

Firearms, Culture and Suicide Risk: What Is Safety?

Jeffrey Sung, MD

jsung@uw.edu

Safer Homes, Suicide Aware
saferhomescoalition.org

1

Firearms, Culture and Suicide Risk: What Is Safety?



Jeffrey Sung, MD

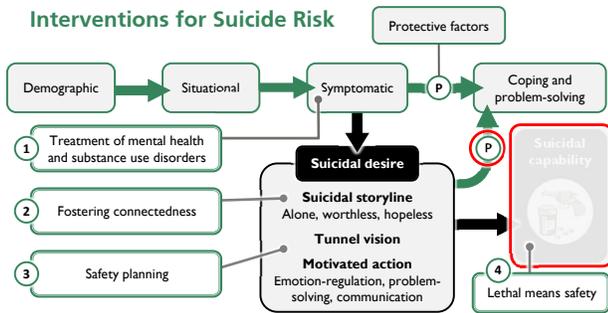
Northwest ATTC

September 29, 2021

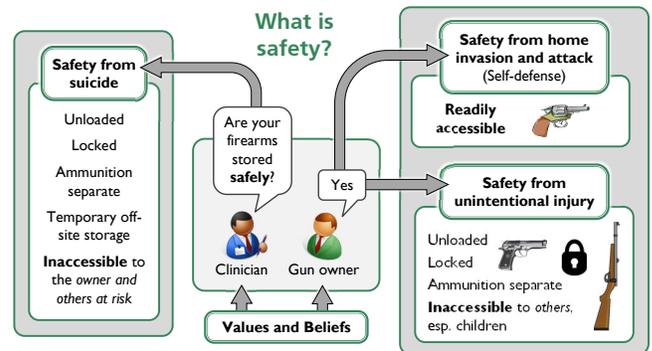
- What is safety?
- Cultural worldviews and cultural humility
- The population at risk
- What is the message?
- Cultural competency training
- Cultural knowledge

2

Interventions for Suicide Risk

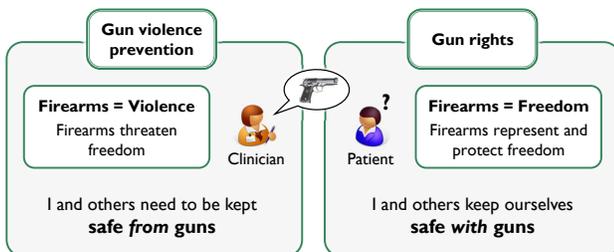


3



4

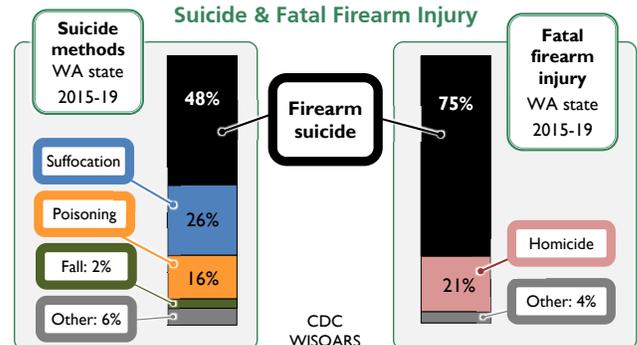
Cultural Humility: Recognizing and Examining Personal Worldviews



