

This *First Draft* resource was prepared by the Entertainment Industries Council, Inc. (EIC) and is a product of EIC's *First Draft* technical assistance and expert referral service.

EIC acknowledges the assistance and support of the Joyce Foundation for making this publication possible.



A special "Thank You" to our expert judges for participating in the 3rd Annual *EDGE Awards*.

Roseanna Ander
Tom Diaz
Stephen Hargarten, MD, MPH
David Hemenway, Ph.D.
Jim Mercy, Ph.D.
Sue Ann Schiff

Stay tuned for the 4th Annual *EDGE Awards* coming soon!

For more information about the *EDGE Awards*, past winners and guidelines, please go to www.eiconline.org.



Thank you to the special "Gun Violence, Firearm Safety and Injury Prevention Project" EIC Team for your work on the *EDGE Awards* and *Putting a Face on Firearm Statistics*.

Jessica Burnett, *Program Coordinator*
Annalisa Clements, *Marketing Assistant*
David Conner, *Editor and Publications Manager*
Larry Deutchman, *Executive Vice President, Marketing and Industry Relations*
Kristin Dyak, *Research Intern, James Madison University*
Ben Gruber, *Research Intern, Delaware University*
Jane Kim, *Program Coordinator*
Kenneth Paule, *Executive Assistant to the President & CEO*
Stefan Voss, *Research Intern, Virginia Commonwealth University*
James Zaguroli, *Program Assistant*

EIC East
1760 Reston Parkway, Suite 415
Reston, VA 20190-3303
(703) 481-1414
eiceast@eiconline.org

EIC West
2600 West Olive Street, Suite 574
Burbank, CA 91505
(818) 333-5001
eicwest@eiconline.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brian Dyak, President/CEO*
 Ralph Andrews, Founding Chairman
 Leroy Bobbitt
 Lionel Chetwynd
 Nancy Dockry
 David Goldsmith*
 Paul Haggis
 Michele Lee*
 Roland McFarland
 Herman Rush*
 William N. Utz*
 Alan Wurtzel

TRUSTEES

Herman Rush, Chairman, EIC Trustees

Merv Adelson
 John Agoglia
 Chris Albrecht
 Wallis Annenberg
 Dick Askin
 Jeffrey Barbakow
 Gail Berman
 Frank Biondi
 Norman Brokaw
 Jim Caparro
 Tim Conway
 John Cooke
 Lana Corbi
 Barbara Corday
 Robert A. Daly
 Nicole David
 Gordon Davidson
 Suzanne dePasse
 Barry Diller
 Robert Dowling
 Ahmet Ertegun
 Charles W. Fries
 Michael Fuchs
 David Geffen
 Gary Goddard
 J. William Grimes
 Sandy Grushow
 Jules Haimovitz
 Ted Harbert
 Garrett Hart
 Mindy Herman
 Andy Heyward
 Donna Hilley
 Alan Horn
 Gene Jankowski
 Robert L. Johnson
 Alan Ladd, Jr.
 Sherry Lansing
 Stan Lee
 Kim Le Masters
 Jordan Levin
 Peter Liguori
 Margaret Loesch
 Frank Mancuso
 Guy McElwaine
 Chris McGurk
 Gerald McRaney
 Mike Medavoy
 Leslie Moonves
 Norm Nixon
 I. Martin Pompadur
 Harold Prince
 Phil Quartararo
 Burt Reynolds
 Lee Rich
 Fredric Rosen
 James H. Rosenfield
 Peter Roth
 Lucie Salhany
 Scott Sassa
 Terry Semel
 Sid Sheinberg
 Bradley Siegal
 Herbert Siegel
 Fred Silverman
 Aaron Spelling
 Seymour Stein
 Donald Taffner
 Renee Valente
 Dean Valentine
 Louis P. Weiss
 James A. Wiatt
 David L. Wolper



**MESSAGE TO:
 THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY CREATIVE COMMUNITY**

Dear Reader:

Many people have grown accustomed to the phrase “shoot-’em-ups” in regard to movies and television. The Entertainment Industries Council, Inc. (EIC) has partnered with the Joyce Foundation to help translate the social need to curb gun violence with the assistance of the creative community. Firearm safety and the realization and impact of gun-related violent acts have been a key topic for EIC since the tragedy at Columbine.

Through our work with several trauma physicians and surgeons dealing with the injuries and deaths from shootings—both intentional and accidental—we have learned that our industry’s efforts to deglamorize gun violence and promote firearm injury prevention arms the public with better information and a common purpose...we share a resolve that our communities and nation can do significantly better in preventing gun violence.

