

Gun Control and Lake County Florida Public Safety

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Abstract

This paper involves historical research, data and survey results pertaining to gun control and their affects in reducing public violence. Countries such as Norway, Holland, Luxembourg and Russia have instituted gun control policies that have produced stunning statistical results in regard with public safety. Included in these results are the effects of Kennesaw, Georgia which has a gun ownership mandate for its residents in comparison to New York that has integrated strict gun control measures. Recommendations are listed in four categories to help improve gun control and public safety.

Introduction

Gun violence has become a hot topic inside the United States. Most people want to curb gun violence or violence in general. However, how we accomplish that goal is where the argument begins. Some people believe that removing all guns from individuals in the United States would decrease violence. In contrast, other individuals believe in the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and diabolically oppose such actions. While others persist that some form of gun control would assist in reducing violence.

We will take a look back at some violent acts within the public arena and could those acts have been stopped quicker or prevented. We will review the history of several federal and state gun control laws and their success rate at reducing violence. In addition, we will give an overview of how some foreign countries have handled gun violence and were these measures successful.

Finally, is there anything we can learn from past experiences that will assist in reducing violence? Have we looked at every possible solution? Will gun control reduce violence nationally and more specifically in our beautiful state of Florida.

Literature Review

Gun violence in the United States has become front and center with many incidents over the past decade. School shootings are probably the most unforgettable and many people remember the Columbine High School shootings in Colorado. However, the most recent school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newton, Connecticut on December 14th, 2012 is primarily responsible for the heated gun control debate today. On that horrible day, Adam Lanza used a Bushmaster AR-15 type assault rifle to shoot his victims, twenty of which were 6 and 7 year old children, before

killing himself (Spetalnick & Holland, 2013). President Obama, after referring to the Sandy Hook shootings as the worst day of his presidency, is currently using his office to push for gun control legislation. President Obama's plan is to renew prohibition on assault weapons sales that expired in 2004 and require background checks on all gun purchases including closing a loophole for gun shows (Spetalnick & Holland, 2013).

While President Obama is offering a possible solution in preventing another Sandy Hook massacre with an assault weapons ban, he is strongly opposed by Republicans and even some Democrats. In the Senate, Democrats hold a 55 to 45 seat advantage. However, the Republicans can filibuster the assault weapons ban and ultimately kill the bill on the Senate floor without taking a vote. In addition, Senate majority leader Harry Reid has stated, "the assault weapon's ban has less than 40 votes" (Ferraro, 2013). Therefore, simple math indicates with the Democrats possessing 55 seats and Senator Reid claiming he has less than 40 votes, there are many Democrats, not just Republicans that are not in favor of voting for an assault weapons ban. Furthermore it should be noted, the assault weapon used by Adam Lanza was stolen from his mother, who legally purchased the weapon.

While the assault weapons ban appears to be failing to pass in the United States Senate, one major question is ferociously debated; what is considered an assault weapon? For instance, there are fully automatic weapons that fire continuously while the trigger remains pulled or are we to include semiautomatic weapons that fire only once per trigger pull? In 1994, Congress banned 18 specific firearms, including certain models of AR-15s and AK-47s. Nevertheless, the 1994 ban allowed any assault weapons or magazines manufactured before 1994 to be legally owned or resold. It was estimated that approximately 1.5 million assault weapons and in excess of 24 million high-capacity magazines were in private hands (Plumer, 2012). The 1994 law banning assault weapons expired in 2004 and the Democrats failed in their attempt to renew the law.

All the same, in 1996 Australia took removing assault weapons from society to another level following the Port Arthur massacre. In April 1996, Australia suffered the worst shooting rampage in its nation's history. A man using a semi-automatic rifle killed thirty-five people while injuring another twenty-three. Within two weeks the Australian government finalized an assault weapons ban buyback program which eliminated all types of automatic and semi-automatic weapons from the public. It is estimated that the buyback program has removed approximately 650,000 assault weapons from the public (Masters, 2012). Australia's results are positive as they have not experienced any mass killings since passing this law.

Norway is recognized as having the highest firearm ownership per capita in Western Europe; nonetheless it maintains the lowest murder rate. On the other hand, Holland has a 50 percent higher murder rate despite having the lowest rate of firearm ownership in Europe. Furthermore, Luxembourg has a total handgun ban and has a murder rate nine times higher than Norway. Russia has had some of the most strict gun laws resulting in few gun murders. Even so, Russia's murder rates have long been four times higher than the United States and an astounding twenty times higher than Norway. Additionally, Lithuania bans handguns and intensely restricts other guns, yet has ten to fifteen times higher the murder rates than European nations with a much higher percentage of gun ownership (Kates & Hehmyer, 2008).

As noted above with Russia and Lithuania, gun violence is not always the weapon of choice for an abundance of murders. For example, while people mourn the tragedy of Sandy Hook Elementary, surprisingly it was not the worst school massacre in United States history. In fact, the worst child fatality massacre happened in Bath Township, Michigan in 1927. In this case, 38 children were killed from grades three through six. In contrast, we observed 20 children killed in the Sandy Hook Elementary shootings. In Bath Township, the killer was Andrew Kehoe, who detonated dynamite placed underneath the school. The fatality rate could and should have been much greater, but in the aftermath, fortunately investigators found approximately five hundred pounds of unexploded dynamite under the school. Apparently, the wiring was faulty which resulted in the dynamite not detonating and thus saving hundreds of children (Bomboy, 2012).

