Bellevue University

Exercise 10.2

DSC500: Introduction to Data Science

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Gun control has been a controversial topic for many years now, but machine learning could potentially help with gun control and satisfy those who want to exercise their second amendment right. Machine learning is learning “which a machine can learn on its own without being explicitly programmed” (GeeksforGeeks). The focus of machine learning and gun control is being able to predict who will be most typical of causing public harm in society. Different factors can include criminal records, age, mental health records, or other indicators that can potentially indicate a risk. Ethically some people might find this as an invasion of privacy to give this information, but this information is typical in background checks. Background checks can provide the basic information needed for this example, but an algorithm will be needed to compare the data to identify those who are versus who are not a risk. With this, there should also be a scale that determines higher risk versus lower risk. Those who are higher should be limited to less weapons or different class of weapons. There should also be a threshold and human decision should be involved when people are close to that threshold. Meaning if threshold for more dangerous weapons need a 7 rating or lower and the person requesting the weapon is a 6, human decision making should interact with this individual. This could also create bias and letting the wrong people have weapons. Machine learning could help with gun control but would need be tested extensively before it can be implemented into the public.

Reference:

*Difference between machine learning and Artificial Intelligence*. GeeksforGeeks. (2022, October 11). Retrieved November 6, 2022, from <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/difference-> between-machine-learning-and-artificial-intelligence/