

Yale University
Workshop in Urban Ethnography

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Abstract

The Gun Violence Crisis in Cities and the National Call for Action

Mayor Michael A. Nutter
Mayor, City of Philadelphia

Michael A. Nutter, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia and President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, will discuss the epidemic of gun violence that disproportionately affects urban areas in America and the solutions that have been proposed at the federal, state, and municipal levels of government.

On January 15, 2013, Mayor Nutter proposed the adoption of the “Sandy Hook Principles” – a code of conduct for corporations to heed the basic core values of American citizens in promoting the health, safety, and well-being of our communities.

Also in January, Mayor Nutter testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Democratic Steering and Policy Committee on the issue of gun violence in America and what can be done to reduce it. He called for legislation to ban assault weapons and other high-capacity magazines; a stronger national background check system and elimination of loopholes; and stronger penalties for straw purchasers of guns. He also proposed the creation of a national commission that would recommend government actions to reduce domestic terrorism, violence, and crime.

On January 28, 2013, Mayor Nutter and the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorsed President Obama’s gun safety proposals, saying the administration’s plan responds directly to their call for action. Mayor Nutter continues to be a leading advocate on the national stage for reasonable gun safety regulations.