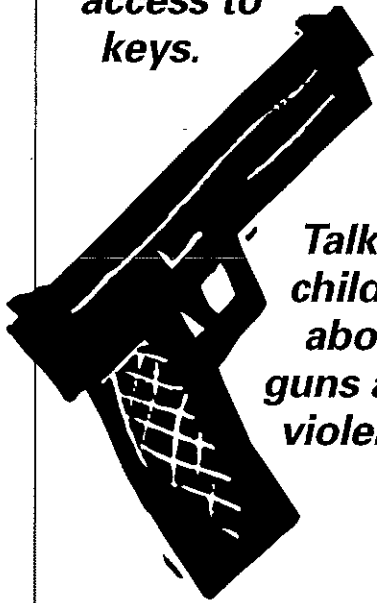


Kidwise

IF YOU KEEP A **GUN**

**EMPTY IT OUT
...LOCK IT UP**

**Lock & store
bullets in a
separate location,
where children
don't have
access to
keys.**



**Talk to
children
about
guns and
violence.**

**Tell children
never to touch
an unsupervised
gun.**

IF YOU KEEP A GUN...

On an average day in the U.S. 15 young people die from gunshot wounds, and 1.2 million latchkey children have access to guns when they come from school. In a national survey of students in grades 6 to 12, 59% said they knew where to get a gun if they wanted one; and two-thirds said they could get a gun within 24 hours.

These facts are good arguments for stepping up efforts to reduce the availability of guns to children and youth. Even a child who does not live in a household with a gun may be at risk from classmates or acquaintances.

If you keep a gun....

Always keep your gun unloaded and locked up. Lock and store the bullets in a separate location and make sure children don't have access to the keys. Investigate safe storage and gun locks.

For all parents...

Make a rule that children must tell a trusted adult if they come across an unsupervised gun, or another child with a gun. Remind them that they must not touch the gun.

Talk to your children about guns and violence. Explain that we all have strong emotions like anger and fear, but that these feelings can be expressed without striking out at others or using weapons. Make sure that your children understand the differences between violence on television or in the movies...and violence in real life. Explain that, in reality, guns can kill or cause permanent injuries.

For more information, call

Prevent Child Abuse, Virginia

in Richmond, 804-775-1777
or toll-free 1-800-257-8227

Kidwise

- Empty it out...lock it up
- Lock & store bullets in a separate location, where children don't have access to keys.
- Tell children never to touch an unsupervised gun.
- Talk to children about guns and violence.

IF YOU KEEP A GUN...

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