



Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Congregational Stance  
on Gun Violence  
November 2000

Recognizing sensible gun legislation as effective in reducing violence and gun trauma,

We, Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, endorse the following measures with regards to the manufacture, distribution and use of firearms designed to hurt or kill:

**License Handgun Owners and Register Handguns**

Requiring all handgun owners to be licensed and requiring the registration of all gun weapons with proper authorities

**Provide for Sensible Purchase Waiting Periods and Background Checks**

Requiring sensible “cooling off” periods and extensive background checks of any individual purchasing weapons from any person or place

**Limit Purchases to One-Handgun-per-Month**

Regulating bulk purchases of guns to control straw purchases of guns that are resold on streets

**Assure Response by Officers of the Law**

Requiring all law enforcement agencies to assume a no-nonsense approach in enforcing gun laws and not engage in resale of confiscated weapons

**Regulate the Gun Industry for Consumer Safety and for distribution**

Since guns are the only consumer product specifically designed to kill, and guns are the only consumer product not regulated for safety, developing laws covering gun distribution and requiring manufacturers to design guns with built in locks and other safety devices such as loaded-chamber indicators and owner recognition mechanisms

**Regulate Distribution of Assault and Automatic Weapons and Their Ammunition**

Maintaining federal assault weapons bans; and prohibiting the sale of bullets and clips for assault weapons

**Strictly regulate the distribution of large and small arms in the global markets**

Addressing the manufacture and global distribution of large and small arms at the local, national, regional and international levels.