Putting A Face on Gun Violence, Volume II, was compiled to encourage the creative community not only to tell a good story, but also show a higher level of awareness about the inherent dangers that guns can pose. Unconscionable events such as daily violent shootings and accidents involving guns deserve greater attention to create safer communities. This clip book samples dozens of articles from periodicals, all highlighting tragedies resulting from intentional gun violence, accidental shootings, or firearm safety regulation concerns. The headlines alone are enough to shock most people into realizing the great devastation resulting from gun violence—and yet this book represents only a very small sampling of the tragedies that occur every day in the United States because of irresponsible gun use. A 2005 report from the CDC National Center for Health Statistics discloses that **30,242 people were shot to death in 2002** alone. That’s almost **15 people every hour**, or **one person every four minutes** who dies by gunfire. Reading through the articles in *Putting a Face on Gun Violence* will make clear how each one of those tens of thousands of deaths is a fully preventable tragedy that affects families, friends, communities and the nation as a whole.

EIC’s approach to the issue of gun violence emphasizes that it may be advantageous to society to reduce the depiction of gun violence while exploring other creative forms of conflict resolution onscreen. It would also be of benefit to more frequently portray users of guns taking safety precautions to prevent unintentional injuries, as such behavior is rarely seen onscreen, even though all conscientious firearm owners take safety precautions, such as using trigger locks and secure, childproof gun storage. For more on firearm depiction, please go to www.eiconline.org/issues/gv/depiction.php and please do not hesitate to use EIC’s *First Draft*TM creative resource services.

Within the entertainment community, EIC and the Joyce Foundation have created the *EDGE Awards* to reward feature films, TV movies, reality programs and episodes of scripted television series that effectively promote firearm safety and discourage gun violence. This award program encourages creators to take part in the *art of making a difference*. For more information about the *EDGE Awards*, including a downloadable entry form and entry guidelines, please go to www.eiconline.org. There is no fee to enter or claim an award—we simply want to thank you for taking a responsible, realistic and accurate approach to depicting gun violence-related events in your production.

Thank you in advance for your consideration to address this vital issue facing our communities and our country.

Sincerely,

Brian Dyak
 President & CEO

CREATIVE PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Larry Deutchman, Director

PRISM AwardsTM

Marie G. Dyak, Director

LEGAL COUNSEL

Kaye Scholer, LLP

*Executive Committee

Entertainment Industries Council, Inc.

A non-profit organization

www.eiconline.org • eic@eiconline.org

EAST COAST: 1760 Reston Parkway, Suite 415, Reston, VA 20190-3303 • (703) 481-1414 • Fax (703) 481-1418 • E-Mail: eic@eiconline.org
 WEST COAST: 2600 West Olive St., Suite 574, Burbank, CA 91505 • (818) 333-5001 • Fax (818) 333-5005 • E-Mail: eicwest@eiconline.org

ARTICLE SYNOPSES

CHAPTER 1: FAMILIES DESTROYED AT GUNPOINT

- **“QUEENS MAN KILLS WIFE, THEN SELF”**

After not being able to get a hold of her mother, a daughter came to discover her father had shot three times and killed her mother before shooting himself in their own home. (*Daily News*, NY: 7/17/2005. News, pg. 17, Sports Final Ed. Veronika Belenkaya, Leslie Casimir and Robert F. Moore, Jego Armstrong and Jose Martinez)

- **“MURDER-SUICIDE LEAVES FAMILIES DEVASTATED, CHILD AN ORPHAN”**

A little girl was left parentless when her mother was killed trying to break free from her abusive father in a garage below an apartment complex after years of an on-again-off-again relationship. (*The Buffalo News*, NY: 8/23/2005. News, pg. A1, Final Ed. Vanessa Thomas)

- **“HE SHOOTS TEEN SON, KILLS SELF. ‘DEPRESSED’ BANKER IN QUEENS RAMPAGE”**

A depressed multi-million dollar banker threatened to kill his family, starting with shooting at his teenage son before his wife wrestled away the gun. The father found another gun making his way to the main level of the house and committed suicide. (*Daily News*, NY: 10/6/2005. News, pg. 23, Sports Final Ed. Oren Yaniv, Tamer El-Ghobashy, Tony Sclafani, Alison Gendar, Rich Schapiro)

