



## Summary: In the News (2014)

The Cure Violence approach has been the focus of significant media attention in 2014:

- Dr. Lloyd Sederer, Medical Director of the New York State Office of Mental Health and Medical Editor at the *Huffington Post* [interviewed](#) Gary Slutkin in New York on December 7<sup>th</sup> for the NYC premiere of Participant Media's "*Most Violent Year*" film which will be publicly released in theatres across the US on 12/31/2014.
- Cure Violence is one of [10 programs](#) cited by *National Journal* that promote citizen engagement in the most innovative ways across America.
- Treating violence like an infectious disease, [San Antonio Police](#) says it's teaming up with Metro Health to fight crime
- New York Times best-selling authors (husband-and-wife-team) Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn released a new book, *A Path Appears*, focused around transforming lives and creating opportunity. As one of a select few organizations profiled, Cure Violence is presented as an example of successful, innovative work being done at the grassroots level that is accomplishing a purpose of larger social change. A [recent New York Times Book Review](#), written by Paul Collier, reinforced the impact of the Cure Violence approach in reducing violence in urban areas.
- New York City [invested \\$12.7 million](#) to expand comprehensive, neighborhood-based strategy to prevent gun violence to reach 14 precincts accounting for 51 percent of shootings in New York City. The [new initiative](#) is centered around the "cure violence" model and now includes "wrap around" services, programs that respond to meet the needs of every spectrum in the community that is impacted by gun violence. This new strategy employs evidence-based community interventions, anti-violence messaging, and support services in areas with high rates of gun violence, and will be driven by the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, the Departments of Education, Health and Mental Hygiene, Probation and Youth and Community Development, and the City University of New York.
- ***MSNBC Series Ricochet: Life in a City under Siege from Guns (Parts 3 and 4)***
- [Save Our Streets](#), or simply SOS, originated in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn in 2009 and has since expanded to 15 sites across the city. The City Council along with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the largest U.S. charity devoted to public health, have pumped millions of dollars into this unconventional anti-violence initiative modeled after Chicago's CeaseFire program. Now called Cure Violence, the program was celebrated in the award-winning 2011 documentary "The Interrupters." Cure Violence has been emulated in roughly 50 cities worldwide since its inception 15 years ago.

- In recent years, the Cure Violence model has spread to other cities in the United States and abroad—even to Iraq and Colombia—and [results have been remarkable](#). Careful evaluations have found that Cure Violence can reduce serious violence by one-quarter or more, at a negligible cost. Gary Slutkin thinks that with some tweaking and enough resources, the model could reduce homicides by 70 percent.
- Big Picture: [Wilmington Announcement](#) of New Cure Violence Initiative
- [National Academy of Sciences](#), [Contagion of Violence](#) by Gary Slutkin, M.D.
- [UNICEF report](#) includes several case studies of programs working effectively to reduce violence against children. Cure Violence is one of those organizations profiled in the report.
- The [Stanford Social Innovation Review](#) highlighted Cure Violence’s founder and executive director in its series on the most innovative entrepreneurs tackling the problem of gun violence.
- Cure Violence Director of Science & Policy, Charlie Ransford, [reviewed](#) the Fearon and Hoeffler research for **Copenhagen Consensus** which recently published his review. Ransford agrees with Hoeffler and Fearon that reducing violence is crucial to global economic and social development. The costs of violence are simply too high – the welfare cost of collective, interpersonal violence, harsh child discipline, intimate partner violence and sexual abuse total more than 11 percent of global GDP. The costs of homicides are much larger than the cost of war.
- [Our America](#) with Lisa Ling on the **Oprah Winfrey Network** interviewed Marla Davis-Bellamy, Director of Philadelphia CeaseFire, to shed light on why the credible messengers of CeaseFire are integral in de-escalating situations before a trigger is pulled.
- Jamaica ramped up its commitment to reduce violence using the Cure Violence model. 120 newly trained Violence Interrupters are now equipped to actively intervene in conflicts or situations before violent acts ensue. [Jamaica’s Minister of National Security, Hon. Peter Bunting](#), affirmed Dr. Gary Slutkin’s research in treating violence like a contagious disease. Minister Bunting believes, “If we can get a community to say enough is enough...it will work.” Gary Slutkin, Founder & Executive Director of Cure Violence, was the keynote speaker at the Jamaica Conference on Youth Violence hosted by Minister Bunting.
- Rather than taking a reactive approach, the **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** is focused on preventative measures for ending youth violence. Its latest [online publications](#) on the topic of youth violence mention Cure Violence as an organization practicing effective prevention through its street outreach and community mobilization.
- Each weekday, Chicago’s **WBEZ Worldview** provides global affairs coverage with in-depth conversations on international issues and their local impact. A [recent episode](#) featured Cure Violence founder and executive director, Dr. Gary Slutkin, and Director of

International Programs, Brent Decker. How is the Cure Violence model adapted internationally? How does a “parallel approach” between law enforcement and health departments drive results? What’s next for Cure Violence?

- Considering the huge amount of violence featured in TV, movies and video games, how can we cure violence? A [fascinating Forbes article](#) connects Dr. Gary Slutkin’s theories with the powerful brain-produced drug, dopamine, to answer this question.
- In an article in one of [South Africa’s main newspapers](#), the story of Charmaine’s journey out of gang life was profiled – she is the lone female workers on the CeaseFire team in Cape Town. Charmaine’s determination extends to women caught up in similar struggles.
- Following the loss of many young people to “ugly violence,” two neighboring communities in Halifax have joined the Cure Violence movement in addressing the epidemic. CeaseFire Halifax [officially launched](#) on Sunday, July 13. Just a few months later, Halifax’ main newspaper, the *Chronicle Herald*, penned an [editorial](#) calling for an increase in funding for CeaseFire Halifax due to its early results in reducing shootings and killings.
- Cure Violence was also one of only two organizations cited by David Kilcullen in his book [Out of the Mountains](#) as a way to deal with problems of the future. Kilcullen was General Petraeus’ senior adviser in Iraq. The other organization he cited was founded by Gbowee Leymah of Liberia, “Women of Liberia’s Math Action for Peace). Both organizations were praised for their street level co-design in dangerous urban areas under stress.
- Gary Slutkin, M.D. was named as one of author Katrina Fried’s [Everyday Heroes: 50 Americans Changing the World One Nonprofit at a Time](#) for the work Cure Violence is doing to reduce shootings and killings across the globe.
- Gary Slutkin, M.D. was featured in Betsy Storm’s new book [Bright Lights of the Second City: 50 Prominent Chicagoans Living with Passion & Purpose](#)