



**Statement of Esta Soler,
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School Shootings in Uvalde, Texas a Devastating Reminder of the Need for the Prevention, Gun Safety Laws that Will Make Our Schools and Communities Safe

“Today our world was again shattered and our hearts again broken by the devastating news that another teenager accessed deadly weapons, shot a relative, and then unleashed those weapons on children and adults at a nearby elementary school. The death toll is high and growing, the loss to families and the Uvalde community incalculable, the harm to our society unending.

We cannot and will not grow numb to this. We cannot and will not accept the mass shooting and carnage that occur week after week, day after day in our country. We cannot and will not listen to empty words of sympathy from those who continue to block laws that would keep lethal weapons out of the hands of those who should not have them.

Tonight, we process the shock and pain. Tomorrow, we fight for the gun laws that will stop this madness and help make our schools and communities safe.”

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ABOUT FUTURES WITHOUT VIOLENCE:

For more than 35 years, FUTURES has been providing groundbreaking programs, policies and campaigns that empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children around the world. Striving to reach new audiences and transform social norms, FUTURES trains professionals such as doctors, nurses, judges and athletic coaches on improving responses to violence and abuse. FUTURES also works with advocates, policymakers and others to build sustainable community leadership and educate people everywhere about the importance of respect and healthy relationships. More information is available at www.futureswithoutviolence.org.