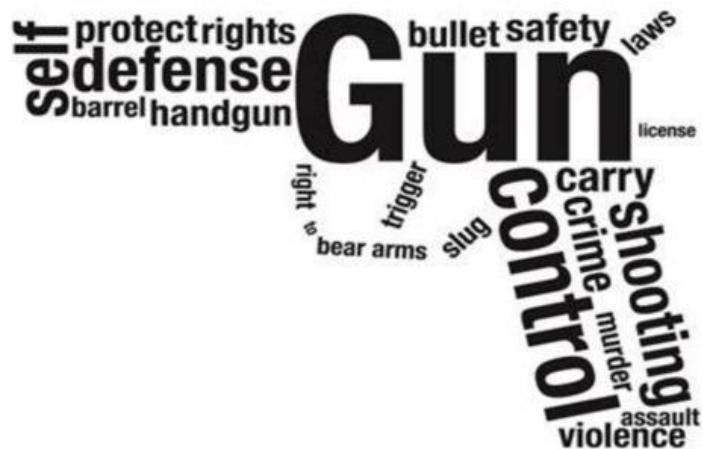


## Peace of mind



### **Script:**

When I was 12, something happened that made me think buying a gun wasn't the ..... idea. I ..... it could give me what I would like to call, a twisted peace of mind. One morning I was on my way to the bus stop when I heard ..... I looked back and saw no one. Then out of ..... I spotted a guy running towards me, wearing a grey sweat suit with ..... in his hand. I took off in the ..... direction. As I was running I saw ..... on the ground, across the street. It was my teenage ..... lying in a pool of his own ..... Growing up in West Oakland, I've witnessed robberies, drug deals and even people being paid to commit ..... It wasn't ..... to see my older cousins load their guns before going to the corner store to buy some eggs and milk. Wearing a gun seemed as essential as wearing a pair of boxers. There have been plenty of times when I've had the ..... and the right ..... to purchase one.

But each ..... at the last minute, I stop and think to ..... , "Do I honestly ..... a gun?" Then I'd buy a pair of shoes ..... . My friends ask me things like, "Why don't you tote? You too scared to get a hammer?" and quite frankly the answer is yes. I'm scared of ..... my freedom. I'm scared of the effect the gun could have on my ..... And I'm scared of the thought of ..... a person's life. Thankfully my grandparents and I ..... from West Oakland to a much calmer neighborhood. For the first time I was free to think more about ..... , sports and... shoes, without those thoughts being drowned out by ..... Every now and then I still find myself in a potentially ..... situation, and I start to think about getting a gun. But then I remember buying a piece would only ruin the ..... I already have. With a Perspective, I'm Jahlil Jackson.