More recently, in 2012 at the Clackamas Town Center in Portland, Oregon, Jacob Roberts was a masked man who started shooting, resulting in two people's deaths. Roberts' rifle jammed during the shooting rampage causing a break in shots being fired. At this point, a shopper named Nick Meli, who had a concealed carry permit, took cover behind a pillar and pulled out his gun. According to Meli, Roberts saw him and when his rifle was unjammed took his own life (Benner, 2012).

James Holmes on July 20, 2012, began shooting inside the Cinemark Century 16 Theatre in Aurora, Colorado. The shooting resulted in twelve deaths and another fifty eight wounded. An investigation revealed that on that night seven theatres were all showing the new Batman movie and they were all within twenty minutes of Holmes' residence. On an interesting note, Cinemark's Century 16 was only four miles from Holmes' residence, but it wasn't the closest theatre, however it was the only one of the seven local theatres that banned guns for all patrons. Furthermore, the closest theatre was approximately one mile away and the theatre with the largest auditorium was approximately five miles from Holmes' residence. So Holmes did not choose a theatre for convenience or having the greatest number of people to kill, he chose the only theatre that disarmed all citizens. With the exception of the Tucson shooting that included U.S. House Representative Gabrielle Giffords in 2011, every public shooting in the U.S. since 1950 in which three or more people have been killed has been in gun free zones (Lott, 2012).

At the Tucson shooting, Jared Loughner was the individual who pulled the trigger. Three months earlier, Jared Loughner displayed such disturbing behavior at his community college that campus police gave him an ultimatum to have a mental health evaluation or he would not be welcomed back at school. It is unclear if Loughner was ever given an evaluation, but it is known that Loughner was never diagnosed with what many experts believe is a clear case of schizophrenia. According to Mark Kalish a practicing psychiatrist, one key element of schizophrenia is that the individual lacks awareness and denies anything is wrong. Compound that statement with the fact that many states will not allow for involuntary commitment to a mental health facility unless they are ordered by the court (Flaccus, 2011). As a result, we have many mentally ill people not receiving proper treatment.

The mother of an unidentified son with mental health issues stated that her son requested to be placed on a "no sale" firearm's list because of his psychotic condition. The feeling was that he could lose touch with reality and did not want anyone to sell him

a firearm. After the son was unsuccessful in his attempt to be placed on a “no sale” firearm’s list his mother became inquisitive and was told that no such voluntary list existed, but one did exist if he had already committed a crime. It should be noted that James Holmes, Jared Loughner and Adam Lanza are three individuals who have been diagnosed with mental health issues (Churnin, 2012). Likewise, on April 16, 2007, in another random act of gun violence, Seung-Hui Cho began randomly shooting people at Virginia Tech University which resulted in the deaths of thirty-three people to include himself. Prior to this act of violence, Seung-Hui Cho had been court ordered to involuntarily outpatient therapy (Flaccus, 2011). Nationally, Florida quietly ranks 49th in spending on mental health services. According to the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the bottom ten states for spending on mental health services including Florida, own the nation’s loosest gun control laws (Padgett, 2013).

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the United States’ first gun control bill since the Sandy Hook shooting. The new state law strengthens an already existing assault weapons ban, reduces magazines from ten bullets to seven and fortifies rules for the mentally ill. However, this bill comes with some controversy with doctor-patient confidentiality because New York’s mental health professionals are now required to report their patients to the state if those patients display behavior that could suggest in committing harm to others or themselves (Aristo, 2013).

The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution states, “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.” Supreme Court rulings have granted states the right to regulate firearms in addition to federal regulations. Nevertheless, states regulations are limited because of a 5 to 4 decision in the 2008 case “District of Columbia v. Heller”, which reversed a Washington D.C. law that banned handguns and required those guns in a home to be locked or disassembled (Masters, 2012). Likewise in another 5 to 4 decision, the Supreme Court once again ruled in favor of an individual’s fundamental right to keep and bear arms in the case “McDonald v. Chicago” as the city attempted to ban handgun possession (Klukowski, 2010).

The United States Federal Government has established gun restrictions such as, “The Gun Control Act of 1968” that prohibits firearm sales to persons under eighteen, anyone with criminal records and the mentally disabled among others (Masters, 2012). In 1993, “The Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act” was signed into law which requires buyers to wait up to five business days for background checks to be completed (Glass, 2012).

New York has strict gun control laws and they continuously work on strengthening and improving upon them. In spite of that, the results are not positive because in 2010 New York City had 515 murders, as of May 18, 2012 another 136 murders and since 1990 a staggering 2,245 murders. In contrast, the city of Kennesaw, Georgia since 1982 has actually mandated gun ownership. Each homeowner is required to own a firearm and protect themselves and their property. The year prior to the mandatory law saw 65 burglaries, however the following year showed a drop to 26 burglaries and then 11 in the second year. In fact, from 1982 through 2009 Kennesaw had only one murder. One person committed three murders in Kennesaw in 2010, but it was in a “school safe zone”, an area within one thousand feet from any school.