Stewart & Kuhls, 2016 in JTACS; Yamane, 2017; Yamane, 2018

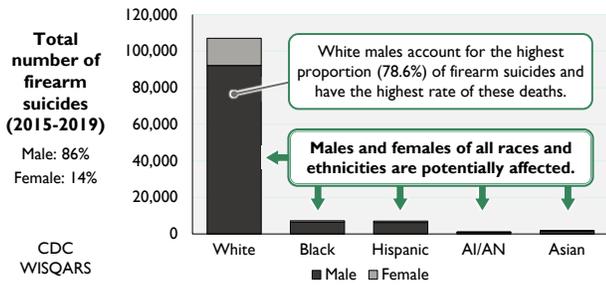
5

Suicide & Fatal Firearm Injury



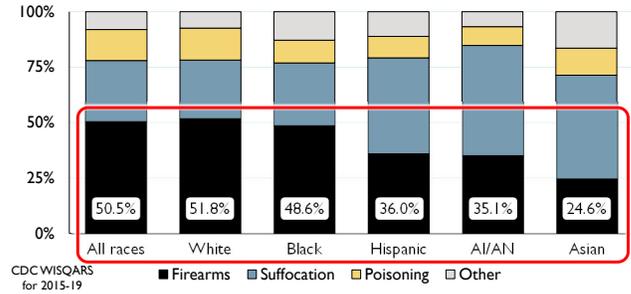
6

Firearm Suicide: Populations at Risk



7

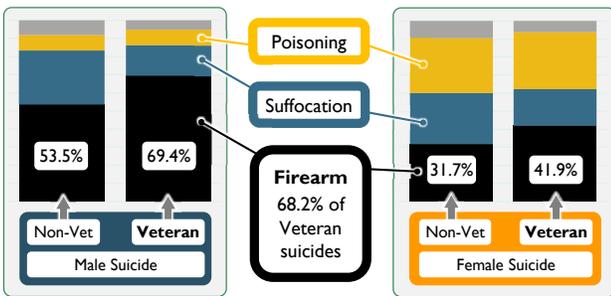
Firearm Suicide: Populations at Risk Suicide Methods by Race/Ethnicity



8

Firearm Suicide: Populations at Risk

National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report (2020) for 2018



9

Populations at Risk & Patterns of Firearm Ownership

Populations at risk

- Numerical burden among white males.
- All genders, races, ethnicities potentially affected.
- More prevalent among veterans.

Patterns of firearm ownership

- Pre-existing, often longstanding ownership:**
 - Median of 11 years before firearm suicide. (Cummings, et al., 1997)
 - Ownership > 1 month in 85%. (Studdert, et al., 2020)
 - Less than 10% with recent firearm purchase. (Vriniotis, et al., 2015)
- Legal ownership:** 92% would have passed a background check (Barber, et al., 2019).

10

Firearms and Suicide: Summary

Scope of the problem

48% Suicide, 75% Firearm fatality

Populations at risk

- Numerical burden among white males.
- All genders, races, ethnicities potentially affected.
- More prevalent among veterans.

Patterns of ownership

Recent purchase, Prohibited person, Longstanding, Pre-existing, Legal

11

Firearms and Suicide: Types of Intervention

Patterns of ownership

Recent purchase, Prohibited person, Longstanding, Pre-existing, Legal

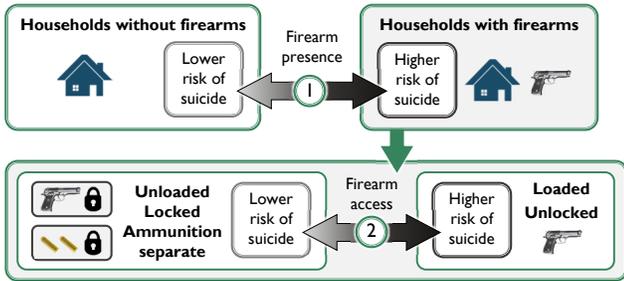
Legislation & Policy: Prevent/delay firearm ownership; storage

Community-based: Education, training, policy from firearms organizations

Health Care: Education, training, policy on lethal means safety

12

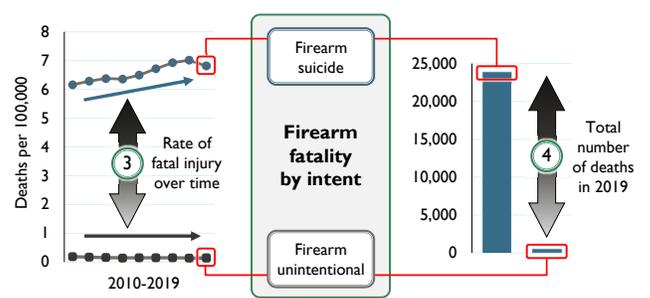
Firearms and Suicide Risk: What is the Message?



