

**FROM MY COLD DEAD HANDS!**



# The Pro-Gun Debate

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# Second Amendment Guarantees It

- ▶ "a well regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed."
- ▶ *Moore v Madigan* (2012) 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, ruled 2-1 that the Second Amendment's right to bear arms "must be interpreted to include a right to have a concealed gun in public, to have it ready for use, and to have it for self-defense."
- ▶ The US 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in *Peruta vs. San Diego* by a 2-1 vote on Feb. 13, 2014 that the Second Amendment requires states to "permit some form of concealed carry for self-defense outside the home."

# The Average Gun Owner

(Source: Pew Research, 2013)

- ▶ Is male (74%)
- ▶ Is white (82%)
- ▶ Is married (31%)
- ▶ Has children (40%)
- ▶ Lives in the South (44%)
- ▶ Is 50-64 year old (30%)
- ▶ Lives in a suburban area (45%)
- ▶ Leans Republican (51%)
- ▶ Owns guns for protection (48%)
- ▶ Hunting (32%)

# Average Gun Owner, cont'd

- ▶ Believes stricter gun laws would “make it more difficult to protect their families” (64%)
- ▶ Believes it is more important to protect gun rights (70%) than to control gun ownership (27%)
- ▶ Believes stricter gun laws would “give too much power to the government over the average citizen” (68%)
- ▶ Is not in favor on a ban on high-capacity ammunition clips (59%)
- ▶ Is not in favor of a ban on assault-style weapons (67%)
- ▶ Believes owning a gun makes him safer (79%)
- ▶ Believes that stricter gun laws “will lead to stricter laws which will take guns away from all citizens” (51%)

# Most Gun Owners are Law-Abiding Citizens

- ▶ They do not abuse their firearms
- ▶ William Sturdevant (2000), in Texas the general public is 5.3 times more likely to be arrested for violent offenses and 14 times more likely to be arrested for non-violent offenses than concealed carry weapon permit holders.
- ▶ William E. Sturdevant, PE, "[An Analysis of the Arrest Rate of Texas Concealed Handgun License Holders As Compared to the Arrest Rate of The Entire Texas Population,](#)"

# Guns for Hunting

- ▶ In households where family members have grown up hunting, guns are demonstrably functional tools.
- ▶ Any person trying to understand the place of guns as valued tools and prized family possessions in the United States, would do well to begin here, with rural citizens who enjoy hunting because it gets them out into the woods and liberates them from the house.
- ▶ Firearms attach people to traditions that are simultaneously liberating and familial.
- ▶ “To be able to go out in the woods and do something with my family my family that we’ve done for so many years, that’s it.”
- ▶ American narratives common to the end of the twentieth century so rarely focus on happy alliances between young women and their male relatives or neighbors.

# Majority in U.S. Now Oppose Ban on Assault Rifles (Gallup Poll, 2018)





- ▶ (2018) Americans' support for a ban on semi-automatic guns in the U.S. has dropped eight percentage points from a year ago, when opinions were more evenly divided after the mass shooting in Las Vegas.
- ▶ Last year's measure was unusually high for the trend over the past several years; the current 40% is back to within a few points of where it was between 2011 and 2016.
- ▶ Support for a ban typically goes up after a mass shooting and then resumes to previous levels within short period of time.



▶ Guns Don't Kill People,  
People Kill People



- ▶ **The value of firearms in the hands of law-abiding citizens should be measured in terms of lives saved or crimes prevented, not criminals killed.**

- ▶ In 2012, there were 8,855 criminal gun homicides in the FBI's homicide database, but only 258 gun killings by private citizens that were deemed justifiable, which the FBI defines as "the killing of a felon, during the commission of a felony, by a private citizen." That works out to one justifiable gun death for every 34 unjustifiable gun deaths.

**WHAT IF I TOLD YOU**



**GUN CONTROL IS ABOUT  
CONTROL AND NOT GUNS**

# Concealed Handguns Deter Crime

- ▶ States that implemented "shall-issue" concealed carry laws reduced murders by 8.5%, rapes by 5%, aggravated assaults by 7%, and robbery by 3%, (2000 analysis of FBI crime data by John Lott, PhD.)
- ▶ Lott calculated that 1,570 murders, 4,177 rapes, 60,000 aggravated assaults, and 12,000 robberies could have been prevented between 1977 and 1992 if concealed carry had been legal in every US state during that time period.

