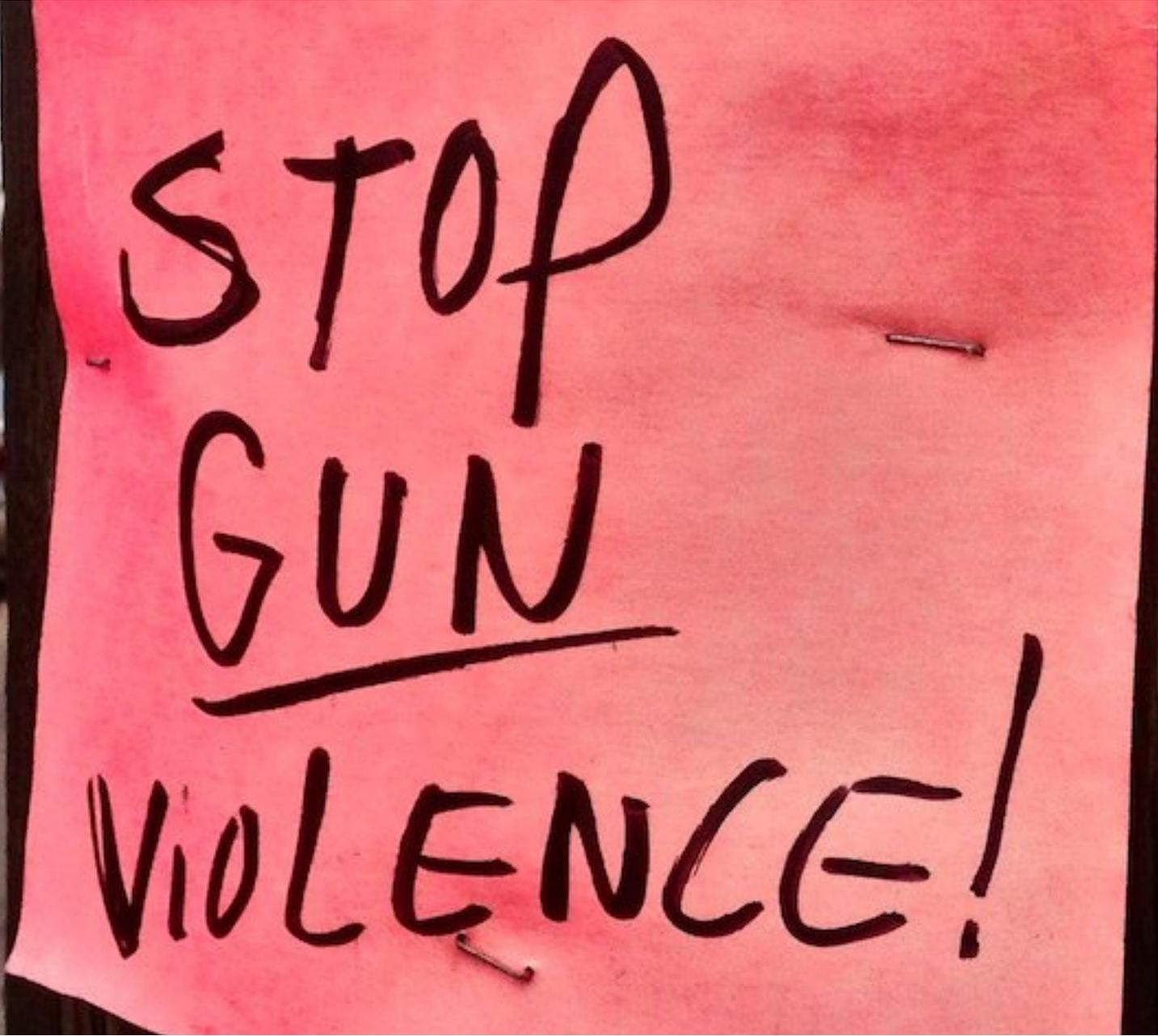


# The City of Killadelphia,

By: Lyric Hicks

A photograph of a red sign with handwritten text in black marker. The sign is pinned to a dark surface. The text reads "STOP GUN VIOLENCE!" with "GUN" underlined. The background shows a blurred outdoor scene with a car and a fence.