Angleymer, et al., 2014 in AIM; Dempsey, et al., 2019 in JAMA; Miller, et al., 2016 in ER; Pallin, et al., 2019 in AIM

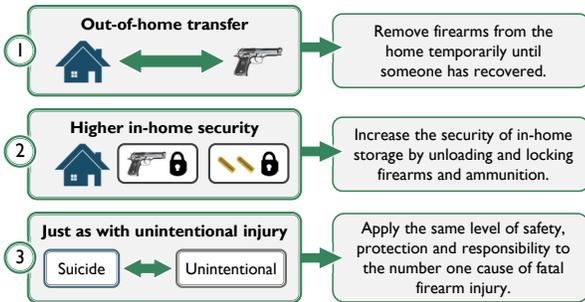
13

Firearms and Suicide Risk: What is the Message?

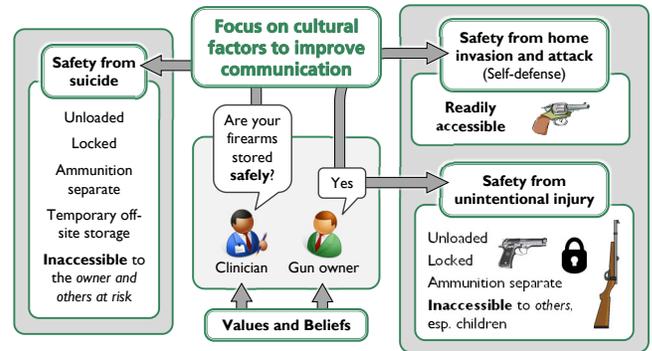


14

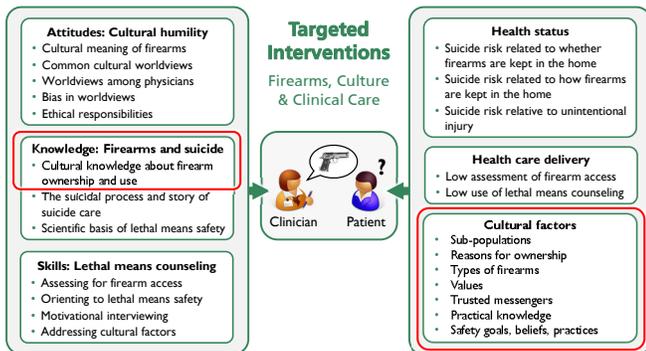
Firearms and Suicide Risk: What is the Message?



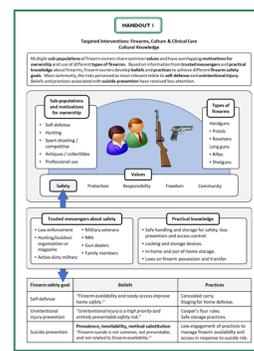
15



16



17



18

Cultural Knowledge

- Cultural factors related to firearm ownership and use
- Sub-populations
- Reasons for ownership
- Types of firearms
- Values
- Trusted messengers
- Practical knowledge
- Safety goals, beliefs, practices

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners exist and have varying motivations for ownership and use of different types of firearms. Based on information on broader ownership and practical knowledge about firearms, firearm owners are divided into sub-populations based on their primary motivation for ownership. This information can be used to tailor interventions to self-defense and professional use.

Sub-populations and motivations for ownership:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting / competitive
- Recreation / collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Long guns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law, prevention and access control.
- Training and storage devices.
- Law on firearm possession and transfer.

Firearm safety goal: To ensure accessibility and ready access improve firearm safety.

Beliefs: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Practices: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

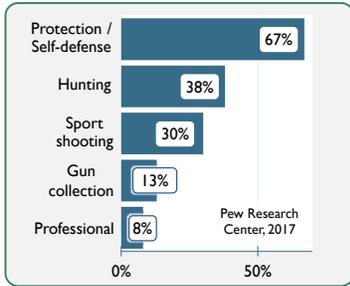
Interventional theory/practice: Tailored interventions to a high priority and actively personalized safety goal.

Personalized, individualized, verbal education: Low engagement of practices to manage firearm accessibility and access response to incidents.

Subtle persuasion: Personalized, individualized, verbal education and not solely for firearm accessibility.

Cultural Knowledge

Sub-populations & motivations for ownership



HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners exist and have varying motivations for ownership and use of different types of firearms. Based on information on broader ownership and practical knowledge about firearms, firearm owners are divided into sub-populations based on their primary motivation for ownership. This information can be used to tailor interventions to self-defense and professional use.

Sub-populations and motivations for ownership:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting / competitive
- Recreation / collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Long guns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law, prevention and access control.
- Training and storage devices.
- Law on firearm possession and transfer.