# Responsible citizens should have the right to arm themselves against criminals with guns.

- ▶ Guns make people feel safer (Pew and other surveys)
- ▶ “Robbery and assault victims who used a gun to resist were less likely to be attacked or to suffer an injury than those who used any other methods of self-protection.”  
(Gary Kleck, PhD, Florida State University)
- ▶ Kleck surveyed 2,000 homes (1993)



**YOU IDIOT... YOU CAN'T  
THREATEN ME WITH THAT**



**THIS IS A GUN FREE ZONE**

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# Other Studies

A 2013 study ordered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and conducted by The National Academies' Institute of Medicine and National Research Council reported that,

“Defensive use of guns by crime victims is a common occurrence”:  
Almost all national survey estimates indicate that defensive gun uses by victims are at least as common as offensive uses by criminals, with estimates of annual uses ranging from about 500,000 to more than 3 million, in the context of about 300,000 violent crimes involving firearms in 2008.”

- ▶ The estimate of 3 million defensive uses per year is based on an extrapolation from a small number of responses taken from more than 19 national surveys. The former estimate of 108,000 is difficult to interpret because respondents were not asked specifically about defensive gun use.

# Kleck's Findings

- ▶ For every use of a gun to commit a crime, there are three-to-four cases of guns being used in self-defense of a crime.
- ▶ Assault and robbery rates are lower when victims are armed with a gun.
- ▶ A gun is used in self-defense to protect its owner from crime 2.5 million times per year, an average of once every 13 seconds.
- ▶ Fifteen percent of the gun defenders interviewed believed someone would have died if they had not been armed. If true, that's an average of one life saved due to firearm self-defense every 1.3 minutes.

# Kleck findings (1993)

- ▶ 75% of the cases, the victim did not know his attackers.
- ▶ 50% of the cases, he faced at least two attackers
- ▶ 25% of the cases, there were three or more attackers.
- ▶ 25% of the incidents of self-defense occurred away from the home.

- ▶ 1993 nationwide survey of 4,977 households found that over the previous five years, at least 3.5% of households had members who had used a gun “for self-protection or for the protection of property at home, work, or elsewhere.” This amounted to 1,029,615 such incidents per year. This excludes all “military service, police work, or work as a security guard.”
- ▶ A 1994 survey conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that Americans use guns to frighten away intruders who are breaking into their homes about 498,000 times per year.
- ▶ *Journal of Quantitative Criminology 2000*, U.S. civilians use guns to defend themselves and others from crime at least 989,883 times per year.

# More studies

(James D. Wright and Peter D. Rossi. Aldine De Gruyter, 1986)

- ▶ A 1982 survey of male felons in 11 state prisons across the U.S. found:
- ▶ 34% had been “scared off, shot at, wounded, or captured by an armed victim.”
- ▶ 40% had decided not to commit a crime because they “knew or believed that the victim was carrying a gun.”
- ▶ 69% personally knew other criminals who had been “scared off, shot at, wounded, or captured by an armed victim.”

The only way to stop a bad  
guy with a gun is a good guy  
with a gun.



# Kentucky

- ▶ <https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/2018/10/25/man-who-exchanged-gunfire-louisville-kroger-shooting-suspect-wont-charged/1765730002/>
- ▶
- ▶ **Kentucky Self-Defense: Man who shot at Kroger shooting suspect not expected to face charges :: 10/25/2018**
- ▶ The individual who exchanged gunfire with the suspect arrested in connection with Wednesday's high-profile shootings at the Jeffersontown Kroger is not expected to face any charges, police officials have confirmed.
- ▶

# Illinois

- ▶ <https://patch.com/illinois/grayslake/lindenhurst-man-fatally-shoots-robber-hammer-attack-police>
- ▶ **Illinois Self-Defense: Lindenhurst Man Fatally Shoots Robber In Hammer Attack: Police :: 10/18/2018**
- ▶ WAUKEGAN, IL – After a botched gun robbery early Tuesday in Lindenhurst, one man is dead and the other has been charged with his murder and armed robbery, according to the Lake County Major Crimes Task Force. Police received a 911 call around 2:30 a.m. about a possible robbery at a home in the 300 block of Teal Road. When officers arrived, they found a Chicago man dead and an Evanston man being detained at the scene by a resident.