- **“THE SHADOW OF THE GUN. FAMILY LIFE ON LINE AS KILLINGS HIT TOO CLOSE TO HOME”**

A man was gunned down five blocks from his house five days after he became a father to a baby girl. (*Daily News*, NY: 11/6/2005. News, pg. 2, Sports Final Ed. Errol Louis)

- **“FATAL SHOOTING IN BROOKLYN CLUB; WITNESSES SAID VICTIM, WHO WAS KILLED IN FRONT OF PREGNANT WIFE, STRUGGLED WITH 2 MEN WHO SOUGHT TO ROB PATRONS DURING CARD GAME”**

A poker game turned deadly when a card player was shot in front of his pregnant wife by a man who slipped into the game with one of the regulars. (*Newsday*, Inc. *Newsday*, NY: 8/12/2005. News, pg. A22, City Ed. Daryl Khan)

- **“DAD SAYS SON DIED TRYING TO SAVE HIM”**

During an attempted robbery, a son saves his father’s life while at gunpoint. (*The Palm Beach Post*: 12/11/2005. Local, pg. 4C)

CHAPTER 2: CRAZED INTENTIONAL VIOLENCE

- **“POLICE GUN DOWN SUSPECTED KILLER”**

A bloodbath in a crowded parking lot was discovered in response to a gunshot that killed a gunman who had allegedly murdered another reveler. (Boston Herald Inc., *The Boston Herald*: 8/4/2005. News, pg. 008, All Ed. Michele McPhee, David Wedge)

- **“CHINATOWN KILINGS OF 5 DETAILED IN COURT”**

A witness revealed that the main shooter of a five-man massacre had put a gun to a man's head and fired while forcing the man to squat to the floor. (Globe Newspaper Company, *The Boston Globe*: 9/22/05. Metro/Region pg. B2, 3rd Ed. Jonathan Saltzman)

- “BODY TROUBLE; B’KLYN GRID-SLAY SUSPECT SPUN QUICK WEB OF ALIBIS”

Several webs of alibis were created in hope to cover up the murder of a college student after the body was discovered and many potential murders were found and accused. (N.Y.P. Holdings, Inc. *The New York Post*: 9/17/2005. pg. 7, All Ed. Zach Haberman)

- “SLAIN WOMAN’S NEIGHBOR DESCRIBES HORROR”

The mystery of a woman’s death is debated between an enraged man who also possessed a crowbar and a Good Samaritan neighbor who shot at the woman’s direction in hope to save her from the other man. (Hartford Courant Company, *Hartford Courant*, CT: 9/14/2005. Main, pg. A1. 5 Northwest Connecticut/ Sports Final Ed. Don Stacom)

- “MASKED DUO GUNS DOWN STUDENT, 24”

When two masked gunmen jumped out of the bushes and a man and his friend, one of them was fatally shot. (*Daily News*, NY: 7/10/2005. News, pg. 39, Sports Final Ed. Jimmy Vielkind, Oren Yaniv)

- “POLICE DEPARTMENT REELING AFTER HOSPITAL SHOOTING”

A hospital shooting left a police officer dead and a hospital medical technician wounded after the gunman grabbed the weapon from the police officer and opened fire. (Associated Press, *The Associated Press State & Local Wire*, Langhorne, PA: 10/1/2005 BC Cycle. State & Regional. Janice Podsada)

- “KILLINGS AT JOB SITES SOARING”

Within the workplace, the amount of violence towards co-workers has significantly increased especially towards those who are more vulnerable such as single parents because they fear to start tension due to the fact that they can’t afford to lose their job or defend their family as a single parent. (*Cincinnati Post*: 11/12/2004. Shelly Whitehead)

- “PRINCIPAL ARRESTED FOR BRINGING GUN TO SCHOOL”

While at school on a Saturday preparing for Monday’s class, a principal threatens a fellow teacher with a gun. (*Miami Times*, Miami, FL: 8/10-16/2005. Vol.82, Iss.48; pg. 1A)

CHAPTER 3: GUNS AND A JEALOUS RAGE

- “HER EX KILLS BEAU, THEN SHOOTS SELF”

A jealous man gunned down his ex-girlfriend’s new lover as she watched in horror and then used her as a human shield during a gunfight with the police. (*Daily News*, NY: 8/2/2005. News, pg. 5, Sports Final Ed. Robert F. Moore)

- “COPS: JEALOUS BOYFRIEND KILLED BILLERICA MAN”

