? Is your congregation already engaged in this kind of work? If so, does it view such work as a gun violence prevention strategy?
4. The panelists mention the need for proper training for anyone who purchases a firearm and proper security of weapons by both citizens and gun stores. Do you agree that everyone who purchases a firearm should be required to receive training about the proper use and security of that weapon? Why or why not?
5. What do you think about Chief Dine's use of the term "*gun access*" instead of "*gun control*"? Does it change the way you perceive the issue of gun violence and its potential solutions? Why or why not?
6. Chief Fernandez outlined the proper steps civilians can take if they have an encounter with a police officer and they have a concealed weapon on them or in their vehicle. Were you previously aware of these steps? Do you think most people know these steps?
7. A theme throughout this webinar is the need to change the culture of the United States from one of fascination with weapons. What kinds of conversations need to happen to change the culture? Are those conversations happening in your congregation? Why or why not?

