

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue on Social Work and Gun Violence

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Gun violence is one of the most pressing public health problems of our time. In the United States, more than 30,000 people die annually from gun violence; about two-thirds of them are suicides. A large proportion of deaths are among young people—19 children die every day in the United States from gun injury. Far more people survive their shootings, and many live with the chronic effects of injuries, which can include permanent disability and mental health issues. Gun violence affects more than just the immediate victims; their family members and communities also suffer lasting effects. Not all populations are affected equally, as the majority of homicides are among young African American men. Gun violence is of importance across many areas of social work practice, from micro to macro. In an era of increases in mass shootings like those in Parkland, Florida, and Las Vegas, Nevada, coupled with decreases in gun regulation in most states, this issue merits immediate attention.

Anti-gun-regulation forces, including the NRA, have stymied policy progress with federal bans on gun violence research. Some professional organizations have responded to this crisis by issuing comprehensive policy statements and practice guidelines for frontline workers, but there is little guidance for social work practice. This special issue is intended to spark action among social work practitioners and researchers to address gun violence across the micro, mezzo, and macro systems. We welcome manuscripts that attend to topics such as the role of guns in intimate partner violence, firearms in community violence, unintentional death, efforts to increase social worker knowledge about gun violence and safety, programs to identify at-risk kids in schools, firearm suicide prevention, and effective responses to gun violence incidents.

The deadline for manuscript submissions is **January 15, 2019**. The journal encourages submission of full-length articles, practice forum and viewpoint columns, and letters to the editor. Manuscripts of all types will be considered (quantitative, qualitative, and mixed method studies; policy analyses; meta-analyses and systematic reviews; psychometric properties of assessment instruments; comprehensive literature reviews; theoretical and conceptual; and so on), with the expectation that these will represent a diversity of methodologies. To prepare your manuscript in proper format for submission, visit <http://naswpress.org/publications/journals/hsw-info.html>. Please indicate that your submission is intended for the Social Work and Gun Violence special issue.