

Ask the families, neighbors and countless Americans who have witnessed these horrendous acts.

An APA 2019 national survey conducted in the aftermath of the El Paso and Dayton shootings found that more than three-quarters of adults (79%) in the U.S. say they experience stress as a result of the possibility of a mass shooting. A review of research on the trauma and mental health impact of mass shootings concluded that mass shootings are associated with a variety of adverse psychological outcomes in survivors and members of affected communities.

are now the leading cause of death for children under the age of 19.

You have shown us time and time again that though these atrocities elicit your outrage, you fail to take steps toward preventing more gun violence. No matter the carnage; no matter the numbers lying dead. And the impact of your failure is devastating and long-lasting.

This is a gun issue. Don't conflate it with mental illness. The data show that the overwhelming majority of people with mental illnesses are not violent. The answer to a national problem with guns is not to stigmatize people with mental illnesses.

Ask the countless American communities who were robbed of their safe spaces by gun violence

with a gun.

Ask the people who are victims of the 10,300 hate crimes involving a firearm in the United States each year—more than 28 each day.