

**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

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

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

The American Medical Student Association:

1. **ACKNOWLEDGES** gun violence in the United States is a public health crisis and URGES the enactment of effective federal violence prevention legislation which calls for the following:

- a. a ban on the sale, manufacture, importation, ownership and possession of guns in the United States, except for police, military and hunting purposes;
- b. a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines;
- c. imposition and enforcement of severe penalties, mandatory sentencing and civil liability for crimes involving gun;
- d. universal background checks for all new gun purchases;
- e. state legislation banning the concealed carry of any gun, loaded or unloaded, by private citizens in any public place.
- f. criminalization of gun trafficking.

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5. In regard to hate crimes:

- a. **CONDEMNS** hate crimes which are defined as harassment, violence and crime motivated by prejudice and hate based on actual or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity, race, ethnicity, religion, gender or sex and physical or mental ability whether by groups or individuals; (1988)
- b. **SUPPORTS** nationwide legislation calling for the documentation and increased public 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.

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65 FISCAL NOTE: None