

Photos for Gathering



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/alisdare/28113568721>



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/fibonacciblue/39513397825/in/photostream/>

Handout 1

Parkland Student Activist Emma Gonzalez's tweets 3/4/2018



Emma González ✓
@Emma4Change



(1/4) Yesterday, the members of @AMarch4OurLives got to meet up with some of the most wonderful and most strong spoken students of Chicago. "Florida's safest city" and one of the cities in America most affected by gun violence came together to share stories, ideologies, and pizza.

9:10 AM - Mar 4, 2018

♡ 47.1K 💬 13K people are talking about this



Emma González ✓
@Emma4Change



Replying to @Emma4Change

(2/4) Those who face gun violence on a level that we have only just glimpsed from our gated communities have never had their voices heard in their entire lives the way that we have in these few weeks alone. Since we all share in feeling this pain and know all too well how it

9:10 AM - Mar 4, 2018

♡ 14.6K 💬 2,964 people are talking about this



Emma González ✓
@Emma4Change



Replying to @Emma4Change

(3/4) feels to have to grow up at the snap of a finger, we were able to cover a lot of ground in communicating our experiences. People of color in inner-cities and everywhere have been dealing with this for a despicably long time, and the media cycles just don't cover the

9:10 AM - Mar 4, 2018

♡ 18.2K 💬 3,216 people are talking about this



Emma González ✓
@Emma4Change



Replying to @Emma4Change

(4/4) violence the way they did here. The platform us Parkland Students have established is to be shared with every person, black or white, gay or straight, religious or not, who has experienced gun violence, and hand in hand, side by side, We Will Make This Change Together.

9:10 AM - Mar 4, 2018

♡ 30.4K 💬 5,877 people are talking about this



Handout 2

Media Responses to Student Activism

“The shooting massacre of 17 people ... at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., not only reignited the debate over gun control but also launched a group of teenage activists. Students ... have given dozens of interviews, gained hundreds of thousands of followers on Twitter and visited the White House and the Florida state Capitol. They’ve challenged senators and congressional representatives on live television and gone viral in videos of their pleas to prevent another slaughter.” <http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-parkland-student-activists-20180223-htmstory.html>

“Experts say the [Parkland] teens ... are uniquely positioned to become the leading voices in the gun debate. This generation has grown up as native users of social media and have never known a time when there weren’t mass shootings at schools. “This has happened in their community in their school. They’re given this window of opportunity to speak out for a generation that is tired of being unable to speak out against gun violence,” The students are of the right age and era to articulate exactly how gun violence has affected them.” <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/how-parkland-survivors-became-advocates-gun-reform-n849596>

“The students are smart, articulate, and direct in what they want: gun reform, or at least a country where schools are safer—and they’re mobilizing ... [using] social media. There have been efforts on Snapchat that track protests and walkouts. There have been teenagers connecting with each other through Twitter hashtags to present a unified front.” <https://psmag.com/education/after-the-parkland-shooting-listen-to-the-teens>

For some black activists who have long been mobilizing around gun violence, the current wave of public attention and outrage over the issue is welcome. But it also invites the question of why there’s been comparatively little attention and outrage focused on the even more common reality of routine gun homicides in the country, which disproportionately affect communities of color, and specifically black Americans. https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/black-lives-gun-violence-florida-shooting_us_5a8f1a11e4b00804dfe6a466

When “the young people of Black Lives Matter were protesting in ... cities across America, much of the country didn’t bother to listen to their message. They were not embraced by the mainstream for their bravery, their determination or resolve to bring attention to reckless police killings that disproportionately impact young African-Americans. Some labeled them troublemakers, even terrorists.” <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/columnists/glanton/ct-met-florida-teens-black-lives-matter-dahleen-glanton-20180223-story.html>

Prominent black organizers and public figures have ... noted the largely positive public response to the student activists from Parkland — most of whom are not black and who attended school in a largely white, relatively affluent Florida suburb — compared to the frequent vilification of young black activists protesting gun violence, particularly police shootings. “It’s complicated, but I would encourage us to lean into [and explore] the complicated,” Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Cullors said. https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/black-lives-gun-violence-florida-shooting_us_5a8f1a11e4b00804dfe6a466