

**Vital City: Women and Guns
Call for Papers
Proposals Due April 4, 2025**

<https://arms.chip.uconn.edu/vital-city-proposal-submission/>

Vital City, UConn ARMS, and the Niskanen Center invite you to submit a proposal for possible inclusion in their upcoming *Vital City* issue dedicated to exploring the unique ways women are affected by or interact with guns.

About Vital City

Vital City seeks to improve civic life by finding great ideas and innovative research and making them available — and understandable — to those who shape urban policy. They also seek to make relevant data accessible to anyone who wants to get a better understanding of how cities work, because an informed citizenry is crucial to a healthy democracy. Through a policy journal, special reports, data analysis, public convenings and more, Vital City brings together a broad range of political perspectives in civil conversation to share new ideas and enlightening data about how to promote thriving cities.

For more information and to view published issues, please visit www.vitalcitynyc.org.

About the Issue

Women are affected by guns and gun violence in distinct and evolving ways; however, the unique impact of gun violence on women is not often acknowledged. This has led to a gap in scholarship, as well as a lack of policies and interventions aimed at effectively preventing and responding to the unique effects of gun violence on women. The intended audience for the special issue and its content will be researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and the general public. We aim to produce a compelling and consumable special issue. We anticipate organizing the volume as follows:

1. The articles will first describe the ways in which women are distinctly impacted by guns or gun violence. Examples might include women's experience with intimate partner or domestic firearm violence, women's increasing rates of gun ownership, use of gun's for self-defense, women's disproportionate experience as the survivor of gun violence (that is having lost loved ones to homicide, suicide, or unintentional injury), and the kind of role women play in criminal gun activity (for example, as "straw purchasers").
2. In this section, articles should present causal evidence either about why trends are changing or effective solutions for intervention or response. Where causal evidence does not exist, descriptive data that is evidence generating or can advance causal theories will be given full consideration. Articles may be summative, and we encourage the use of data or figures to demonstrate your argument (which do not -

within reason- count against your word limit). Potential topics of interest include effective ways to reduce firearm intimate partner homicide, secure storage as a way to protect women (directly and indirectly), the role of policies on women's injury (open carry, permitless carry, ERPO, etc.), effective mental health strategies, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) as a potential strategy to keep women safe either through primary or secondary prevention.

3. Articles that explore legal context, plausible solutions, ways to implement evidence-based policies, how to address important data or knowledge gaps, and exploring the effectiveness of other policy nudges that don't involve explicit gun policies.

We welcome submissions from professionals, researchers, and all leading thinkers.

We hope to represent a wide variety of viewpoints and produce a multi-experience, multidisciplinary issue. Journal articles are typically short (about 1500 words). Articles should be free of jargon and accessible to a lay audience. We will provide a \$1000 honorarium per paper (split evenly among co-authors unless otherwise requested). Prior to publication, we will host a virtual authors' conference to refine the journal content. Concurrent with publication, we will also host an in-person event at The Niskanen Center in Washington, DC to promote the journal and disseminate the content. Travel assistance may be possible but is not guaranteed.

Anticipated Timeline

- April 4, 2025: Proposals due
- May 2, 2025 {on or about}: Authors notified
- Summer 2025: Article drafts submitted and edited
- Early Fall 2025: Authors' virtual meeting
- Spring 2026: Journal is published and event at Niskanen

How to Submit a Proposal

Please submit proposals online [here](#). In addition to completing the fields, you will need to upload a PDF document with the following (1) the names, affiliations, and emails of all anticipated authors and (2) a 200 – 300 word proposal. You may also identify which area of the journal you think your proposal would fit best. Questions should be submitted to Kerri Raissian at kerri.raissian@uconn.edu. Please use "Vital City Question" as your subject line.

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