STOP  
GUN  
VIOLENCE!

# Table of Contents

Gun violence collage.....	3
Interview with Robinson.....	4
interview with Robinson cont.....	5
Don't Wanna Hurt Anymore Poem.....	6
About Lyric Hicks .....	7
References Page.....	8

Gun violence is negatively affecting Philadelphia. Our community cries and our community hurts every day. More than 1400 people have been fatally shot in Philadelphia. If that doesn't scream a state of emergency, I don't know what does. It used to just be gang-related things, men shooting men. Now it doesn't matter your age, race, or gender.

# Gun Violence Collage



How does gun violence negatively affect our community?

# Jadyn Robinson with a look into gun violence

About the interviewee-> Jadyn Robinson knows all about gun violence. She lives in Philadelphia, so she sees the issue for herself. She sees with her own 2 eyes that this city is in a crisis. She has also lost a loved one to gun violence therefore she is part of the hurting community. Jade was interviewed to share her personal experiences with gun violence and how it makes her feel that her community is in a state of emergency.

Lyric Hicks: How has gun violence affected you personally?

Jadyn Robinson: Gun Violence has taken a big toll on my life. I recently lost my uncle to gun violence on Christmas day of 2021. It is just depressing to know that a life could be taken that easily.

Lyric Hicks: How does gun violence affect Philadelphia as a community?

Jadyn Robinson: Gun violence in Philly is ridiculous. Everyday someone is being shot or killed in the City.

Lyric Hicks: What has been done to stop gun violence?

Jadyn Robinson: The city has canceled events , even tried to collect guns. They're trying to investigate on many cases



# Jadyn Robinson with a look into gun violence cont.

Lyric Hicks: Based on what has been done, why isn't it effective since homicide rates continue to climb?

Jadyn Robinson: Well One because these people don't care. They kill with no remorse, they don't care about the bad they're doing. And it's mainly the teenagers.

Lyric Hicks: Why do you think gun violence has become more than a gang related thing or a being in the streets thing? Does mental health play a part in this?

Jadyn Robinson: I would say more gang violence because it starts from the gangs and those who are associated with people from the gangs are dragged in and now it's just a bloodshed.

Lyric Hicks: Do you think gun violence can be turned around? Will Philadelphia ever be less deadly?

Jadyn Robinson: I don't think it will. I think it's too far gone in the city of Philadelphia.

Lyric Hicks: How does mental health and gun violence tie into each other?

Jadyn Robinson: I think it plays a lot because if you're not in the right mental state you can be triggered easily & which could lead to the decision to gun violence.

Lyric Hicks: Data shows gun violence only went down 1% since 2021. Why do you think that happened?

Jadyn Robinson; There aren't consequences and people don't get caught causing the cycle to continue.

# Don't Wanna Hurt Anymore

- Lyric Hicks

IB: Woman Work -Maya Angelou

Violence Violence violence is what we have to show  
Violence Violence Violence is all we know  
The city is Killadelphia is where we live  
All of these homicides and the police barely care

Pain Pain Pain is what we see  
Mothers crying left with no child to see  
A bunch of he-said-she-said  
A bunch of I kill you, your friend kills me  
The cycle continues with no change in the streets

Our community cries and our hearts bleed  
Our hearts beat out of our chests  
We mourn, we grieve, we get angry  
What happened to our city?  
Our city needs something

Who is responsible  
Living in a state of emergency with no state of emergency  
Killadelphia shot Philadelphia  
We're dying

# What Gun Violence Means to Me



I was born and raised in West Philadelphia. I was born on November 6th, 2005. Growing up in this city, I sadly had to learn the meaning of gun violence. I used to play outside all the time when I was younger. I played outside without having a care in the world that something would ever happen to me. That later turned into "kids can't even play outside anymore". That statement was true, I wish the younger me didn't have to believe it. Then I had to go to a balloon release ceremony for a friend at 6 years old. The friend passed away from gun violence. I started to grow up and see my city drown. I started to see my community drown. Gun violence became an essential topic to me at a young age and I will always advocate for it. I am very proud of this zine because it hits home.

# References Page

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