

Guns should be banned

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With the rise of terrorism and recent gun massacres, it comes as no surprise that the debate surrounding banning guns in all countries has become topical. To focus on the U.S. for example, there have been more than 70 mass shootings in the last 30 years and pro-gun control advocates believe tougher gun laws would have prevented these crimes. As part of the U.S. Constitution, the second amendment gives the right to bear arms for self-defense and this legislation is now outdated and flawed in the main premise of protecting oneself has created a significant rise in gun crime. This essay will discuss the arguments for and against banning guns in the U.S. and conclude that a gun ban will create a safer country.

In the U.S. approximately one in five people carry a gun. This suggests that citizens believe that it is necessary and an important part of everyday life. There are three main arguments against a gun ban. Firstly, it is a constitutional right of the second amendment. It is legislation of the U.S. Supreme Court that states self-defense is a fundamental right to bear arms for self-defense. This is a widely supported view throughout the U.S. who believe that carrying guns reduces crime and makes societies safer. The reduction in crime is the second reason, in that the U.S. National Rifle Association (NRA) claim that violent crime has fallen 48% and the murder rate has fallen 37% in the last 10 years. Whether this is based on the right to carry arms or changes in policing, education and more severe prison sentences, is debatable. A final reason is shooting and gun clubs are national sports and pastimes. Guns have become a fundamental part of life in the U.S, and any changes in gun laws would put many businesses into bankruptcy, creating higher unemployment and economic instability in some states. In sum, laws, reduction in crime and financial uncertainty from a ban are the many reasons against a ban.

There are three main convincing arguments that support an outright gun ban in the U.S. The most important point is to look at

countries who have implemented policies against the rights for people to carry guns and notice that gun crime has been reduced by nearly 80%. For instance, Australia banned guns in 1998 after one of the biggest shootings in the country's history. Since that ban, crime connected to guns has fallen by 92%. With lengthy prison sentences and an inability to purchase guns this prevents guns falling in the wrong hands and as such prevents mass murder. The second point is that guns for self-defense is a seriously flawed ideology. The likelihood of being attacked is extremely rare and being able to have access to your gun in that event is also rare. In addition, statistics suggest that guns in houses are far more likely to be used on that household than in self-defense. In fact, gun related domestic violence and family disputes are significantly higher than other gun crime. A final point is that U.S. citizens often quote the second amendment as their constitutional right to carry guns. Basically, stating that it is legislation and cannot be changed. However, it is an amendment, meaning that it can be amended, similar to how it was amended for slavery. To conclude, countries like Australia and the U.K. where guns have been banned show a significant fall in fatalities from shootings, also the easy accessibility of guns in the home has led to more domestic shootings and the second amendment can be clearly changed.

In conclusion, this essay has cited the main arguments for and against a gun ban. Proponents against a gun ban claim self-defense is a fundamental right, carrying guns reduces crime and a ban would create higher unemployment. Proponents of a gun ban argue that countries where guns are banned have much lower gun crime, the self-defense ideology is flawed and legislation can be easily changed. The evidence is perfectly clear that countries where guns are readily available lead to tragedy from domestic disputes to mass murders. Guns should be banned in the U.S. to follow other gun banned countries to create safer communities. A possible solution would be to implement the policy over a number of years so that gun related businesses can adapt and find their innovative ventures.