Firearm safety goal: To ensure accessibility and ready access improve firearm safety.

Beliefs: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Practices: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Interventional theory/practice: Tailored interventions to a high priority and actively personalized safety goal.

Personalized, individualized, verbal education: Low engagement of practices to manage firearm accessibility and access response to incidents.

Subtle persuasion: Personalized, individualized, verbal education and not solely for firearm accessibility.

Cultural Knowledge

Types of firearms: Handguns

Pistol
Revolver
Semi-automatic
Concealed carry

Home defense
Sporting
Collectors
Professional use

19

20

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners exist and have varying motivations for ownership and use of different types of firearms. Based on information on broader ownership and practical knowledge about firearms, firearm owners are divided into sub-populations based on their primary motivation for ownership. This information can be used to tailor interventions to self-defense and professional use.

Sub-populations and motivations for ownership:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting / competitive
- Recreation / collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Long guns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law, prevention and access control.
- Training and storage devices.
- Law on firearm possession and transfer.

Firearm safety goal: To ensure accessibility and ready access improve firearm safety.

Beliefs: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Practices: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Interventional theory/practice: Tailored interventions to a high priority and actively personalized safety goal.

Personalized, individualized, verbal education: Low engagement of practices to manage firearm accessibility and access response to incidents.

Subtle persuasion: Personalized, individualized, verbal education and not solely for firearm accessibility.

Cultural Knowledge

Types of firearms: Long guns

Rifle
Shotgun
Hunting
Self-defense

Professional use
Competitive
Home defense
Collectors

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners exist and have varying motivations for ownership and use of different types of firearms. Based on information on broader ownership and practical knowledge about firearms, firearm owners are divided into sub-populations based on their primary motivation for ownership. This information can be used to tailor interventions to self-defense and professional use.

Sub-populations and motivations for ownership:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting / competitive
- Recreation / collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Long guns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law, prevention and access control.
- Training and storage devices.
- Law on firearm possession and transfer.

Firearm safety goal: To ensure accessibility and ready access improve firearm safety.

Beliefs: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Practices: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Interventional theory/practice: Tailored interventions to a high priority and actively personalized safety goal.

Personalized, individualized, verbal education: Low engagement of practices to manage firearm accessibility and access response to incidents.

Subtle persuasion: Personalized, individualized, verbal education and not solely for firearm accessibility.

Cultural Knowledge: Values

The Rifleman's Creed

This is my rifle. There are many like it, but this one is mine. My rifle is my best friend. It is my life. I must master it as I must master my life.

Without me, my rifle is useless. Without my rifle, I am useless.

My rifle is human, even as I, because it is my life... We will become part of each other.

Before God, I swear this creed... My rifle and I are the defenders of my country.

So be it, until victory is America's and there is no enemy, but peace!

21

22

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners exist and have varying motivations for ownership and use of different types of firearms. Based on information on broader ownership and practical knowledge about firearms, firearm owners are divided into sub-populations based on their primary motivation for ownership. This information can be used to tailor interventions to self-defense and professional use.

Sub-populations and motivations for ownership:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting / competitive
- Recreation / collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Long guns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law, prevention and access control.
- Training and storage devices.
- Law on firearm possession and transfer.

Firearm safety goal: To ensure accessibility and ready access improve firearm safety.

Beliefs: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

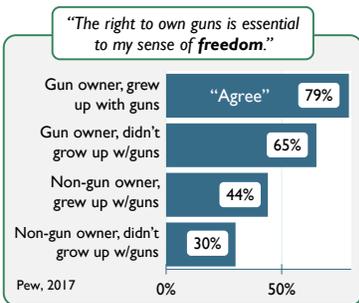
Practices: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Interventional theory/practice: Tailored interventions to a high priority and actively personalized safety goal.

Personalized, individualized, verbal education: Low engagement of practices to manage firearm accessibility and access response to incidents.

Subtle persuasion: Personalized, individualized, verbal education and not solely for firearm accessibility.

Cultural Knowledge: Values



HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners exist and have varying motivations for ownership and use of different types of firearms. Based on information on broader ownership and practical knowledge about firearms, firearm owners are divided into sub-populations based on their primary motivation for ownership. This information can be used to tailor interventions to self-defense and professional use.

