

Alex Herrera

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ENG1011

Word count: 687

[Opening music]

INTRO: Duration (10 to 20 minutes):

Good Afternoon viewers, welcome to another episode of ALEX & LIFE. If you're new here, my name is Alex Herrera and I was born and raised in The Bronx, New York.

In Today's episode, we will discuss the impact of Guns on American culture and if there is a proper solution to this significant issue.

[Segue] (sound effect)

Section #1: Duration (30 to 40 minutes):

Main point: Gun advocates are fighting the government to protect their guns. They believe these laws are unconstitutional because it goes against their 2nd amendment, which allows them to bear arms. Many gun owners claimed that they used these guns to hunt or to protect themselves.

Support point: According to experts, many of these laws are banning automatic rifles which doesn't contribute as much death compared to guns like a pistol. They also say that many of these gun owners legal or not are using them to protect themselves from their dangerous environment.

Supporting data/quote:

- “The previous California gun sales record of 559,608, set the previous year, was attributed at the time to fears generated by the Los Angeles riots”
- “In 1992, handguns were used in nearly 931,000 violent crimes -- a 21 percent increase over the 1991 total of 772,000”
- “some 8 million gun owners say they have used a gun to defend themselves or their family, according to a recent poll.”

Citation: Worsnop, Richard L. "Gun Control." CQ Researcher, 10 June 1994, pp. 505-28, library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher/cqresrre1994061000

Section #2: Duration (30 to 40 minutes):

Main point: While gun owners advocate for less gun control, the other side believes that the government should keep making laws that make it harder to get guns.

Support Point: In this ted talk video, Dan Gross, who's for gun control, talks about their experience with gun violence and shows data that suggest many Americans want gun control laws and that people don't actually realize the number of people supporting these laws.

Supporting data/quote: “90 percent of Americans support expanding Brady background checks to all gun owners.

Including 90 percent of Republicans, more than 80 percent of gun owners, more than 70 percent of NRA members.”

Citation: Gross, Dan. “Why Gun Violence Can't Be Our New Normal | Dan Gross.” YouTube, YouTube, 20 Apr. 2016, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8gJJuCdP_A.

Section #3: Duration (30 to 40):

Main point: Everyone has their own views on guns depending on where they lived, how they were raised, their environment and etc. All these variables affect how they feel about gun control and gun violence.

Support Point: Many people in rural areas believe that guns are the problem due to the fact that much gun violence happens daily in their environment compared to people who live in urban areas where it's safer.

Supporting data/quote:

- “About eight-in-ten Black adults (82%) say gun violence is a very big problem – by far the largest share of any racial or ethnic group. By comparison, about six in ten Hispanic adults (58%) and 39% of White adults view gun violence this way. ”
- “Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents are far more likely than Republicans and GOP leaners to see gun violence as a major problem (73% vs. 18%). And nearly two-thirds of Americans who describe their community as urban (65%) say the same, compared with 47% of suburbanites and 35% of those who live in rural areas.”

Citation: Schaeffer, Katherine. “Key Facts about Americans and Guns.” Pew Research Center, Pew Research Center, 13 Sept. 2021,

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/09/13/key-facts-about-americans-and-guns/>.

Closing remark or recap: We covered a lot of information but in the end, I saw both side argument and realized that this issue will always be discussed among Americans and while we may have different opinions, I think we can all agree that we need to find a solution that both

sides can agree on to stop Gun violence and to prevent further school shootings. Thanks for listening to ALEX & Life and I'll catch you on the next episode.