



UNITED STATES of FEAR

America's gun situation in **one** word.



Taylor Cobb (16)

Q: Are you participating in any of the walkouts?

A: Yea, In the Florida shooting I lost one of my good friends, so I'm gonna do that.

Q: Do you think that these protests are effective?

A: I think so because it's caused some sort of social outcry that people have noticed.

BLURRED



Mia Rumsey (15)

Q. What do you think about schools that do have consequences for walking out?

A: I get why their mad because their skipping class but why would you suspend them? They're just expressing their opinion.

Q. Do you think that anything can be done to reduce school shootings and gun violence without laws?

A: I think if they did things to help kids that are angry, if they talked about it more it would be better.

UNORGANIZED

America has continuously been one of the leading countries when it comes to gun violence. Along with school shootings that have recently been extremely relevant, there have been a number of mass shootings within the past few years. In 2015, nine African Americans were killed at a church in Charleston, North Carolina by a man named Dylann Roof who identified himself as a white supremacist. The community was deeply affected, and a local high school even dedicated an issue of their literary magazine to this appalling event.

In the first few months of 2018, the U.S. has endured 19 school shootings in states that include Kentucky, Florida and North Carolina. Last year, there were approximately 67 school shootings in the United States. Some people place the blame of this gun violence on the easy accessibility of guns in America. However, others have decided that the mental health of citizens in the country is the leading cause of the increase in events like this.

One of the recent school shootings that stands out among others is the tragic event that occurred in Parkland, Florida. Students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School that experienced this school shooting have shared their stories and spoken up about their beliefs of gun violence with hopes to decrease the amount of shootings in America. Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School did not have the Valentine's Day experience that they were anticipating. This day, 15 students were killed, as well as two faculty members. Students such as Emma Gonzalez and Sarah Chadwick have demanded change, hoping that their local and national governments will hear them out and assist in reducing gun violence.

Day after day, gun violence can be seen across America, but not all of these events are widely noticed. Currently, the country's government is working on taking steps towards reducing this type of violence.