A woman brought a man to a park and was found by her jealous boyfriend who shot the man. The boyfriend will not say what he saw them doing. (MediaNews Group, Inc. *Lowell Sun*, Lowell, MA: 8/30/2005. Today's Headlines. Robert Mills)

- “WITNESS: ‘I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO KILL ME, TOO’; VICTIM’S GIRLFRIEND TESTIFIES AT HEARING IN FATAL CITY SHOOTING”

A woman sat in a diner and watched her boyfriend be deliberately shot in the face by another woman pointing a gun at the two of them. (The Morning Call, Inc. *Morning Call*, Allentown, PA: 9/20/2005. Community Report, pg. B5, 5th Ed. Debbie Garlicki)

- “PRAYERS FOR AN INNOCENT VICTIM; COPS: HARLEM SHOOTER KILLS 2, WITH BYSTANDER FELLED BY STRAY BULLET”

When an angry gunman sees a teenage girl he has been fighting with on a street corner with a group of people, he fires at her and kills not only her but a woman that was uninvolved in the disagreement between the gunman and the girl. (*Newsday*, NY: 9/6/2005. News, pg. A16, City Ed. Sean Gardiner, Lindsay Faber)

- “FLORIDA SHOOTING SUSPECT REMAINS ON LIFE SUPPORT”

A crazed man shot his girlfriend in front of the police who then opened fire on the gunman causing him to spend three days in the hospital on life support due to the gun wounds. (MediaNews Group, Inc. *Connecticut Post*, Bridgeport, CT: 7/1/2005. Local)

CHAPTER 4: KIDS AND GUNS

- “GUNS IN THE HOME AND RISK OF A VIOLENT DEATH IN THE HOME: FINDINGS FROM A NATIONAL STUDY”

Those persons with guns in the home were at greater risk than those without guns in the home of dying from a homicide in the home, but risk varied by age and whether the person was living with others at the time of death. (*American Journal of Epidemiology*: 6/7/2004. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Linda L. Dahlberg, Robin M. Ikeda, Marcie-jo Kresnow)

- “INJURY RISK OF NONPOWDER GUNS”

Non-powder guns continue to cause serious injuries to children and adolescent with one of the main problems being is the lack of medial recognition o the severity of injuries that can result from these guns. (*Pediatrics*: 11/2004. Vol. 114, No. 5, pg. 1357-1361. Danielle Laraque

- “SCHOOLMATES MEET AGAIN, AND ONE IS KILLED IN QUEENS”

Death became the result of high school bullying after a bracelet was stolen and the victim of this robbery felt that a gun was in need for his revenge. (The New York Times Company, *The New York Times*: 8/8/2005. Section B; Column 1; Metropolitan Desk; pg. 3, Last Ed.-Final. Anahad O’Connor, Ann Farmer)

- “HE ADMITS GUNNING DOWN AUNT SHOT TEACHER 16 TIMES”

A nephew pleaded guilty that he snapped and shot his preschool teaching aunt over a simple argument. (*Daily News*, NY: 6/17/2005. Suburban, pg. 1, Sports Final Ed. Scott Shifrel)

- “CRIES FOR PEACE AMID GRIEF”

Ministers and City leaders were encouraging kids to focus on education and to stay off the dangerous streets during the funeral of a local teenage boy. (Providence Publications, LLC. *The Providence Journal*, RI: 7/7/2005. News, pg. A01, All Ed. Gregory Smith)

- “JUDGE CRITICIZED AFTER BOY’S SUICIDE”

A 12-year-old boy was fatally shot after being warned by a judge that kids are surrounded by loaded guns. (*Las Vegas Review-Journal*: 8/31/2005. Section A, pg. A1)

CHAPTER 5: ACCIDENTAL SHOOTINGS AND FIREARM SAFETY

- “CIVIL RIGHTS TRIAL BEGINS FOR SLAIN POLICE OFFICER”

A black police sergeant was shot dead by two white colleagues on accident. This may have not happened if the police were trained to recognize off-duty officers since the officers are to carry their badges and guns while off-duty, but never trained properly how to act off duty. (Associated Press, *The Associated Press State & Local Wire*, Providence, RI: 11/7/2005 BC Cycle. State & Regional. Ray Henry)

- “MAN ADMITS FIRING GUN IN FATAL ROBBERY”

After an ugly struggle, a man fired a shot toward a man he and four others were trying to rob. The gunman admitted he did not mean to hit him, just send a warning scare. (Newsday, Inc. *Newsday*, NY: 7/12/2005. News, pg. A16, Nassau & Suffolk Ed. Ann Givens)

- “FAMILY OF TEEN WHO WAS FATALLY SHOT SUES GUN STORE”

The family of a teenager who was accidentally shot to death by a friend is suing the gun store that sold the weapon. (Associated Press, *The Associated Press State & Local*, Philadelphia, PA: 7/20/2005 BC Cycle. State & Regional.)

