

Stick Talk 9 PRINCIPLES OF FIREARM HARM REDUCTION

DO WE DARE LOVE THE SHOOTERS?

1 BUILD ON THE LIVED

EXPERIENCES, LEADERSHIP, ANALYSIS, AND INSTINCTS FOR PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OF THOSE WHO ARE AT GREATEST RISK OF EXPOSURE TO LETHAL VIOLENCE.

3 FOR YOUNG BLACK AND LATINX PEOPLE, CARRYING A GUN FOR PROTECTION IS A RATIONAL RESPONSE TO THE STATES'S REFUSAL TO KEEP THEM SAFE.

5 IN NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE EVERYBODY GOT GUNS, BOTH THE CRIMINALIZATION OF FIREARM POSSESSION & ABSTINENCE- ONLY GUN EDUCATION FAIL TO MAKE PEOPLE SAFER.

7 INVITE ILLICIT GUN USERS TO LEARN ABOUT THE WEAPONS THEY ROUTINELY CARRY, LAY CLAIM TO THE RESOURCES THEY NEED, AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO MAKE THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS HEALTHIER AND MORE PEACEFUL EVEN IF THEY ARE NOT INTERESTED IN PUTTING THE GUNS DOWN.

2 RESPOND TO COMMUNITIES WHERE BLACK AND LATINX PEOPLE ILLICITLY POSSESS AND USE FIREARMS WITH THE SAME EMPATHY THAT IS USUALLY RESERVED FOR COMMUNITIES WHERE WHITE PEOPLE ILLICITLY POSSESS AND USE OPIOIDS.

4 AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE GROWN UP CONSTANTLY EXPOSED TO COMMUNITY AND POLICE VIOLENCE, ILLICIT FIREARM USE AND ILLICIT OPIOID USE COEXIST AND INTERACT.

6 ESSENTIAL TO THE WORK OF PREVENTING THE PREMATURE DEATHS OF YOUNG BLACK AND LATINX PEOPLE IS REDUCING THEIR EXPOSURE TO THE POLICE.

8 VITALIZE COMMUNITY-CONTROLLED RESPONSES TO GUN-RELATED CONFLICTS AND HARMS BY MAKING PLACES WHERE ILLICIT FIREARM POSSESSION IS NOT CRIMINALIZED OR STIGMATIZED.

9 DE-POLICE AND DE-PROFESSIONAIZE: THE PROBLEM IS LESS THE AMOUNT OF GUN-RELATED CONFLICTS THAN THE OVERABUNDANCE OF PROFESSIONALS EMPLOYED TO MANAGE THEM.