Sub-populations and motivations for ownership:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting / competitive
- Recreation / collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Long guns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law, prevention and access control.
- Training and storage devices.
- Law on firearm possession and transfer.

Firearm safety goal: To ensure accessibility and ready access improve firearm safety.

Beliefs: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Practices: Concealed carry, training for home defense, carry in their cars, safe storage practices.

Interventional theory/practice: Tailored interventions to a high priority and actively personalized safety goal.

Personalized, individualized, verbal education: Low engagement of practices to manage firearm accessibility and access response to incidents.

Subtle persuasion: Personalized, individualized, verbal education and not solely for firearm accessibility.

Cultural Knowledge: Values

The Pink Pistols

"We are dedicated to the legal, safe, and responsible use of firearms for self-defense of the sexual-minority community. We no longer believe it is the right of those who hate and fear gay, lesbian, bi, trans, or polyamorous persons to use us as targets for their rage. Self-defense is our RIGHT."

"We will help you select a firearm, acquire a permit, and receive proper training in its safe and legal use for self-defense."

23

24

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Clinical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners share common values and have overlapping methodologies for knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms.

Sub-populations and methodologies for research:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Collectors
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Treated messengers about safety:

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- Religious
- Family members
- Active-duty military

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- Use of firearm possession and transfer

Firearm safety plan:

Self-defense: "Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."

Law enforcement: "Subpopulations in a high priority and actively accessible safety plan."

Subpopulations: "Firearm accessibility, method substitution, firearm use in emergency, and prevention, and not under firearm accessibility."

Practices: Counsel your child on safe firearm use. Target to home address. Counsel your child. Counsel your child. Counsel your child.

Cultural Knowledge: Values

NAAGA Mission Statement

"The mission of the National African American Gun Association (NAAGA) is to establish a fellowship by educating on the rich legacy of **gun ownership by African Americans**, offering training that supports safe gun use for self defense and sportsmanship, and advocating for the inalienable right to self-defense for African Americans.

Education. Training. Safety. Self-Defense. Advocacy. For and By African Americans."

25

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Clinical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners share common values and have overlapping methodologies for knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms.

Sub-populations and methodologies for research:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Collectors
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Treated messengers about safety:

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- Religious
- Family members
- Active-duty military

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- Use of firearm possession and transfer

Firearm safety plan:

Self-defense: "Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."

Law enforcement: "Subpopulations in a high priority and actively accessible safety plan."

Subpopulations: "Firearm accessibility, method substitution, firearm use in emergency, and prevention, and not under firearm accessibility."

Practices: Counsel your child on safe firearm use. Target to home address. Counsel your child. Counsel your child. Counsel your child.

Cultural Knowledge: Values

DC Project: Women for Gun Rights

"The DC Project raises awareness that firearms safety and violence prevention are achieved through education, not legislation; encourages the preservation of America's gun culture; and highlights the diversity and rising demographic of **female gun owners** through ongoing advocacy because **gun rights are women's rights.**"

Individual journeys on one unified path: to preserve the Second Amendment

26

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Clinical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners share common values and have overlapping methodologies for knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms.

Sub-populations and methodologies for research:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Collectors
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Treated messengers about safety:

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- Religious
- Family members
- Active-duty military

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- Use of firearm possession and transfer

Firearm safety plan:

Self-defense: "Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."

Law enforcement: "Subpopulations in a high priority and actively accessible safety plan."

Subpopulations: "Firearm accessibility, method substitution, firearm use in emergency, and prevention, and not under firearm accessibility."

Practices: Counsel your child on safe firearm use. Target to home address. Counsel your child. Counsel your child. Counsel your child.

Cultural Knowledge

Survey of gun owners: Best and worst messengers about safe firearm storage for suicide prevention? (Anestis, et al. 2021)

Rank ordered messengers: Best to worst

1	Law enforcement
2	Military veterans
3	Current military personnel
4	National Rifle Association
5	Family members
6	Hunting or outdoor organization

13	Physicians or medical professionals
14	Celebrities

27

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Clinical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners share common values and have overlapping methodologies for knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms.