- “BOY, 6, DIES AFTER ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING”

A 6-year-old boy died when his twin brother shot him accidentally while they boys were left unattended in a room that contained an accessible rifle. (Richmond Newspapers, Inc. *Richmond Times Dispatch (Virginia)*: 8/21/2005. General, pg. A-5, City Ed. Media General News Service)

- “SENATE VOTES TO REQUIRE CHILD-SAFETY TRIGGER LOCKS ON EVERY HANDGUN”

After voting, the Senate decided to require gun dealers to include trigger locks on all their handguns to help prevent accidental shootings. (Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service, *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*: 7/29/2005. Washington Dateline)

- “BROAD SUPPORT FOR RESPONSIBLE GUN STORAGE”

During a speech to the Economic Club of Detroit, Sen. Carl Levin speaks of the increasing numbers of children dying from accidental shootings due to the improper storage of gun in the household. (States News Service, *States News Service*: 9/8/2005)

CHAPTER 6: GUNS AND LEGISLATION

- **“VIRGINIA HUNTER DRINKING LIMITS EYED”**

The Virginia General Assembly is considering a bill to impose strict blood alcohol limits on hunters. Many angering gun enthusiasts who said the legislation unjustly target their right to bear arms. (*Washington Post*: 2/16/2005. Metro pg. B01, Final Ed. Chris L. Jenkins)

- **“VIRGINIA SENATE BLOCKS EFFORT TO MANDATE GUN-SHOW CHECKS: BACKERS OF FAILED BILL SAY STATE’S RESISTANCE IS KNOWN NATIONWIDE”**

The Virginia Senate blocked renewed efforts to close a loophole in gun-control laws that allow people to buy weapons while avoiding on-the-spot-criminal-background checks. (Richmond Newspaper, Inc. *Richmond Times Dispatch*, VA: 1/27/2005. Area/State pg. A1, City Ed. Jeff E. Schapiro)

- **“LEGISLATURE SAY’S LET THE FORCE BE WITH YOU: BILL ALLOWS FORCE TO BE MET WITH FORCE: THE MEASURE, WHICH HAS GOV. BUSH’S BACKING, BREEZES THROUGH BOTH HOUSES”**

A law was signed allowing people to shoot an attacker in their homes or in public places. This law was under the watchful eye of the National Rifle Association. (*St. Petersburg Times Online*: 4/6/05. Steve Bousquet)

- **“MAYOR REBUKES SENATORS FIGHTING D.C. GUN BAN”**

A senator revived legislation to repeal the ban on handguns, a proposal that provoked a heated response from Mayor Anthony A. Williams, who described it as an “assault” on the right to govern itself. (*Washington Post*: 5/20/2005. Metro pg. B02, Final Ed. Paul Schwartzman)

- **“NATIVE AMERICANS CRITICIZE BUSH’S SILENCE”**

Native Americans across the country voiced anger and frustration that the President only responded to the second-deadliest school shooting in the US with silence. (*Washington Post*: 3/25/2005. Section A pg. A06, Final Ed. Ceci Connolly)

- **“HOMICIDES MORE LIKELY AT WORKPLACES THAT ALLOW GUNS”**

New research has found that murders are three times more likely to occur in workplaces that permit employees to carry weapons than in workplaces that prohibit all weapons. The risk seems to double when the weapons are guns. (*HealthDay News*, Robert Preidt)

- “NEW YORK MAYOR PRAISES COLUMBUS MAYOR FOR HIS STAND AGAINST THE NRA”

After Congress caved to the NRA concerning gun manufacturing liability, New York Mayor recognized and praised the mayor of Columbus for signing the bill in Columbus for banning automatic weapons. (*Call Post*, Cincinnati, OH: 8/11-17/2005. Vol.89. Iss.32; pg. 3B)

- “FEDS SHOULD FUND GUN VIOLENCE PROJECTS”

Due to the extremely high death rate related to gun violence, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention feels that the Federal Government should be more involved in projects concerning gun violence. (*Atlanta Inquirer*, Atlanta, GA: 7/30/2005. Vol.44, Iss. 52; pg. 5)