Ultimately, this is a gun free zone as even school employees, who possess gun permits are not allowed to carry in the school safe zone (Brown, 2012).

In our state, Florida is home to the most gun permits in the country. Between 2007 and 2011, Florida's concealed weapons permits rose approximately 90%, while the firearm crime rate has dropped 33%. On the downside, for the first time ever in Florida, guns were used in over 70% of murders. Furthermore, Florida statistics are showing that firearm murders are increasing. For example, between 2000 and 2005, Florida's firearm murder rate was never higher than 3.5 per 100,000 residents. Every year since 2005, Florida has exceeded that number (Carpenter, 2013).

In an attempt to reduce gun violence, Florida State Senator Audrey Gibson is suggesting another idea to keep police officers and the public safe. The proposal stipulates ammunition buyers must successfully complete an anger management course prior to their purchase of ammo. Moreover, the anger management certificate must be renewed every ten years. Sean Caranna, a gun rights group advocate thinks Senator Gibson's proposal is "a joke". Caranna continues by saying, "They are trying to say that anyone who owns or shoots a gun or has ammunition for it needs counseling and obviously has some anger problems" (Howerton, 2013).

Florida recently announced its one millionth concealed weapons permit. Florida has decided to continue with the 2005 Stand Your Ground Law after some initial discussion to change or abolish the law because of the George Zimmerman shooting that resulted in Trayvon Martin being killed. This controversial law permits anyone, anywhere to use deadly force against another person if they feel their life is in danger (Padgett, 2013).

Finally, Don Kates is an attorney in Oakland, California and a criminologist who has extensively researched banning firearms and its impact on reducing murder, suicide or other violence. Kates states, "banning guns to the general public increases people's vulnerability and fails to reduce violence because the law-abiding citizenry are victims of violent crime, not perpetrators. Banning guns to felons, violent misdemeanors, juveniles and the insane is a good idea in general, though such laws are very difficult to enforce. Disarming individuals who want to defend themselves, however, is a surefire road to empowering criminals at the expense of the innocent" (Kates, 2008).

Method

In order to assist in deciding whether gun control improves public safety or having individuals armed is better; I have surveyed three Lake County Florida groups to find out where these people stand on gun control and its effect on public safety. The groups' demographics are wide spread as they consist of certified Lake County Sheriff Detention Deputies, Lake County Jail inmates and Lake County citizens. All three groups were personally given the same 10 question written survey and they answered anonymously.

Currently, there are four shifts that work at the Lake County Sheriff's Detention Center. For the purpose of this survey, I concentrated on sworn jail personnel as each security shift begins their day with a fifteen minute briefing. During this time, after an explanation of the survey, I simply handed each sworn certified detention deputy in

attendance a survey to complete. Any detention deputy who was not present on survey day, due to annual or sick leave was not given another chance to participate. A final total of 92 detention deputies completed the survey.

The Lake County Detention Center's inmate population stood at approximately 800 during the evening that the inmate surveys took place. Furthermore, general population inmates are held inside 5 units which have cells that can hold up to 6 inmates. In order to achieve a good sampling of inmates, I elected to survey one inmate per cell within all the general population areas of the Lake County Detention Center. The only exclusion of cell blocks would be inmates that are confined for behavioral reasons. One area of concern in dealing with inmates completing a survey is the fact that they may not take the survey seriously. As a result, true survey analysis could be tainted by non-genuine inmate answers. However, I was able to garner a total of 148 inmate survey samples.

Finally, the last survey group consisted of Lake County civilians. In order to retrieve a good random sampling, I decided to survey people who were shopping in Lake County. One drawback with asking people who are shopping is that they may not reside in Lake County or be United States citizens. Nonetheless in order to prevent skewed survey results, I believe it would be best to sample people who were arbitrarily shopping in Lake County. A total of 25 civilians completed the survey.

Results

A grand total of 265 individuals completed the survey. Every Lake County Sheriff's Office Detention Deputy accepted to fill out the survey. In addition, all inmates obliged that were asked to complete a survey. However, not every citizen favorably responded when asked to fill out a survey. Some citizens turned down the offer by stating, "No thanks." Statistically, I am not sure as to the results of surveys being turned down by the public because they were being offered in person and I did not record any refusals. Fortunately, there was a 100% feedback in answering questions from the citizens willing to take the survey.

