the Citizens' Climate Lobby that would greatly help this problem. A steadily rising fee would be assessed at the sources of fossil fuels. The fees would be collected and returned to all U.S. citizens, making it a revenue neutral system. As a result of this, new sustainable and renewable energy sources would become more competitive. It wouldn't hurt, of course, to remove some of the outrageous government subsidies and tax advantages that fossil fuel companies receive from the U.S.

The revenue neutral system proposed by the Citizens' Climate Lobby would reduce carbon levels 50 percent below 1990 levels in just 20 years, according to the Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI) study. We need to take significant and dramatic action to stem the tide of rising carbon levels and worldwide temperatures.

Tell Senator Gardner, Senator Bennet, and Congressman Polis to support a revenue-neutral carbon tax. We can all make Earth Day pledges to change our lifestyles to consume less and conserve more, but we need a systematic, country-wide system like the one proposed by CCL to assure that we reduce our carbon footprint every day — and soon. Please see citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/
Kenneth Nova/Boulder

Republicans insult Aurora theater massacre families Recently, Colorado Senate Republicans voted to repeal a bill prohibiting the possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines insulted the families and victims of the Aurora Movie Theater Massacre and Columbine. I testified against this absurd and dangerous bill, and I watched in disbelief and disgust as Republicans voted along straight party lines in order to repeal the bill prohibiting large-capacity ammunition in Colorado.

Three Republican Senators, Ray Scott, Jerry Sonnenberg and Owen Hill refused to do their jobs and protect the citizens of Colorado. Democratic Senator Matt Jones of Boulder voted against the bill along with Democratic Senator Ulibarri. This despicable bill was sponsored by Republican senator Vicki Marble. This debacle occurred after one family member after another testified about the slaughter of family members at the hands of a mass murderer using large-capacity ammunition magazines at Columbine and Aurora.

These Colorado Republicans are complicit in murder of Colorado citizens along with the lobbyists from the NRA and Rocky Mountain Gun Owners. It is past time to vote all Republicans out of office.
Andrew J. O'Connor/Lafayette

Gun Violence in the United States

In one year on average in America:

32,514 people die from gun violence
11,294 are murdered
29,992 are suicides
414 are killed by police intervention
254 are by undetermined intent

and 75,962 people survive gun injuries.

In one year on average, of children and teens (ages 0-19):
Over 17,000 children and teens are shot and 2677 of them die from gun violence.

Data were compiled by the Brady campaign using CDC data from 2009-2013.

Gun Violence in Colorado

In 2014, there were 647 people killed with guns in Colorado.

101 were homicides (59% of homicides were with a firearm)
527 were suicides (50% of suicides were with a firearm)
0-2* were unintentional (accidents)
10 were of undetermined intent
9 were legal interventions

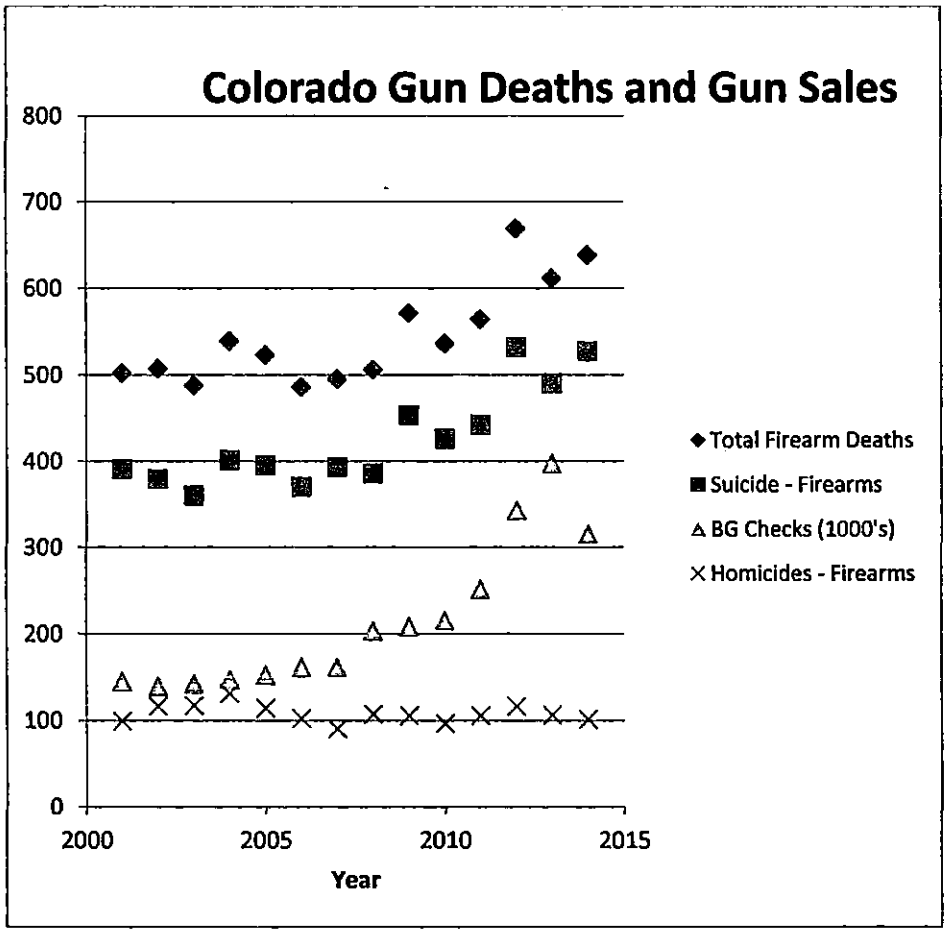
81.4% of gun deaths in 2014 were suicides.
Suicides are more prevalent for middle-aged to older white men and in rural areas.

