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Gun Control

What if one of your close relatives or extremely close friends died in a mass shooting?

Over the past years, hundreds of people have lost close family and friends by the hands of mass shooters. There should be more gun control laws because too many innocent lives have been lost.

Most of the world's mass shootings happen within the United States. According to CNN reporter, Jen Christensen, "... The 90 U.S. mass shootings are nearly one third of the 292 such attacks globally for that period. While the United States has 5 percent of the world's population, it had 31 percent of all public mass shootings..."(Christensen). Out of 292 mass shootings globally the U.S. has had 90 of them. The United States also has such a small population but, accounts for most of the world's mass shootings. In most shootings in America, the shooter has more than one firearm (Christensen). How did the shooters come across these weapons? How would the outcome change if the shooter had only one gun?

Gun shows are one of the many places that a shooter could get a gun from. According to CNN reporter Aaron Smith, "...Only 12 states require expanded background checks at gun shows for handguns as well as rifles and shotguns..."(Smith). Thirty-eight out of fifty states do not require background checks for sellers of guns. Think of all the guns that could be given to a possible criminal. According to the article "What really goes on at a gun show", "...Only 2

percent of criminal guns come from gun shows...”(Smith). The number might be small, but think of all the guns that that could possibly get into the wrong hands. Think of all the deaths that could occur. In the past thirty years, mass shooters have purchased 82 percent of their guns legally (Chuck).

Compared to other countries the U.S. has a high gun death rate. According to New York Times reporter Richard Pérez-Peña, “...In 2013, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the nation had more than 33,000 firearms deaths: 70 percent of all homicides...”(Pérez-Peña). This such a large number when one considers that the U.S. only accounts for 5 percent of the world’s population. According to the article, “Guns in the U.S:The Statistics Behind the Violence” “... There were 64 school shootings in 2015, according to a dedicated campaign group set up in the wake of the Sandy Hook elementary school massacre in Connecticut in 2012...” Think of all the kids and teachers that died or possibly wounded due to shooters in school.

Many people believe that it is American citizens’ right to own a gun because of the second amendment. Well the second amendment does give American Citizens the right to bare arms but, this was when the guns could only fire a bullet at a time. Now, guns can fire a single round each time the trigger is pulled. What I am proposing is that now that there should be stricter gun laws, because of the change in technology. Laws preventing certain guns to be purchased so easily.

The U.S. is a major country that has been greatly affected by guns and mass shooters. Over the years many people have lost family and close friends due to very loose gun laws. Again I ask you, how would you feel if you lost someone extremely close to you?

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