If it’s unlocked, it can be unboxed.

Toy unboxing videos get millions of views online. But in real life, millions of American children are at risk of unboxing something dangerous: an unlocked gun.

Guns and Kids in the Home

8 kids are shot every day by a misused or unlocked gun found in the home. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an explosion of gun sales in 2020, that consequently raised the risk of unsecured guns in a home.

- **4.6 million** children live in a home with an unlocked gun
- **3 in 4** kids know where their parents keep their guns
- **1 in 5** parents don’t know their kids have handled their guns

Prevent An Unwanted Unboxing

If you own a gun and want to truly protect your family, these steps can help you secure your firearm:

- **KEEP IT UNLOADED.** Make sure that your gun is completely unloaded before putting it away. If the gun is semi-automatic, ensure there’s not a round still in the chamber.
- **KEEP IT LOCKED.** A lock on the gun itself (whether on the trigger, or a cable though the action or barrel, or both) will ensure it does not fire, which removes the biggest danger of an accidental discovery. Many local police or sheriffs’ departments can give you one for free.
- **KEEP IT AWAY.** Placing your gun in a locked case, locker, or safe is another good way to keep your children safe from an accidental discovery – doubly so if there’s a lock on the gun itself. The less accessible the case or box is to children, the better. Remember the lengths you used to go to find your presents? Use that as your guide.
- **KEEP THEM SEPARATE.** Ammunition should always be kept in a completely separate location from the gun itself and locked up as well.

By locking your guns and teaching your children about firearm safety, you could reduce the risk of suicide by gun or an unintended shooting by up to 32%.

For more information on gun safety Go to www.supgv.org