

## **Religion and Gun Violence**

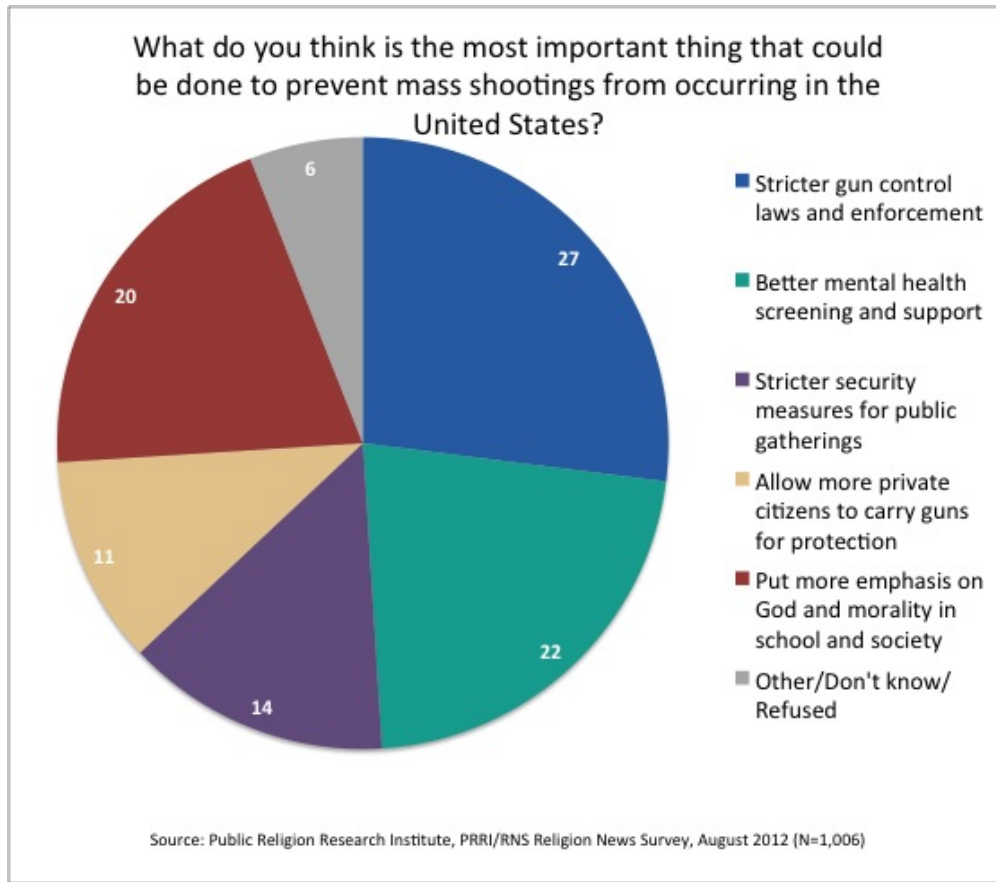
This Resource Page provides Data, Congregational Resources, and Policy positions of numerous churches and religious organizations related to the Consortium. We welcome suggestions for additional resources, as religious communities across America respond in witness, love and justice to recent mass shootings. (December 2012)

### **Snapshot on Religious Attitudes toward Gun Violence:**

“Robert Jones at the Public Religion Research Institute looked at a religion breakdown of 2011 ABC News/Washington Post survey question on views on gun control.

When asked if they favored or opposed stricter gun control laws, the most support for stricter laws came from black Protestants (71%) Catholics (59%) and the unaffiliated (55%). But solid opposition was expressed by white evangelical Protestants (60%). Only mainline Protestants were more divided (47% favor, 51% oppose).”