But gun deaths are only part of the story. There were 221 reported hospitalizations for gun injuries, including 25 inpatient deaths and 39 who suffered traumatic brain injuries.

Data obtained from the Colorado Department of Health and Environment.
*For privacy reasons, CDPHE does not report numbers below 3.

Gun Sales:
The best indicator of the number of gun sales is the number of background checks performed by CBI. This is an undercount, as there can be multiple guns purchased under one background check.

Concealed Carry Permits:
No one entity in the state knows who or how many CCW permits there are. From CBI background checks, we know that the number of permit and renewal applications in the last 5 years is just under 200,000. (Permits must be renewed every 5 years).



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Collateral damage

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Collateral damage is a general term for deaths, injuries, or other damage inflicted on an unintended target. In military terminology, it is frequently used for the incidental killing or wounding of non-combatants or damage to non-combatant property during an attack on a legitimate military target.[1][2] The unintentional destruction of friendly targets is called friendly fire.

Critics of the term see it as a euphemism that dehumanizes non-combatants killed or injured during combat, used to reduce the perception of culpability of military leadership in failing to prevent non-combatant casualties.[3][4][5][6]

Contents

Etymology

The word "collateral" comes from medieval Latin *collateralis*, from *col-*, "together with" + *lateralis* (from *latus*, *later-*, "side") and is otherwise mainly used as a synonym for "parallel" or "additional" in certain expressions ("collateral veins" run parallel to each other and "collateral security" means additional security to the main obligation in a contract). The first known usage of the term "collateral damage" in this context occurred in a May 1961 article written by T. C. Schelling entitled "DISPERSAL, DETERRENCE, AND DAMAGE".[7]

The *USAF Intelligence Targeting Guide* defines the term "[the] unintentional damage or incidental damage affecting facilities, equipment, or personnel, occurring as a result of military actions directed against targeted enemy forces or facilities. Such damage can occur to friendly, neutral, and even enemy forces".[1] Another United States Department of Defense document uses "[u]nintentional or incidental injury or damage to persons or objects that would not be lawful military targets in the circumstances ruling at the time. Such damage is not unlawful so long as it is not excessive in light of the overall military advantage anticipated from the attack."[8]

Intent is the key element in understanding the military definition as it relates to target selection and prosecution. Collateral damage is damage aside from that which was intended. Since the dawn of precision guided munitions, military "targeteers" and operations personnel are often alleged to have gone to great lengths to minimize collateral damage.[9]

Non-military uses of the phrase

The term 'collateral damage' has also been borrowed by the computing community to refer to the denial of service to legitimate users when administrators take blanket preventative measures against some individuals who are abusing systems. For example, Realtime Blackhole Lists used to combat email spam generally block ranges of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses rather than individual IPs associated with spam, and can deny legitimate users within those ranges the ability to send email to some domains.

The related term *collateral mortality* is also becoming prevalent, and probably derives from the term collateral damage. It has been applied to other spheres in addition to the original military context. An example is in fisheries where bycatch of species such as dolphins are called collateral mortality; i.e., they are species that die in pursuit of the legal death of fishery targets, such as tuna.[10]

Controversy

The U.S. military states the term is used in regards to unintentional or incidental damage to non-combatant casualties and non-combatant property,[1] however, at least one source claims that the term "collateral damage" originated as a euphemism during the Vietnam War and can refer to friendly fire, or the intentional killing of non-combatants and the destruction of their property.[11]

On December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy led a sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, killing almost 2,500 people and causing the American entry into World War II. The U.S. and Japan were not officially at war when the attack happened and thus it could be seen as a deliberate attack on non-combatants. However, the primary objective of the sneak attack were the battleships, aircraft, and oil facilities, not the neutral military personnel and civilians, but some argued that the people themselves were also deliberate targets. During World War II, widespread civilian casualties and damage to civilian property were caused by strategic bombing of enemy cities. If the intent of the strategic bombing was to destroy the enemy's war industry, then civilian casualties were called collateral damage. Given the low accuracy of bombing technology in WWII, it was inevitable that civilian casualties would occur. However, the Japanese bombing of Chongqing, the Allied strategy of creating firestorms in cities such as Hamburg or Tokyo,[12] and the indiscriminate attacks by the Germans on Allied cities with V-weapons fall outside the definition of collateral damage as these raids were meant to or suspected to terrorize and kill enemy civilians.[13][14][15]

Also during the 1991 Gulf War, Coalition forces used the phrase 'collateral damage' to describe the killing of civilians in attacks on legitimate targets. According to Scottish linguist Deborah Cameron,[16] "the classic Orwellian argument for finding this usage objectionable would be that

- it is jargon, and to the extent that people cannot decode it, it conceals what is actually going on;

- it is a euphemism; abstract, agentless and affectless, so that even if people succeed in associating it with a real act or event they will be insulated from any feeling of repulsion and moral outrage".