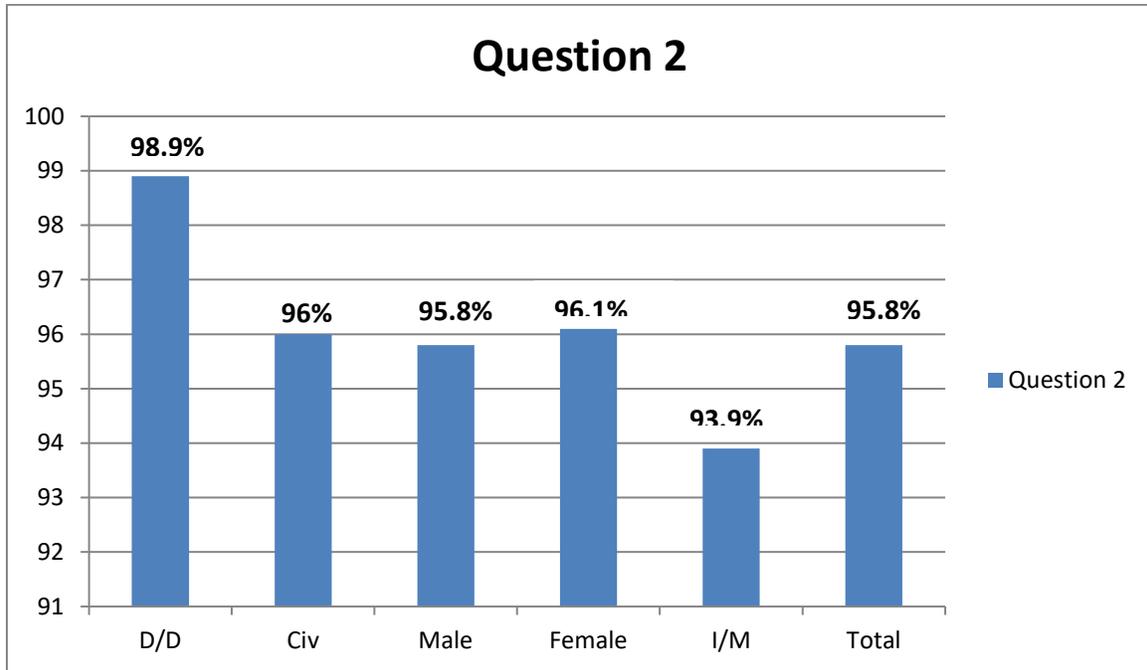
Discussion

The responses to each question have been broken down into percentages. It should be noted that these percentages have been rounded up or down into tenths. For example, if the percentage to an answer is 70.35 I rounded that number up to 70.4%. However, if the percentage was 70.34 I rounded the number downward to 70.3%.

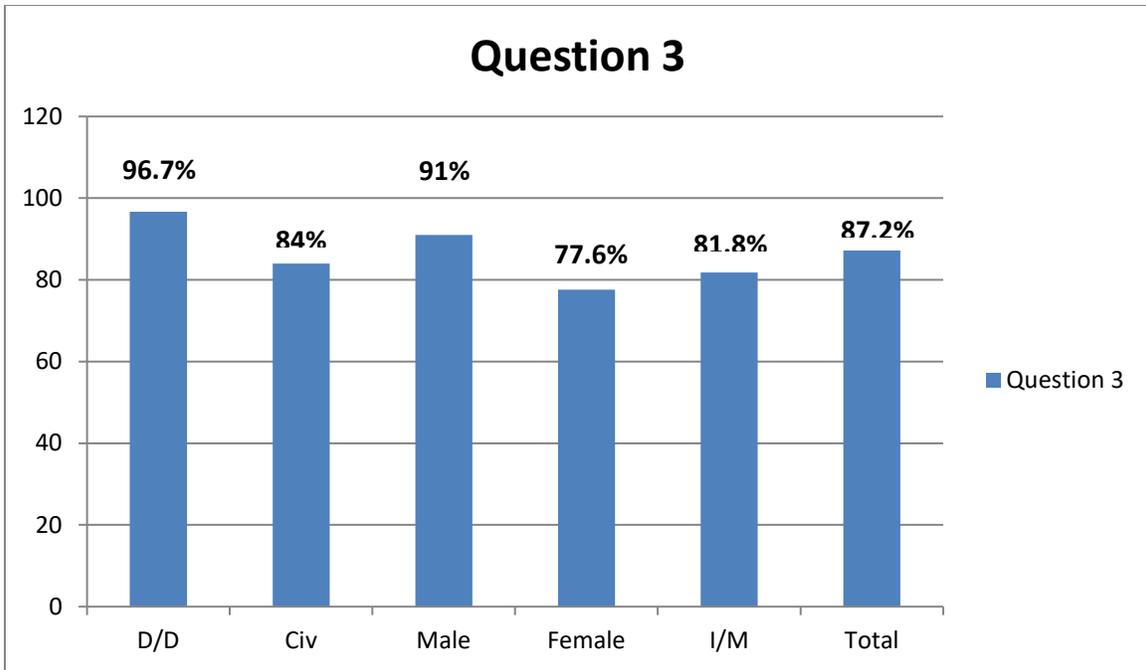
In calculating percentages, I broke each survey question into six groups. These groups are made of 265 total survey responses, 189 males, 76 females, 92 Detention Deputies (D/D), 148 inmates and 25 civilians.

