

THE TEMPLE SINAI (DC) GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION GROUP PRESENTS:

## The Intersectionality of the Gun Violence Epidemic and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Summoning the Youth Response

Thursday, October 1, 2020, 7:00 pm via Zoom

[Register here](#)



On August 3, 2020, Giovanni Russonello, a reporter for the *New York Times*, wrote a story headlined “What Happened to the Young Voters Focused on Guns? It’s Not Their Top Issue Anymore. But Many See It As Part of Other, Larger Concerns.” In the story, he quoted Kelly Choi, a 20-year-old Board member of March for Our Lives: “For us, we recognize how gun violence is such an intersectional issue. Gun violence is the symptom of other things, like poverty, racism, housing insecurity, domestic violence.”

On October 1 at 7 pm, the GVPG is offering what should be an informative and inspirational Zoom presentation: “The Intersectionality of the Gun Violence Epidemic and the Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic: Summoning the Youth Response.” [Register in advance here.](#)

This timely program will examine these questions:

1. Is there a connection or intersectionality between and among rising gun sales and gun violence and the COVID-19 Pandemic, systemic racism and other social and economic ills?
2. How can we focus and energize valuable youth activism to support ongoing gun violence prevention efforts in this challenging, intersectional period?
3. How can gun violence prevention advocates support youth activism aimed at conditions that engender and exacerbate violence, such as economic and educational inequity, excessive use of police forces, environmental racism and other social ills?
4. What are specific, current and emerging GVP issues in Maryland and elsewhere on which to focus, e.g., strengthening gun purchase background checks, confronting the trauma of ongoing urban gun violence on minority communities, including excessive use of police gun violence, “reimagining” the role of the police to expand “violence interruption” and community public health approaches to reduce gun violence, regulating open gun carry by right and left wing vigilante militia groups, banning the sale of AR-15 and other “weapons of war” and high-capacity magazine clips, etc.

## Moderators



**Steve Klitzman and Sally Greenberg**, Chair and Vice Chair, Gun Violence Prevention Group, Temple Sinai (DC).

## Panelists



**Helisa Cruz**, Youth Organizer, Black Swan Academy, DC. See <https://www.blackswanacademy.org/about-us>



**Lauren Hogg**, Rising Senior Georgetown Day School, Washington, DC, Survivor, Mass Shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, FL, Feb. 14, 2018. Member, March for Our Lives Board of Directors, Sister of MSD Student Leader, **David Hogg**, and co-author with David of *New York Times* bestseller, *#Never Again: A New Generation Draws the Line*.



**Prof. Joseph Richardson, Jr.**, University of Maryland, Interim Chair of the African American Studies Department and the Joel and Kim Feller Endowed Professor of African American Studies and Anthropology. This endowment supports his research on gun violence and trauma among Black boys and young Black men.



**The Hon. Tom Hucker**, Councilmember, District 6, Montgomery County (MD) Council, Vice President of Council.



**The Hon. William C. Smith, Jr.**, Maryland State Senator, District 20, Montgomery County, Chair, Senate Committee on Judicial Proceedings.

Hucker and Smith support extending Maryland waiting period for handgun license from 7 to 30 days as COVID-19 has spurred a historic surge in gun purchases. They co-authored a Commentary in the Baltimore Sun, July 31, 2020, about this important public safety issue: [“Maryland Needs to Close \[Its Own\] ‘Charleston’ Gun Loophole”](#)