In 1999, "collateral damage" (German: *Kollateralschaden*) was named the German Un-Word of the Year by a jury of linguistic scholars. With this choice, it was criticized that the term had been used by NATO forces to describe civilian casualties during the Kosovo War, which the jury considered to be an inhuman euphemism.[17]

When Wikileaks released a video of a 2007 airstrike in Baghdad, they titled it *Collateral Murder*, as a parody of the phrase.

International humanitarian law

Military necessity, along with distinction, and proportionality, are three important principles of international humanitarian law governing the legal use of force in an armed conflict and how that relates to collateral damage.

Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Chief Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court, investigated allegations of war crimes during the 2003 invasion of Iraq and he published an open letter containing his findings. A section titled "Allegations concerning War Crimes" elucidates this use of *Military necessity, distinction* and *proportionality*:

> Under international humanitarian law and the Rome Statute, the death of civilians during an armed conflict, no matter how grave and regrettable, does not in itself constitute a war crime. International humanitarian law and the Rome Statute permit belligerents to carry out proportionate attacks against military objectives,[18] even when it is known that some civilian deaths or injuries will occur. A crime occurs if there is an intentional attack directed against civilians (principle of distinction) (Article 8(2)(b)(i)) or an attack is launched on a military objective in the knowledge that the incidental civilian injuries would be clearly excessive in relation to the anticipated military advantage (principle of proportionality) (Article 8(2)(b)(iv).
>
> Article 8(2)(b)(iv) criminalizes:
> Intentionally launching an attack in the knowledge that such attack will cause incidental loss of life or injury to civilians or damage to civilian objects or widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment which would be clearly excessive in relation to the concrete and direct overall military advantage anticipated;
> Article 8(2)(b)(iv) draws on the principles in Article 51(5)(b) of the 1977 Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, but restricts the criminal prohibition to cases that are "*clearly*" excessive. The application of Article 8(2)(b)(iv) requires, *inter alia*, an assessment of:
> (a) the anticipated civilian damage or injury;
> (b) the anticipated military advantage;
>
> (c) and whether (a) was "clearly excessive" in relation to (b).
>
> — Luis Moreno-Ocampo[19]

U.S. military approach to collateral damage

The U.S. military follows a technology-based process for estimating and mitigating collateral damage. The software used is known as "FAST-CD" or "Fast Assessment Strike Tool—Collateral Damage."[20]

See also

- Acceptable loss
- Aesopian language
- Civilian casualty ratio
- Distancing language
- Doublespeak
- Externality
- Geneva Conventions
- July 12, 2007 Baghdad airstrike
- Philosophy of war
- Realpolitik
- Targeted killing
- Total war
- War crime

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17. (http://einestages.spiegel.de/external/ShowTopicAlbumBackground/a23795/l32/l0/F.html#featuredEntry) Spiegel Online: *Ein Jahr, ein (Un-)Wort!* (in German).
18. Article 52 of *Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions provides a widely accepted definition of military objective: "In so far as objects are concerned, military objectives are limited to those objects which by their nature, location, purpose or use make an effective contribution to military action and whose total or partial destruction, capture or neutralization, in the circumstances ruling at the time, offers a definite military advantage" (Source: Luis Moreno-Ocampo References page 5, footnote 11).*
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External links

- *Beyond Precision: Issues of Morality and Decision Making in Minimizing Collateral Casualties* (http://acdis.illinois.edu/publications/207/publication-BeyondPrecisionIssuesofMoralityandDecisionMakinginMinimizingCollateralCasualties.html), ACDIS Occasional Paper by Lt. Col. Dwight A. Roblyer
- USAF Intelligence Targeting Guide - Attachment 7: Collateral Damage (http://www.fas.org/irp/doddir/usaf/afpam14-210/part20.htm)
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- Collateral Damage during NATO bombing of SR Yugoslavia 1999 (http://www.truthinmedia.org/truthinmedia/Kosovo/War/PhotoAlbum/photos-war-7.html) Warning: explicit images
- "Collateral Damage: A Military Euphemism for Murder" (http://www.zmag.org/znet/viewArticle/1571) by Camillo Mac Bica, Znet, 16 April 2007

Categories: Euphemisms | Military terminology | War casualties | Political correctness

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