A woman in an abusive relationship is **5 TIMES** as likely to be murdered if her abuser has access to a gun.

- More than half of all intimate partner homicides are committed with a gun.
- Transgender people are 1.7 times more likely than cisgender individuals to experience intimate partner violence.
- Each month in the U.S., an average of 70 women are shot and killed by an intimate partner.
- 4.5 million women have been threatened with a gun by an intimate partner.
- States that require people to surrender their guns when subject to an intimate partner violence restraining order have nearly a 10% lower intimate partner homicide rate than states that do not.

Between 2000 and 2020 there was a 62% increase in intimate partner homicides in Wisconsin.

In 2020, over 1/3 of people who committed a domestic violence homicide with a gun were not legally allowed to have a gun.

More domestic violence homicides are committed with a gun than all other methods combined.

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**Need Help?**

If you or someone you know is in a situation involving domestic violence, these organizations can help:

- End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin: The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence: (608) 255-0539
- The National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233
- Sojourner Family Peace Center 24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline: (414) 933-2722  Text: (414) 877-8100
- We are Here MKE: weareheremke.org
**Wisconsin Law**

**A Dangerous Gap**

If someone is convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor, federal law prohibits them from owning a gun. But Wisconsin does not have a domestic violence misdemeanor law.

Instead, a person who committed an act of domestic violence is charged under a different statute.

That means a person in Wisconsin convicted of a crime that is clearly an act of domestic violence can still buy and own guns or get a concealed carry permit.

**Protective Orders**

A victim of domestic violence can ask a court for a restraining order.

If only the victim is present at the hearing, the abuser may be subject to a temporary domestic violence restraining order, which does not automatically require abusers to surrender their firearms.

If the victim and abuser are both present, the abuser may be subject to a domestic abuse injunction, which requires the abuser to surrender their firearms within 48 hours.

**SOLUTIONS**

- Require immediate removal of firearms from subjects of temporary protective orders. Just after a victim reports their abuser, they are at greatest risk.

- Pass a state domestic violence misdemeanor law aligned with the federal law, and convict domestic abusers under that law.

- Require universal background checks to ensure that domestic abusers cannot easily acquire firearms.

**A Note About Terms**

The CDC defines “intimate partners” as current or former spouses, dating partners, or people who have a child together. Wisconsin’s definition of domestic violence includes intimate partners, current or former roommates, or caregivers and adults they care for.

**Find sources and more info on our website.**

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