

STANDING OUR HOLY GROUND

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

Study Guide

The Impact of Gun Violence on LGBTQ+ Communities

Timestamps

Opening Remarks

[1:18](#) - Common Understandings

[4:10](#) – Key Language and Terminology

Panelist Presentations

[10:33](#) – Victoria M. Rodríguez-Roldán, Trans/Gender Non-Conforming Justice Project Director, [National LGBTQ Task Force](#)

[21:12](#) – Annanda Barclay, Interim Chaplain, Graduate School of Theology at the University of Redlands

[33:46](#) – Dee Dee Chamblee, Executive Director, [La Gender Inc.](#)

[42:46](#) – Michael Adee, Global Faith & Justice Project, Graduate School of Theology/[San Francisco Theological Seminary](#), University of Redlands

Q&A

[50:59](#) – What is the role of the media in violence perpetuated towards LGBTQ+ communities?

[53:31](#) – Is the PULSE nightclub shooting or another event seen as a rallying point for advocacy to end violence against LGBTQ+ communities?

Helpful References

[National LGBTQ Task Force](#)

[National LGBTQ Task Force Policy Recommendations on Gun Violence](#)

[Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Gun Violence Prevention – Congregational Toolkit](#)

[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. This webinar addresses two issues that can be points of contention for Christian congregations. The first is acceptance of LGBTQ+ persons and those with gender non-conforming identities and the second is anything to do with guns. What did you learn from the panelists about gun violence against LGBTQ+ communities that you did not know before? What can our congregations do today to change the Church's historic complicity in the violence perpetrated against these communities?
2. Victoria Rodríguez-Roldán discussed the need for intersectional solutions to gun violence. For example, the National LGBTQ Task Force cautions against an overreliance on criminal background checks because the inclusion of non-violent offenses in background checks risks accentuating and enhancing the racial biases that already exist in the criminal legal system. It also disproportionately impacts people of color. Background checks should focus on proven predictors of violence, such as criminal records pertaining to violent offenses, including domestic violence. What are other ways intersectionality exists between gun violence and issues of race, disability or LGBTQ+ identities?
3. Annanda Barclay states the need for marginalized communities to be "*their own metric*" or self-determinant of whether their quality of life and dignity has increased. Therefore, we must listen to these communities to understand their experiences and the best means to address gun violence that targets them. Does your congregation listen to marginalized communities, such as LGBTQ+ communities, about the challenges they face? What are the measures of success for proposed solutions? Who determines those measures?
4. Michael Adey notes that the language we use can perpetuate stigmatization and violence against LGBTQ communities. For example, "it's the way she dressed" is used to imply that a woman was "asking" for the violence or harassment she receives. How can we be more aware of the language we use in church? Further, how can we become more aware of the language used in our media around gun violence and LGBTQ+ communities?