Sub-populations and methodologies for research:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Collectors
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Treated messengers about safety:

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- Religious
- Family members
- Active-duty military

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- Use of firearm possession and transfer

Firearm safety plan:

Self-defense: "Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."

Law enforcement: "Subpopulations in a high priority and actively accessible safety plan."

Subpopulations: "Firearm accessibility, method substitution, firearm use in emergency, and prevention, and not under firearm accessibility."

Practices: Counsel your child on safe firearm use. Target to home address. Counsel your child. Counsel your child. Counsel your child.

Cultural Knowledge Firearm locking devices

- Cable lock
- Gun case
- Trigger lock
- Gun safe
- Lock box

28

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Clinical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners share common values and have overlapping methodologies for knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms.

Sub-populations and methodologies for research:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Collectors
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Treated messengers about safety:

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- Religious
- Family members
- Active-duty military

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- Use of firearm possession and transfer

Firearm safety plan:

Self-defense: "Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."

Law enforcement: "Subpopulations in a high priority and actively accessible safety plan."

Subpopulations: "Firearm accessibility, method substitution, firearm use in emergency, and prevention, and not under firearm accessibility."

Practices: Counsel your child on safe firearm use. Target to home address. Counsel your child. Counsel your child. Counsel your child.

Cultural Knowledge Laws related to firearms

- Background checks:** It is legal to transfer a firearm without a background check if it is intended to prevent suicide and meets other criteria (RCW 9.41.113).
- Voluntary waivers** are an option for people wanting to place their own name on the "do not sell" list as a prohibited person.
- HIPRC has a **Firearm Safe Storage Map** with organizations willing to hold firearms.
- Extreme risk protection orders (ERPO)** can be used in high-risk situations.

29

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Clinical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm owners share common values and have overlapping methodologies for knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms. These owners are likely to respond to targeted messages on cultural knowledge about firearms.

Sub-populations and methodologies for research:

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Collectors
- Professional use

Types of firearms:

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values: Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Treated messengers about safety:

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- Religious
- Family members
- Active-duty military

Practical knowledge:

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- Use of firearm possession and transfer

Firearm safety plan:

Self-defense: "Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."

Law enforcement: "Subpopulations in a high priority and actively accessible safety plan."

Subpopulations: "Firearm accessibility, method substitution, firearm use in emergency, and prevention, and not under firearm accessibility."

Practices: Counsel your child on safe firearm use. Target to home address. Counsel your child. Counsel your child. Counsel your child.

Cultural Knowledge

Training topics among firearm owners with formal training (61.4%)

- Safe handling: 61.1%
- Safe storage: 32%
- Preventing accidents
- Preventing theft
- Suicide prevention: 14.7%

National Firearms Survey, 2015 Rowhani-Rahbar, et al., 2017 in BMJ JP

30

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm users have different values and beliefs regarding appropriate use, ownership and control of different types of firearms. Specific information on sub-populations is provided for knowledge about firearms, responsible ownership and safe handling of firearms, and safe storage of firearms. This information is provided to help providers understand the cultural knowledge, beliefs, and practices associated with sub-populations from various cultures and ethnicities.

Sub-populations and sub-populations for messaging

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Recreational collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values

Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Trusted messages about safety

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- AAA
- Religious leaders
- Media
- Active-duty military
- Family members

Practical knowledge

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- In-home and out-of-home storage
- Use of firearm possession and practice

Firearm safety goal	Beliefs	Practices
Unintentional injury prevention	"Firearms are a high priority and actively preventable safety risk."	Owner's four rules, safe storage practices.
Subpopulation	Firearms are not commonly used, not preventable, and not actively preventable.	Long-term survival, increased in-home security, access to resources to resolve risk.

Cultural Knowledge: Safety Goals Unintentional injury prevention

Cooper's Four Universal Rules of Safe Firearms Handling

1. All guns are always loaded.
2. Never let a gun point at anything you don't intend to shoot, kill, or destroy.
3. Keep your finger off of the trigger until you are on target and intend to fire.
4. Be sure of your target plus what is around and behind it.

Morrison, G.B., 1991

31

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm users have different values and beliefs regarding appropriate use, ownership and control of different types of firearms. Specific information on sub-populations is provided for knowledge about firearms, responsible ownership and safe handling of firearms, and safe storage of firearms. This information is provided to help providers understand the cultural knowledge, beliefs, and practices associated with sub-populations from various cultures and ethnicities.

