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Why Citizens Shouldn't Have Easy Access To Gun

As time goes by there has been a significant increase in gun violence in New York City; shootings are up 77% over this time last year. The 2nd Amendment, which safeguards a citizen's freedom to keep and carry guns, is to blame for the increase in violent crime. The amendments that were supposed to protect us are now doing us harm. Having easy access to guns can let people create more violence.

One of the main reasons why citizens should not have easy access to guns is that it increases the likelihood of gun violence and homicides. A study published in the American Journal of Public Health found that states with stricter gun laws have lower rates of gun violence and homicides compared to states with more lenient laws (Lin et al. 215). This suggests that making it more difficult for citizens to obtain guns can help to reduce the number of violent incidents involving guns.

For example, in states with stricter gun laws, individuals may be required to undergo background checks, complete safety training, and obtain a license in order to purchase a gun. These requirements can help to ensure that only responsible individuals are able to obtain guns and may reduce the number of guns falling into the hands of individuals who may use them for criminal purposes.

Many mass shootings have taken place over the years. As time goes by the rates are skyrocketing. Last year “ Ethan Crumbley, 15, used his father's gun to shoot classmates in the nearby Michigan town of Oxford, killing four and wounding seven...” and “His parents are accused of ignoring warning signs before their son's alleged rampage...”(BBC News, 2021). As humans, we tend to follow our emotions, which can lead us to do many things, and when we have access to weapons the situation becomes increasingly dangerous, which is what happened in this situation. This shooting took many innocent lives and left the parents heartbroken. Another similar incident just like this took place in Michigan where “A 12-year-old is in custody after he allegedly robbed a Michigan gas station with his grandfather’s gun, and fired a warning shot into the ceiling, police said...”(Chisholm, 2022). This easy access to guns is causing many violence to take place. People aren’t safe anywhere unless a strict law is created to prevent this incident from happening.

A lot of people might try to argue that guns are necessary for self-protection, however, if you look at countries like Japan which is known for even police officers having no guns, you can see that they aren't always necessary. There are a lot of options such as tasers, batons, taser guns, and pepper spray. Some will also try to argue that these aren't adequate, however, if people receive proper training they can easily protect themselves rather than train for a gun that can end up in the wrong hands. A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that individuals who owned guns for self-defense were actually more likely to be shot in a violent crime than those who did not own guns (Kellermann et al. 483). This suggests that the risk of being shot may outweigh the potential benefits of owning a gun for self-defense.

Also, not only gun is used for mass shootings or homicide, but it also rises the number of suicide. For example, the people who are suffering from severe depression, anxiety, or any type of mental illness, if these people can purchase guns anywhere without a background check the suicide rate will keep going up. As others may argue suicide will happen no matter what but the rate of it succeeding is low without a gun. “Though guns are not the most common method by which people attempt suicide, they are the most lethal. About 85 percent of suicide attempts with a firearm end in death..” (Drexler, 2016)

To conclude, citizens having easy access to guns will only increase violence in this society. If there is a stricter gun control law, all of these mass shootings, homicides, and suicide rates will decrease. It is important for citizens to consider the potential risks associated with gun ownership and to take steps to ensure that guns are used safely and responsibly.

Work Citation:

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