

**AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
HOUSE OF DELEGATES 2017  
RESOLUTION: A7**

INTRODUCED BY: Devki Joshi, Chair, Action Committee on Race, Ethnicity and Culture in Health

SCHOOL: SUNY Downstate College of Medicine

SUBJECT: Principles Regarding Violence and Hate Crimes

TYPE: Resolution of Principles

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1 WHEREAS in the recent years hate crimes have increased in number.

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3 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Principles Regarding Violence and Hate  
4 Crimes (p. 127-129) be AMENDED to state:

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6 The American Medical Student Association:

7 1. **ACKNOWLEDGES** gun violence in the United States is a public health crisis and

8 URGES the enactment of effective federal violence prevention legislation which calls for  
9 the following:

10 a. a ban on the sale, manufacture, importation, ownership and possession of guns in the  
11 United States, except for police, military and hunting purposes;

12 b. a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines;

13 c. imposition and enforcement of severe penalties, mandatory sentencing and civil  
14 liability for crimes involving gun;

15 d. universal background checks for all new gun purchases;

16 e. state legislation banning the concealed carry of any gun, loaded or unloaded, by private  
17 citizens in any public place.

18 f. criminalization of gun trafficking.

19

20 ...

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22 5. In regard to hate crimes:

23 a. CONDEMNS hate crimes which are defined as harassment, violence and crime  
24 motivated by prejudice and hate based on actual or perceived sexual orientation and  
25 gender identity, race, ethnicity, religion, gender or sex and physical or mental ability  
26 whether by groups or individuals; (1988)

27 b. SUPPORTS nationwide legislation calling for the documentation and increased public  
28 awareness of hate crimes and bias related violence; (1988)

- 29 c. URGES health professionals, community leaders, governmental and private agencies  
30 to recognize, ~~help~~ reduce and alleviate the effects of hate crimes upon victims ~~to better~~  
31 ~~preserve their human dignity and self worth~~; (1988)  
32 d. SUPPORTS violence prevention ~~by~~ **through** education, research and funding of  
33 ~~community service~~ on a national, state and local level; (1988)  
34 e. URGES vigorous enforcement and prosecution efforts against individuals and groups  
35 perpetrating such crimes. (1988)

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- 38 13. In regards to police brutality and violence against ~~minorities~~ **people of color**:
- 39 a. AFFIRMS that individual health cannot be addressed without addressing societal  
40 health (2015)
- 41 b. AFFIRMS that police violence and racial profiling of minorities and other  
42 marginalized communities is an urgent public health issue (2015)
- 43 c. URGES for the systematized collection of data from police departments on the lethal  
44 incidents occurring on duty by police to more comprehensively understand and address  
45 the scope of this problem and its impact on public health (2015)
- 46 d. URGES medical students in partnership with the medical community to address and  
47 demand the discontinuation of unnecessary or excessive use of force (2015)
- 48 e. URGES the re-examination of electroshock devices as “non-lethal weapons,” the use  
49 of which can result in cardiac arrest and death (2015)
- 50 f. URGES medical students in partnership with the medical community to demand an end  
51 to racial profiling as many studies have shown the negative impact of racial  
52 discrimination on both the physical and mental health of those affected (2015)
- 53 g. URGES medical schools to design curricula that address racial disparities in medicine  
54 including institutional bias and inequity in healthcare as well as the negative public health  
55 impacts of racial profiling and violence against communities of color (2015)
- 56 **h. SUPPORTS increased advocacy and research efforts into the effects of police brutality**  
57 **on public health outcomes;**
- 58 **i. COMMITS to learning how to provide trauma-informed care and to teach this approach**  
59 **to students, trainees and providers;**
- 60 **j. COMMITS to healing communities ravaged by discriminatory criminal justice**  
61 **practices through engaging public health systems and using our power as constituents and**  
62 **leaders to insist on racial justice.**

63 FISCAL NOTE: None

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## 66 **REPORT OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE A**

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### 68 **DISCUSSION**

69 BOT: **D.** 13. In regards to police brutality and violence ~~against minorities~~ **people of color**.  
70 **h. SUPPORTS increased advocacy and research efforts into the effects of police brutality**  
71 **and fear of the police on public health outcomes;**

72 BRD: N/A

73 PRD: Recommend to adopt as written

74 IRD: recommends to adopt as written

- 75 ACTE: amend as recommended  
76 • 13i) Recommends to amend by changing “commits to learning” and change to  
77 “supports education in how to provide trauma-informed care and to teach this  
78 approach to students, trainees and providers;”  
79 • 13j) Recommends to amend by changing “commits to healing” and change to  
80 “supports efforts in healing communities ravaged by discriminatory criminal  
81 justice practices through engaging public health systems and using our power as  
82 constituents and leaders to insist on racial justice.”

83 Premedical Caucus: N/A

84 Other Groups: Voted to NA

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86 **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:**

87 **PROS:** Relevant and provides necessary educational references.

88 **CONS:** The majority of the members with BOT, additionally some of the members  
89 believe that the language needs further clarification to ensure that intention of the content.

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91 **REFERENCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS:**

92 Majority of groups agreed with the intention of this resolution while providing  
93 amendments to ensure clarity without changing the intention.

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96 **REFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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98 Adopt as amended

99

- 100 13. In regards to police brutality and violence ~~against minorities people of color:~~  
101 **h. SUPPORTS** increased advocacy and research efforts into the effects of police brutality  
102 and fear of the police on public health outcomes;  
103 ~~i. COMMITS to learning how to provide trauma-informed care and to teach this approach~~  
104 ~~to students, trainees and providers;~~ **SUPPORTS** education in how to provide trauma-  
105 informed care and to teach this approach to students, trainees and providers;  
106 **j. COMMITS** to healing communities ravaged by discriminatory criminal justice  
107 practices through engaging public health systems and using our power as constituents and  
108 leaders to insist on racial justice.  
109