Sub-populations and sub-populations for messaging

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Recreational collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values

Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Trusted messages about safety

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- AAA
- Religious leaders
- Media
- Active-duty military
- Family members

Practical knowledge

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- In-home and out-of-home storage
- Use of firearm possession and practice

Firearm safety goal	Beliefs	Practices
Self-defense	"Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."	Controlled gun storage for home defense, carrying for safety.
Subpopulation	Firearms are not commonly used, not preventable, and not actively preventable.	Long-term survival, increased in-home security, access to resources to resolve risk.

Cultural Knowledge: Safety Goals Suicide prevention

Beliefs about firearms and suicide

- **Prevalence:** "Suicide is not a common cause of gun deaths."
 - **Inevitability:** "If someone is determined to die, there's nothing anyone can do about it."
 - **Method substitution:** "If they don't have a gun, they'll just find another way."
- Walton & Stuber, 2020; Knopke, et al., 2017; Miller et al., 2006

Prevalence **Duration of crises**
Long-term survival **Lethality**

32

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm users have different values and beliefs regarding appropriate use, ownership and control of different types of firearms. Specific information on sub-populations is provided for knowledge about firearms, responsible ownership and safe handling of firearms, and safe storage of firearms. This information is provided to help providers understand the cultural knowledge, beliefs, and practices associated with sub-populations from various cultures and ethnicities.

Sub-populations and sub-populations for messaging

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Recreational collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values

Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Trusted messages about safety

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- AAA
- Religious leaders
- Media
- Active-duty military
- Family members

Practical knowledge

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- In-home and out-of-home storage
- Use of firearm possession and practice

Firearm safety goal	Beliefs	Practices
Unintentional injury prevention	"Firearms are a high priority and actively preventable safety risk."	Owner's four rules, safe storage practices.
Subpopulation	Firearms are not commonly used, not preventable, and not actively preventable.	Long-term survival, increased in-home security, access to resources to resolve risk.

Cultural Knowledge: Safety Goals Suicide prevention

"Time and distance"

Out-of-home transfer



Higher in-home security



33

HANDOUT 1
Targeted Interventions: Firearms, Culture & Critical Care
Cultural Knowledge

Multiple sub-populations of firearm users have different values and beliefs regarding appropriate use, ownership and control of different types of firearms. Specific information on sub-populations is provided for knowledge about firearms, responsible ownership and safe handling of firearms, and safe storage of firearms. This information is provided to help providers understand the cultural knowledge, beliefs, and practices associated with sub-populations from various cultures and ethnicities.

Sub-populations and sub-populations for messaging

- Self-defense
- Hunting
- Sport shooting/competition
- Recreational collection
- Professional use

Types of firearms

- Handguns
- Rifles
- Shotguns
- Other

Values

Safety, Protection, Responsibility, Freedom, Community

Trusted messages about safety

- Law enforcement
- Military veterans
- Healthcare providers
- AAA
- Religious leaders
- Media
- Active-duty military
- Family members

Practical knowledge

- Safe handling and storage for safety, law enforcement and access control
- Locking and storage devices
- In-home and out-of-home storage
- Use of firearm possession and practice

Firearm safety goal	Beliefs	Practices
Self-defense	"Firearm accessibility and ready access improve home safety."	Controlled gun storage for home defense, carrying for safety.
Subpopulation	Firearms are not commonly used, not preventable, and not actively preventable.	Long-term survival, increased in-home security, access to resources to resolve risk.

Cultural Knowledge



Sub-populations	Types of firearms	Practical knowledge: Laws, locking devices
Values: Safety, protection, responsibility, freedom, community		
Trusted messenger	Safety goals: Self-defense, unintentional injury prevention	
Safety goal: Suicide prevention	Beliefs: Prevalence, inevitability, method substitution • Prevalence • Long-term survival, duration of crises, lethality	Practices • "Time and distance" • Off-site storage • Increased in-home security

34

Firearms, Culture and Suicide Risk: What Is Safety?



Jeffrey Sung, MD
Northwest ATCC
September 29, 2021

- What is safety?
- Cultural worldviews and cultural humility
- The population at risk
- What is the message?
- Cultural competency training
- Cultural knowledge

35