The United States Second Amendment has been under some criticism by some people to include politicians; however, 254 of the 265 total survey participants are still supportive of this amendment. A numerical breakdown of each group is as follows: 91 Detention Deputies, 24 civilians, 181 males, 73 females and 139 inmates voted in favor

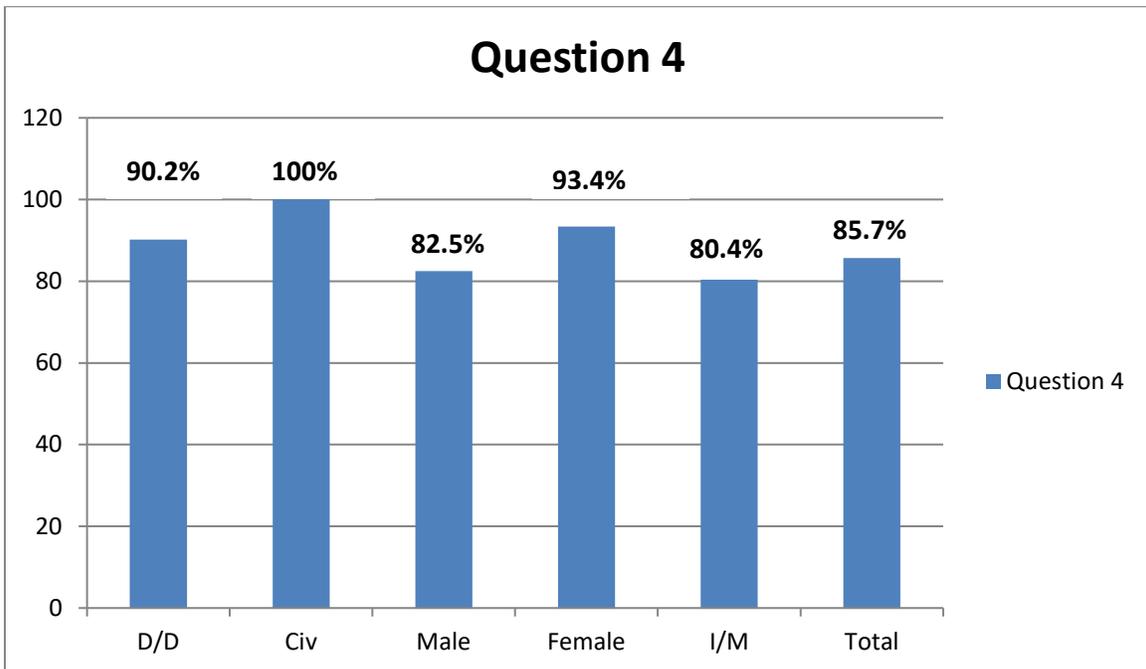
of keeping the Second Amendment. In fact, all six groups scored well above 90% in their approval of maintaining the United States Second Amendment.



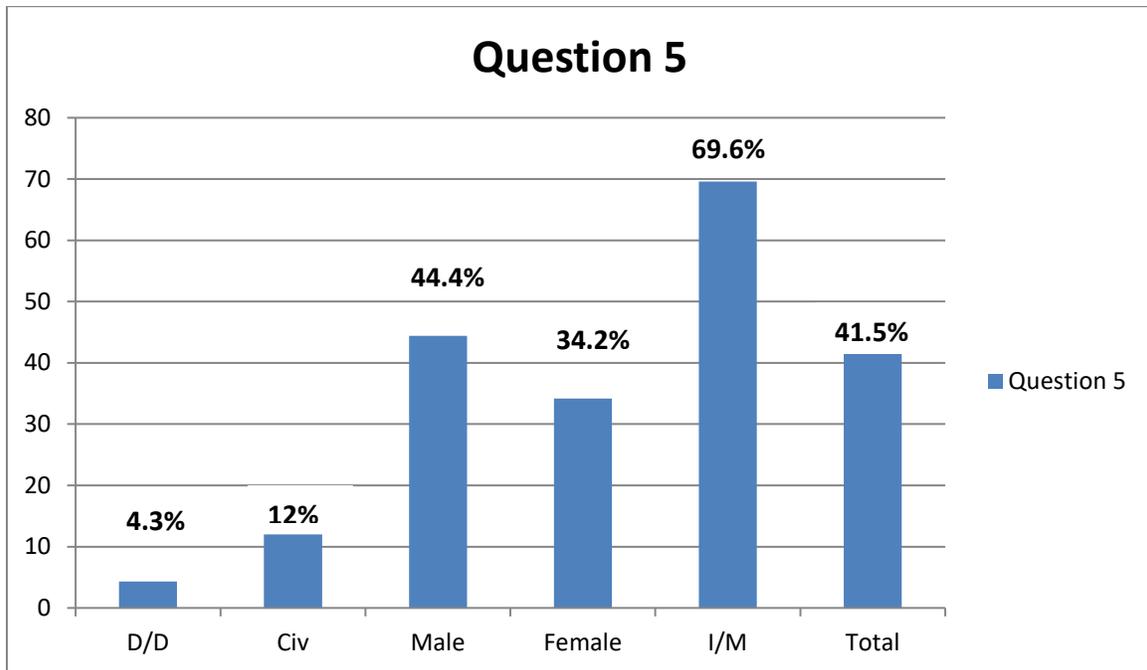
With people having a right to keep and bear arms, public safety has become greater or worse? While 231 total survey participants or 87.2% indicated that public safety is greater with citizens having the right to bear arms, only 59 females or 77.6% agreed with the public being safer. In fact, females scored as the lowest percentage of all six groups. While 121 inmates thought that the public safety was greater with people having the right to bear arms which was the second lowest group percentage at 81.8%. In contrast with 89 votes Detention Deputies scored the highest percentage with 96.7%.



