

JOIN US

Health is more than the absence of disease. It is security and freedom from fear of armed violence, individual and family wellbeing, adequate food, shelter and access to health care, a prosperous and peaceful community. Health and development are intricately linked.

Join IPPNW's *Aiming for Prevention* campaign and make a difference.

Join via an IPPNW affiliate organization in 58 countries, or become a member of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) Public Health Network.

Help us aim to prevent harm from firearm violence, and preserve and foster health.

Aiming for



Prevention

International Physicians for
the Prevention of Nuclear War

A Global Health Campaign to Prevent Injury & Suffering from Firearm Violence

International Physicians for
the Prevention of Nuclear War

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IPPNW is a member of
the World Health
Organization's Violence
Prevention Alliance

IPPNW coordinates
the IANSA Public
Health Network

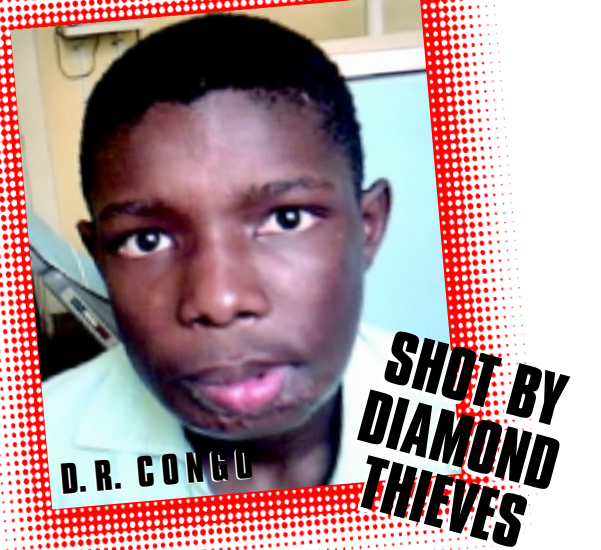
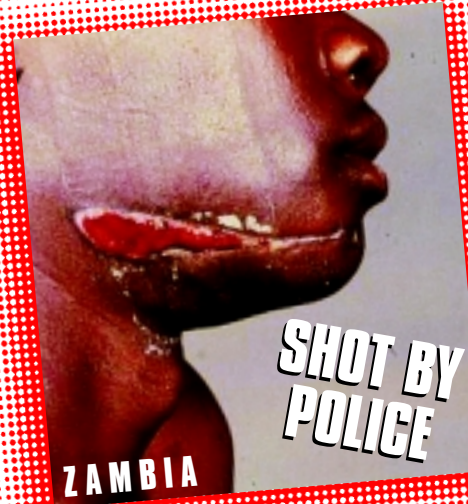
graphics: www.stephenburdickdesign.com



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GUNS ARE BAD FOR HEALTH

Worldwide, the violent use of small arms in wars and conflicts results in tens of thousands of deaths and hundreds of thousands of injuries each year.



“Violence is a leading worldwide public health problem.”

– World Health Assembly 1996

The World Medical Association (WMA) states that “the development, manufacture and sale of weapons for use against human beings is abhorrent.”

– 48th General Assembly, Republic of South Africa, October 1996



Prevent Harm, Preserve Health Aim for Prevention



Affiliates in Action: working for peace through health



PRESCRIPTIONS FOR PREVENTION:

A Health and Human-Centered Approach to Reducing Small Arms Violence

Aiming for Prevention seeks to mobilize health professionals worldwide in a coordinated effort to document the public health impact of armed violence, and to contribute a public health perspective to policy reforms that reduce gun injury and death. It is a health and human-centered approach that harnesses the tools of public health to address a global problem that creates untold human suffering.



Action-Oriented Research

Data on gun-related injuries will guide the identification of the risk factors that contribute to firearm injuries and death. Possible interventions can then be developed and targeted at high risk areas and groups. Action-oriented research includes:

- Hospital-based research on injuries and death from firearms
- Multinational pilot research project on injuries from firearms
- Community surveys on firearm use and injuries

Education

Educating the medical community, policy makers, media, and the public about armed violence as a public health problem is needed to develop a comprehensive effort to reduce gun-related deaths and injuries. *Aiming for Prevention* members:

- Present research findings at important international health forums
- Raise awareness and foster dialogue among and between the health communities, government agencies, and advocacy organizations through educational materials, forums, web dialogues and other facilitated communications
- Organize gatherings of medical and public health officials with the purpose of advancing public health interventions

Organizing and Advocacy

By involving the medical community in a comprehensive fashion, we can bring a new and powerful tool to bear on policy reforms related to armed violence prevention. We work to:

- Contribute fact-based public health advocacy to national, regional and international government policy forums and entities, including the UN Programme of Action (UNPoA) on Small Arms and Light Weapons, and National SALW Commissions established under the UNPoA
- Contribute fact-based advocacy to policy specialists, professional associations, activists, and citizen groups working on armed violence prevention
- Act as international coordinator of the “Public Health Network” of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANS)

Care and Rehabilitation

As medical professionals we know how important ongoing physical and mental health care and rehabilitation is for victims of gun violence. Our members provide medical and follow-up care to victims, and help demobilize and reintegrate ex-combatants into society.

“Violence is not simply a social ill or a social justice problem. It is an important health problem – and one that is largely preventable.”

– World Health Organization