INTRODUCTION

Violence has been identified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization. Weapons, particularly firearms, play a significant role in violence not only in countries that are engaged in military conflicts, but also in countries that are considered peaceful. Although the surveillance data is uneven at best, the total mortality from firearms is believed to exceed 500,000 deaths per year worldwide [1]. Intentional injury has been defined as maltreatment caused by an action or omission meant to cause harm to the victim or done deliberately [2]. Firearm related injuries are defined as those associated with guns that use harm to the victim or done deliberately [2]. Firearm related injuries are defined as those associated with guns that use a powder charge to fire a projectile [3]. Murder for sacrifice purpose is rare in Mali which is a monotheist country populated mainly by Muslim.

CASE REPORT

We report the case of a primary school boy aged 14 years old who was shot by the son of his host after his father command him to do so. The victim was seriously injured by the bullets and was taken to the Institute of African Tropical Ophthalmology. He eventually lost both eyes. The attacker and his father were prosecuted.

DISCUSSION

The case presented here is very rare in our society. Mali is a peaceful country where, muslins and Christians live in harmony. Murders or attempt of murders are not common like in other countries. In 2005, according to the Centre for Disease Control of the United States of America (USA) there were 12 337 homicides and 69 825 non-fatal injuries caused by firearms [4]. The USA has a higher homicide rate than

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other developed nations, and most of the murders are committed with firearms [5]. In developed countries, violence is increasing and people have easy access to firearms. Injuries and the law are connected in many important ways. The law can be a powerful tool for reducing the risk of injury [6]. The World Health Organization World Report on Violence and Health urges member nations to examine the impact of intentional injury and develop strategies to reduce violence [7]. In our case, the judiciary was unfair by releasing these delinquents. Instead of being a tool for fighting injuries it failed and even encouraged the murderers. An intentional attack with a firearm in order to kill a human being is a felony regardless its outcome according to the criminal code of Mali; such a person must face a trial before the court of assizes which deals with murderer and can even be sentenced to life prison or to death prison [8].

**Fig. 1: The victim 1 day after the gunshot**

**Fig. 2: The victim 3 weeks after the gunshot**

**CONCLUSION**

The attempt of murder is a crime regardless the injuries which may occur. This case which resulted in blindness is particularly awful. The behavior of the judiciary is blamable and needs to be changed in order to discourage people from violence.

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**REFERENCES**


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