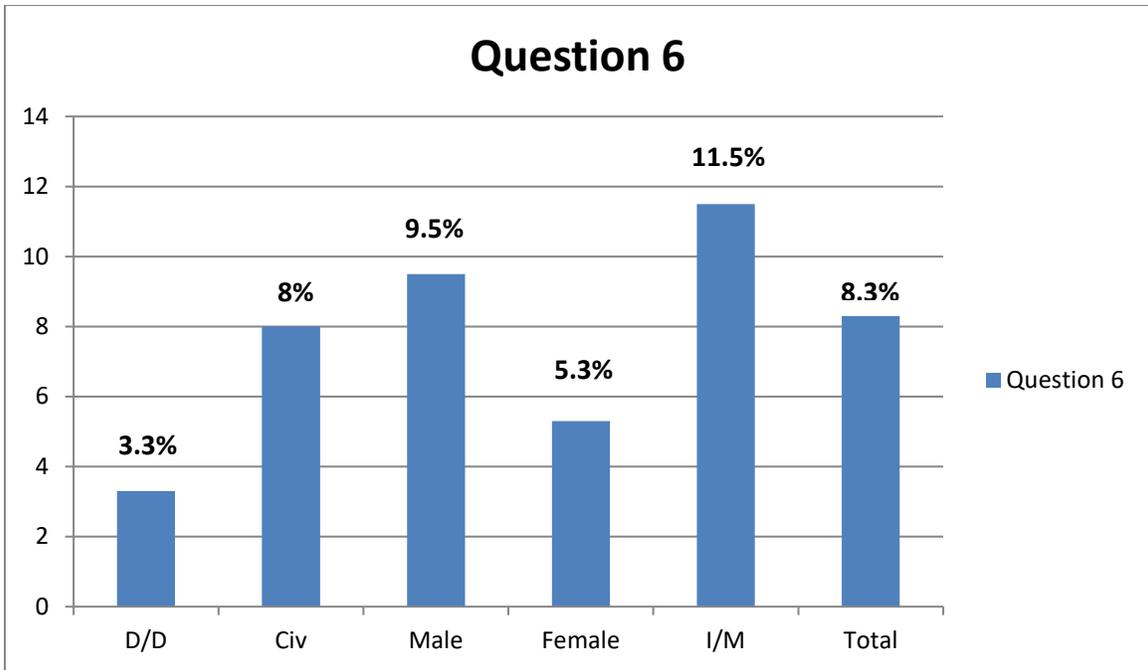
Should all gun sales include individual background checks? All 25 civilians or 100% surveyed supported an individual background check. This was the only unanimous answer from any group to a survey question. With 227 total votes the overall percentage resulted in 85.7% agreeing with individual background checks. 71 Females voted in favor and scored the second highest as a group with 93.4%. While 119 inmates or 80.4% had the lowest group approval of background checks.



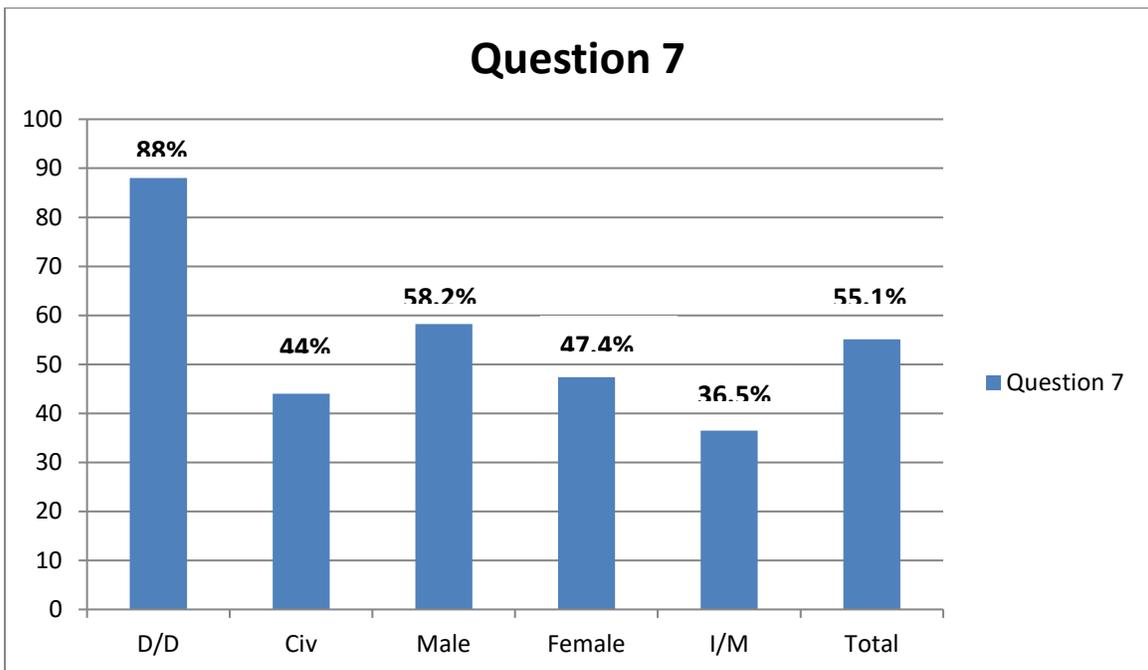
When people were asked should convicted felons have a right to purchase a gun, 69.6% or 103 inmates believed that convicted felons should have that right. In contrast, only 4.3% or only 4 Detention Deputies and 12% or only 3 civilians supported that idea. The 84 male votes, 26 female votes and 110 total votes were largely comprised from the inmate population. While this would have been quite predictable, this survey question had to be done in order to prevent or stop people from debating their own beliefs. Now there is statistical data or proof of these groups and their answers.



