

## GOAL Facts and Stats – defeat the “gun control” lies:

- **CDC - No Proof Gun Laws Reduce Violence:** A sweeping federal review of the nation's gun control laws — including mandatory waiting periods and bans on certain weapons — found no proof such measures reduce firearm violence. The review was conducted by a task force of scientists appointed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. **Take away:** *Our government has already studied the effectiveness of “gun control” numerous times and has proven that it does not have an effect on crime, so why do we need to have another study?*
- **Crime Since the AWB Expired:** Since the Federal Assault Weapons Ban expired in September 2004, murder and overall violent-crime rates have fallen. In 2003, the last full year before the law expired, the U.S. murder rate was 5.7 per 100,000 people, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Report. By 2011, the murder rate fell to 4.7 per 100,000 people. One should also bear in mind that just 2.6% of all murders are committed using any type of rifle. **Take away:** *An AWB is a solution looking for a problem that doesn't exist. What is the real intent of those who wish to ban these rifles?*
- **The High Cap Magazine Myth:** In a 2004 study for the Department of Justice, Christopher S. Koper, a professor of criminology, reported that “assailants fire less than four shots on average, a number well within the 10-round magazine limit” of the “assault weapons” ban. “Studies prove that the arbitrary magazine capacity restriction that was in place for a decade did not reduce crime.” Violent crime has decreased 17 percent since the assault weapons ban expired. **Take away:** *The vast majority of homicides average 4 shots or less, so why ban common use magazines? This is a back door gun grab as millions of common use firearms that use magazines holding 10 or more rounds would be illegal to own/possess.*
- **The gun-show loophole myth:** The “gun-show loophole” is an exaggeration designed to foster the false impression that this is how the bad guys acquire firearms. A 2001 Justice Department survey found 0.7 percent of state and federal prison inmates bought their weapons at a gun show. Also, all federally licensed firearms dealers must follow existing state and federal regulations pertaining to the sale of firearms, including background checks for the sale of firearms regardless of location. **Take away:** *This is nothing but fear mongering to vilify law abiding gun owners, there is no such thing as a “gun show loophole”.*
- **The cop-killer “armor piercing” bullet myth:** Cops simply aren't being killed by crooks using exotic, hardened projectiles, but it sounds like a scary possibility. Many ordinary rifle rounds can penetrate a soft armor vest because rifles are significantly more powerful than handguns. Law enforcement and the military use ceramic plates for vests meant to protect against such powerful rounds. **Take away:** *When a politician starts discussing banning ammunition they are either willfully ignorant or worse, want to ban rifle ammunition, a ban of which is once again a solution looking for a problem that doesn't exist.*
- **One Gun A Month:** For over a decade MA legislators have been trying to pass a version of this law. They base the need for it on claims of “a river of guns flowing across the border from NH and VT”. If this is the case, why the restrictions on law abiding MA gun owners who are already burdened by an inane series of laws and regulation? Proponents of the bill like Senator Chang-Diaz say that in her district “it's easier to buy a gun than a fresh fruit or vegetable”. With that in mind, we have to ask, where are the arrests and prosecutions? To date, there is no record of a straw purchase prosecution in the state of MA. **Take away:** *This is more law looking to solve a problem that doesn't exist. It goes without saying that stopping law abiding citizens from purchasing more than one gun or magazine a month will have no effect on crime stats and criminals could care less about the additional law.*

- **Gun Registration - Completely Ineffective and Costly.** Gun registration has been tried in many countries and has proven to be a costly failure in every single one of them. Criminals simply smuggle guns in, or acquire them illegally without registering them. Canada just repealed their failed long gun registry noting that it cost almost a billion dollars while offering no significant reduction in crime or suicide - In 2002 Canada's auditor general released a report saying initial cost estimates of \$2 million (Canadian) had increased to \$1 billion as the government tried to register the estimated 15 million guns owned by Canada's 34 million residents. **Take away:** *Criminals won't register guns and every country that has implemented a registry has found it to do nothing but cost tax payers money.*
- **Supreme Court decision regarding civilian possession of AR type rifles:** The Second Amendment has been ruled to specifically extend to firearms "in common use" by the military by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *U.S. v Miller* (1939). In *Printz v U.S.* (1997) Justice Thomas wrote: "In *Miller* we determined that the Second Amendment did not guarantee a citizen's right to possess a sawed-off shot gun because that weapon had not been shown to be "ordinary military equipment" that could "could contribute to the common defense". A citizen's right to keep and bear arms for personal defense unconnected with service in a militia has been reaffirmed in the U.S. Supreme Court decision (*District of Columbia, et al. v Heller*, 2008). The Court Justice Scalia wrote in the majority opinion: "The Second Amendment protects an individual right to possess a firearm unconnected with service in a militia, and to use that arm for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home.". Justice Scalia went on to define a militia as "... comprised all males physically capable of acting in concert for the common defense ...." **Take away:** *Our Supreme Court has ruled that our Second Amendment Civil Rights include owning and possessing firearms equal to those used by our military.*
- **Firearms Related Homicide Stats World Wide:** This is an excellent source showing U.S. is first in amount of firearms owned and 28th for firearms related homicides - lots of stats here including:
  1. The US has the highest gun ownership rate in the world - an average of 88 per 100 people. That puts it first in the world for gun ownership - and even the number two country, Yemen, has significantly fewer - 54.8 per 100 people
  2. But the US does not have the worst firearm murder rate - that prize belongs to Honduras, El Salvador and Jamaica. In fact, the US is number 28, with a rate of 2.97 per 100,000 people
  3. Puerto Rico tops the world's table for firearms murders as a percentage of all homicides - 94.8%. It's followed by Sierra Leone in Africa and Saint Kitts and Nevis in the Caribbean

**Take away:** *Don't believe the people who constantly lie about the U.S. in order to achieve their agenda. The U.S. is much safer than they would have you believe.*

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