# New York

- ▶ <https://abc7ny.com/bronx-grocery-store-owner-fatally-shoots-would-be-robber/4533948/>
- ▶ **New York Self-Defense: Bronx J Market grocery store owner fatally shoots would-be robber :: 10/23/2018**
- ▶ **SOUNDVIEW, Bronx (WABC) -- The owner of a Bronx grocery store shot and killed a man he says was trying to rob his business.**
- ▶

# Oregon

- ▶ [https://www.kptv.com/news/man-fires-shot-at-another-man-on-springwater-corridor-in/article\\_5a38aa9e-d569-11e8-ba02-6b66362f4888.html](https://www.kptv.com/news/man-fires-shot-at-another-man-on-springwater-corridor-in/article_5a38aa9e-d569-11e8-ba02-6b66362f4888.html)
- ▶ **Oregon Self-Defense: Man fires shot at another man on Springwater Corridor in SE Portland :: 10/22/2018**
- ▶ **PORTLAND, OR (KPTV) - Portland police are investigating a shooting Sunday morning on the Springwater Corridor trail in southeast Portland.**

# Kentucky

- ▶ <https://www.ammoland.com/2018/10/kentucky-armed-homeowner-shoots-police-officer-no-charges-filed/#axzz5UFgy0M3J>
- ▶ **Kentucky Self-Defense: Armed Homeowner Shoots Police Officer, NO Charges Filed :: 10/17/2018**
- ▶ On October 10th, 2018, at about 5:30 a.m. at 522 Hathaway, in Owensboro, Kentucky, a young police officer was involved in a shootout with an armed homeowner. The officer had been chasing a suspect, and was searching a fenced in area.

# California

- ▶ **California Self-Defense: CA Teen Shoots, Kills Dad Who Was Choking Mom :: 10/16/2018**
- ▶ As adults, we often think of teens as not being able to make good decisions. In truth, plenty of teenagers give us ample reason to think that. My own son, who is generally a pretty smart and upstanding kid, gives me plenty of reason to think such a thing. I can only imagine what kind of other reasons teens provide their parents as to their inability to make good choices.

# Georgia

- ▶ <https://www.guns.com/2018/10/16/shop-clerk-spoils-armed-robbery-plans-with-gun-of-his-own-video/>
- ▶ **Georgia Self-Defense: Shop clerk spoils armed robbery plans with gun of his own: 10/16/2018**
- ▶ A Georgia vape shop clerk employee faced off with two masked men armed with a handgun but evened the odds with one of his own.

# Tennessee

- ▶ <https://www.wbir.com/article/news/local/police-report-homeowner-fired-shotgun-at-alleged-intruder/51-603914223>
- ▶ **Tennessee Self-Defense: Police report: Homeowner fired shotgun at alleged intruder :: 10/12/2018**
- ▶ The man shot and killed allegedly trying to break into a home in northwest Knoxville doesn't have a criminal record in Tennessee.



# Florida

- ▶ <https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/breaking-news/os-ne-treyvis-gooch-dead-altamonte-springs-shootout-20181003-story.html>
- ▶ **Florida Self-Defense: Man dies after shootout near Altamonte Springs - shooter claims self-defense, cops say :: 10/04/2018**
- ▶ A 21-year-old man who was wounded Tuesday in a shootout near Altamonte Springs has died, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office said Wednesday.

# California

- ▶ **California Self-Defense: Police: Woman shot her captor :: 10/04/2018**
- ▶ INVESTIGATION— Members of the Ventura County Fire Department and Ventura County Sheriff's Office investigate a vehicle where a man was discovered shot on Saturday night. The person who shot him won't be arrested, police said, because it was done in self-defense. JOEL COUNCIL/Acorn Newspapers

**DISARMING INNOCENT  
PEOPLE**

**MAKES THEM SAFER?**



# Guns and Media

- ▶ Media fail to focus on stories that show people defending themselves with guns
- ▶ Liberal media advance the narrative that guns are always dangerous
- ▶ Fail to thoroughly look into instances where people use guns for self-defense, especially in their homes