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Answers to Gun Control

1. Are you for or against gun control? Why?

- a. Gun control makes the community safe for criminals by changing the balance of power in the community
- b. Gun control makes targets of the most vulnerable members of society: the aged, single mothers, etc.
- c. Gun control is a failed strategy . Criminals by definition are people who break laws. Passing a law that you know criminals will break is ludicrous
- d. Gun control relies on a failed assumption. Police are incapable of responding in time to stop violent crimes. AND HAVE NO LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY TO DO SO.
- e. Gun control conflicts with 2nd Amendment freedoms guaranteed under the Bill of Rights
- f. Gun control makes criminals of law abiding citizens seeking to defend themselves and their families from criminals

2. What are your thoughts on some of the Gun Control restrictions? Background checks, time period before purchase, license to use a gun, taxes...etc. Do any of these restrictions bother you? Why?

- a. Gun control restrictions do not stop criminals from getting guns. They only result in creating traps which criminalize average law abiding citizens.
- b. A background check system makes sense if it will be completed promptly. The vast majority of police records are stored in databases that are immediately accessible. Any waiting period beyond 24 hours achieves nothing other than to harass the legitimate gun purchasers.
- c. I am not convinced waiting periods achieve anything other than to harass legitimate gun owners. If someone has already been cleared by the police database what do we achieve by making them wait 10 days? In the case of someone whose life is at risk, (eg a battered spouse), a waiting period actually jeopardizes someone .
- d. Taxes. Accomplishes nothing other than to drive up the cost of purchasing a firearm. For those with limited resources, the net effect of taxing purchases and other fees and requirements will be to deny them the right to protect themselves. This is purely discriminatory and reeks of racism.

3. Do you believe better/more gun control will decrease violent crimes in America? Or will more gun regulations only give the law-abiding citizens less power to defend themselves from criminals who already disregard laws?

- a. Better gun control? This is a flawed concept. There is no such thing as “better” gun control
- b. Gun control is incapable of reducing violent crime. In fact , gun control increases it by making it easier for criminals to violate / maim / kill average citizens.

4. The question of bans on assault rifles

- a. The founding fathers were perfectly comfortable allowing the average citizen to own the VERY SAME rifles and pistols that soldiers in the standing army carried. If it was ok then..... it is ok now.
- b. Do you remember the LA riots? I remember pictures of defenseless people being pulled from the cars and having their heads crushed with chunks of cement by mobs of racists.

I also remember pictures of Koreans guarding their homes and businesses with assault rifles and not suffering a scratch.

Average citizens have every reason to have an assault rifle if they choose to do so.

5. Do the presence of guns in the household heighten the risk of domestic violence, suicides and fatal accidents? Are these cases worth gun control reform?

- a. No. Violent crimes in homes most often accomplished with items other than guns (knives, poison, fists, clubs, etc)
- b. Lack of firearm in homes increase chance of domestic violence by making the physically weaker party more vulnerable
- c. Suicidal individuals can choose many methods to harm themselves. Removing the option of using a firearm will not stop them from drug overdoses, jumping off bridges, carbon monoxide poisoning, etc.
- d. Fatal accidents. I suppose if there were absolutely no firearms in the entire universe you might make the case that fatal accidents might be reduced. However, given the corresponding increase in deaths due to crime that would result, any potential benefit would be negated.

6. Do you agree with the 2nd Amendment which affords Americans the right to bear arms?

Without question: the right of the people to keep and bear arms SHALL NOT be infringed. The statement by our Founding Fathers could not have been more clear.

Notice that the Second Amendment specifically grants the right TO THE PEOPLE.....not some other organization or governmental entity. If the Second Amendment only referred to some kind of National Guard, the founders would have not have given the right to the people..... They would have expressly given it to the National Guard or the State etc.

Furthermore, even the most cursory reading of the debates that lead to the creation of our Constitution and Bill of Rights, indicates that NONE of the founding fathers argued against citizens having the right to own guns.

7. The question of “reasonable” gun control laws

a. Who do we trust to define what is reasonable?

Are these the same people in Sacramento who recently tried to pass a law that would put parents in jail for spanking their children?

Are these the same people in Sacramento who were faced with a budget deficit running into the tens of millions of dollars and decided to INCREASE spending?

b. Reasonable to whom?

When your home is being invaded and you don't have time to get your gun out of the safe, is that reasonable?

Is it reasonable to expect criminals to wait for you to unlock your safe and get your gun?

If you are a battered woman being threatened by some stalker, is it reasonable for you to have to wait 10 days to buy a gun to defend yourself with?

If you are a single mother or senior citizen living in a crack infested neighborhood run by gangs, is it reasonable for you to be denied a means of self defense?

8. Could the Columbine and Virginia Tech massacres have been prevented with better gun control laws?

- a. Columbine and Virginia Tech were caused by gun control. Gun restrictions on these campuses created the most fertile ground possible for a murderer to exact their rampage. Worse still, these students were forced to leave their lives in the hands of a University that failed to take responsibility for their protection.
- b. Even the Governor of Virginia's panel on the Virginia Tech shootings admitted that their "system failed". (see official report released on 8 30 07)
- c. The first shootings took place at 7am and the University waited until 9:26 am to warn the student body. And the only thing they did was send an EMAIL urging the university students to be "cautious".

9. Do you believe better/more gun control will decrease violent crimes in America? Or will more gun regulations only give the law-abiding citizens less power to defend themselves from criminals who already disregard laws?

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