



## Gun Violence and Suburban Voters

### Is gun violence in Illinois a serious problem?

- In 2005, 1,019 people died from firearm-related injuries in Illinois, about three people every day.<sup>1</sup>
- 130 children aged 0-19 in Illinois were killed by guns in 2005, 13% more deaths than 2004. From 1999 to 2005, 1,039 children have been killed by guns in Illinois.<sup>2</sup>
- Guns were used in 2,617 suicides in Illinois from 2000-2005.<sup>3</sup>
- Having a gun in the home makes a woman seven times more likely to be killed by a spouse, partner, or relative than a woman in a home with no guns.<sup>4</sup>
- In 2005, 33% of gun deaths in Illinois were firearm-related homicides in Chicago, while 20% of gun deaths in Illinois were homicides and suicides with firearms in suburban Cook County and Kane and Peoria counties.<sup>5</sup>
- In 2005, 71% of homicides in Kane, Cook, and Peoria counties were committed with firearms.<sup>5</sup>
- The recent shootings in Tinley Park and at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb show that no community is immune from gun violence.

### What do suburban voters think about gun violence?

- 92% of suburban voters strongly support mandated licensing for handgun dealers.<sup>6</sup>
- Over 70% of suburban voters strongly support expanding background checks to private sales and transfers of firearms.<sup>7</sup>
- Approximately two thirds of these suburban voters strongly support an assault weapons ban.<sup>8</sup>

### What is the Illinois Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence?

The Illinois Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (ICPGV), a project of Legal Community Against Violence (LCAV), is a research-based public education campaign formed in 2007 to promote meaningful gun policy reform in Illinois. Working with a statewide advisory group representing law enforcement, the medical and public health communities, faith-based organizations, victims, local and state policymakers and advocacy groups, ICPGV informs the public, policymakers and the media on the facts about gun violence and prevention policies. ICPGV volunteers make thousands of phone calls, generate letters to state legislators, and attend in-district meetings to urge policymakers to support commonsense gun violence prevention policies.

### How can I get involved with ICPGV?

- Call **773-209-1002** or email **info@icpgv.org**.
- Join the **ICPGV Statewide Advisory Group**.
- Sign up for email alerts for updates on legislation and facts at **www.icpgv.org**.
- Contact your legislators and write letters to the editor of your local newspaper. Go to **www.icpgv.org** to learn how.

<sup>1-3</sup> U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2005*.

<sup>4</sup> James E. Bailey et. al., "Risk Factors for Violence Death of Women in the Home," *Archives of Internal Medicine* 157, no. 7, 777-782. (1997).

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) Injury Mortality Reports, 1999-2005*. Illinois Violent Death Reporting System (IDVRS), *Volume 1, Issue 1 – August 2007*. Children's Memorial Research Center.

<sup>6-8</sup> Suburban voters are represented by voters in Senate Districts 21, 23, 28, and 43 which include portions of DuPage, Cook, Will, and Kane counties. Illinois Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, "2007 Voter Survey on Gun Regulations," February 2007. See [www.icpgv.org](http://www.icpgv.org).