From “Faith and Reason” USA Today July, 2012



See the Poll from Public Religion Research Institute [Link](#) Related Article [Link](#)

## In Response to Recent Shootings (December 2012)

Catholic Leaders Express Support [Link](#)

Dean of National Cathedral Sermon: [Link](#)

Episcopal Response to Newton, CT shootings [Link](#)

Clergy Respond to School Shooting [Link](#)

## Study Guides and Worship Resources for Congregations and Local Communities:

“What Your Church Can Do about Gun Violence” (Baptist Peace Fellowship) [Link](#)

“Preventing Gun Violence” Study Guide (Mennonite): [Link](#)

“Gun Violence, Gospel Values” Study Guide, Presbyterian Church (USA): [Link](#)

“Gun Violence Prevention Worship Resources” (PCUSA): [Link](#)

“A Litany on the Tragedy of Gun Violence” [Link](#)

“Supporting Those who Grieve”: [Link](#)

Hymns on Gun Violence and Peace (ecumenical): [Link](#)

“God not Guns Worship Guide” (The Brady Center) [Link](#)

“Overcoming Violence” Study Guide, United Church of Christ: [Link](#)

## **Church and Denominational Positions on Gun Violence:**

African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church:

Social Action Commission [Link](#)

AME Resolution (2012) [Link](#)



Baptist Churches:

Alliance of Baptists Resolution (2012): [Link](#) Related Article (2012)

Progressive National Baptist Church: Call for Ban on Assault Weapons: [Link](#)

Southern Baptist Convention, Article 2012: [Link](#)

ABP News articles

Guns a pro-life issue. (2012) [Link](#)

Guns in Sunday School? (2011) [Link](#)

Church of the Brethren:

“Take Action to Prevent Gun Violence” (2011) [Link](#)

Action letter to representatives: [Link](#)

Episcopal Church:

Bishop of Chicago Speaks Out (2012) [Link](#)

Episcopal Peace Fellowship: [Link](#)

Lutheran:

ELCA statement on “Community Violence” (1994): [Link](#)

Article: “Learning to Fear: Violence in our Schools” [Link](#)

Article “Swords, Plowshares and Guns in Church” (2010): [Link](#)

Mennonite:

“David and Goliath: Faith-based Approaches to Gun-Violence Prevention” [Link](#)

Methodist:

United Methodist Church Resolution (2012) [Link](#)

“Gun Violence: United Methodist Church,” 2000, 2008: [Link](#)

Presbyterian:

Presbyterian Church USA Summary of Positions: [Link](#)

Resources on Preventing Gun Violence (PCUSA): [Link](#)

Roman Catholic:

“Confronting a Culture of Violence”: U.S. Bishop’s Pastoral Letter (1994): [Link](#)

“Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration” US Catholic Conference of Bishops (2000): [Link](#)

Article on Church’s position (2011): [Link](#)

Jesuits: Article (2012) [Link](#)

United Church of Christ: [Link](#)

## **Ecumenical Resources:**

Christian Century: “Can We Talk about Guns” (2012) [Link](#)

“Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence” (National coalition): [Link](#)

Faiths United Letter to Congress (2011): [Link](#)

Heeding God’s Call (Ecumenical coalition in PA, MD, DC): [Link](#)

National Council of Churches of Christ:

Join Interfaith Call to End Gun Violence (2000) [Link](#)

Resolution and Call to Action: “Ending Gun Violence” [Link](#)

North Carolina Council of Churches: “How Long Shall I Cray Oh Lord” [Link](#)

Pennsylvania Council of Churches: Resolution for Prevention of Gun Violence [Link](#)

Reform Judaism:

Central Conference American Rabbis Resolution (1999) : [Link](#)

Reform Judaism General Assembly Resolution (1999) [Link](#)

Article (2011): “Gun Control vs. Gun Rights” [Link](#)

Article (2012): Jews and Guns [Link](#)

Religion News Service “Is Gun Control a Religious Issue” [Link](#)

## **Public Resources:**

The Brady Center to Prevent GunViolence: [Link](#)

God not Guns Worship Guide: [Link](#)

CDC “First Reports Evaluating the Effectiveness of Strategies Preventing Violence: Firearms Laws” [Link](#)

Coalition to Stop Gun Violence: a network of scientific, professional, religious and community-based orgnizations [Link](#)

Huffington Post “God, Guns, and the Church” (2012): [Link](#)

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health: “The Case for Gun Policy Reforms in America” (2012) [Link](#)

Public Religion Research Institute: Poll on Religious Groups and Guns (2012) [Link](#)

Violence Policy Center “Murder-Suicide” Study (2002): [Link](#)