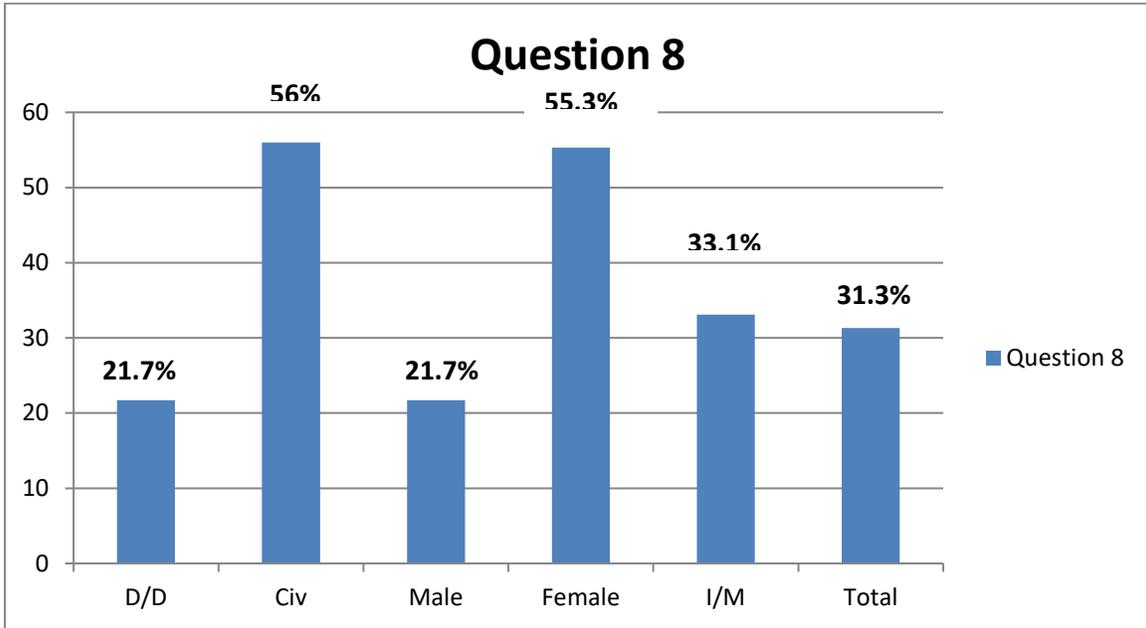
Only 22 or 8.3% of the total survey participants believed that the mentally ill should have the right to bear arms. The mentally ill's highest support to bear arms came from 11.5% or 17 of the inmates. While the lowest support came from 3 Detention Deputies who only gave a 3.3% approval. Females in general were slightly higher with 5.3% or 4 votes of approval, but were lower than the overall average.



