

**Red Hook Initiative, Public Safety Organizer - Shooting Response**  
**June 15, 2022**

In my opinion there has been an increase in these shootings because people are less aware and concerned about how these things affect the community. These shootings are mostly done by the young adults in the community who don't have a lot of family or support so that they can be something better. These young adults need something to keep them going and steady instead of being outside getting into trouble. As a young adult I've experienced being alone and not having that level of support so I know how it feels to these young adults. When you feel you have nothing to live for you're going to do whatever by any means. Maybe if people felt like they have more than just the "hood" or "gangs" to turn to the less people we would lose. A lot of things that happen in the streets over power a lot of young adults' morals and that's another reason why these young adults are so careless with guns. If everyone would just make people feel more comfortable to ask for help the shooting rate would decrease. In my opinion a lot of violence happens because of lack of communication. We as a community need to talk more with our peers no matter the age. If everyone could be there for each other we wouldn't have to worry about someone dying tomorrow. A lack of attention in people's lives can also cause irrational feelings and irrational actions as well. If we focused more on the mental health and well being of a person we would make the community a way better place.

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