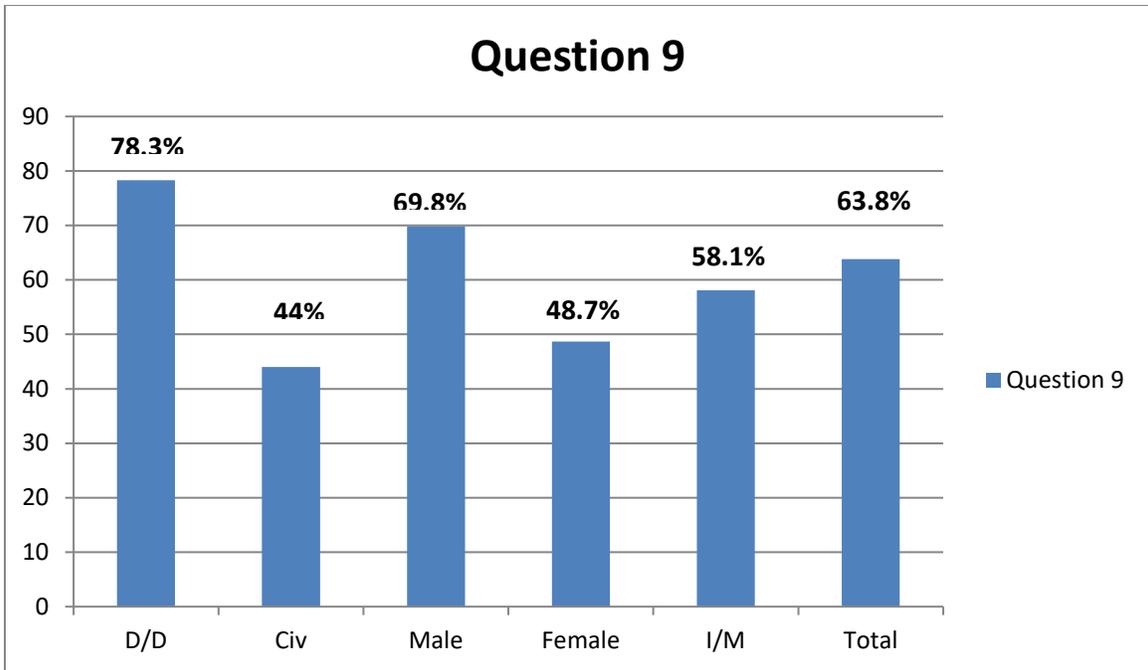
55.1% or 146 of survey respondents indicated that they own a gun for self-defense. Males stood at 58.2% with 110 votes, while 47.4% or 36 of females claimed they own a gun for self-defense. Detention Deputies with 81 votes were the high water mark at 88%, civilians were down to 44% with 11 votes and 36.5% or 54 of inmates claimed or admitted they own a gun for self-defense.



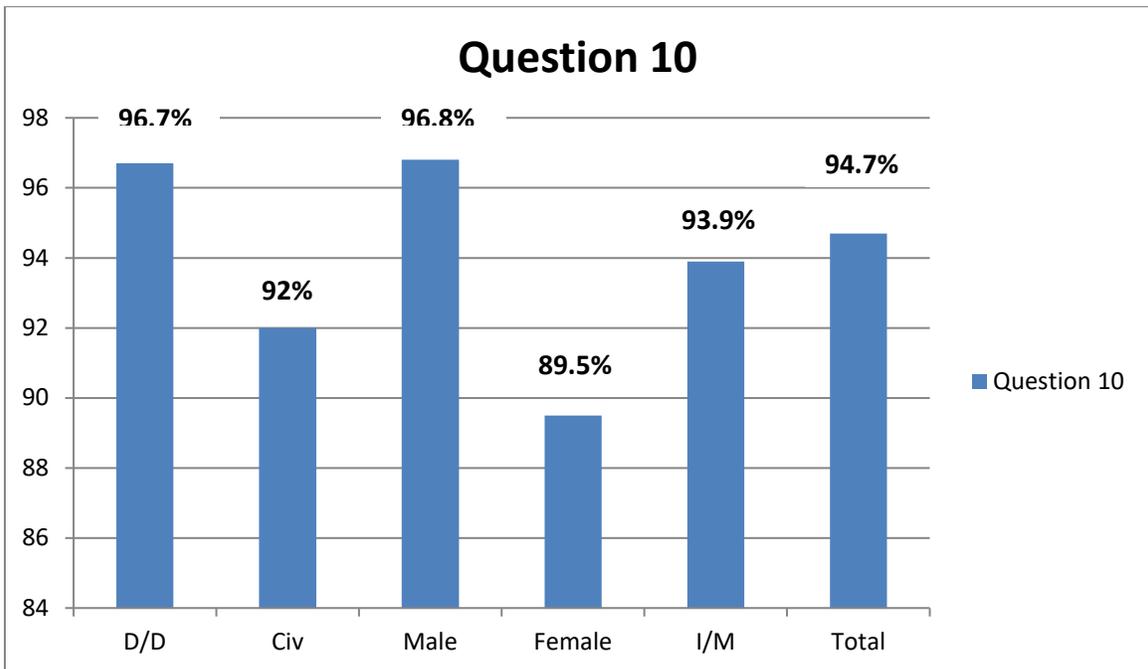
31.3% or 83 of survey respondents said that the U.S. government should ban weapons that shoot many bullets per second. Detention Deputies with 20 votes and males with 41 votes garner the low mark at 21.7%. However, the interesting portion of the survey results indicated that 14 civilians at 56% and 42 females at 55.3% believe that the U.S. government should ban these weapons.



School shootings and the overall protection of our children is a priority. With that terrible tragedy fresh in most people's minds, I asked if guns should be made available in schools to protect our children. 63.8% or 169 of people asked were in favor of making guns available for protection. 78.3% or 72 of Detention Deputies were in support, but only 44% or 11 of civilians and 48.7% or 37 of females were keen to the idea.



Finally, the controversial Florida “Stand Your Ground” Law was asked and 94.7% or 251 of all participants were in favor of the law. Remaining consistent in support of the law, 96.7% or 89 of Detention Deputies, 92% or 23 of civilians and a whopping 93.9% or 139 of inmates all concluded that they support the Florida “Stand Your Ground” Law. The lowest support for this law came from 68 females or 89.5%.



Recommendations

There are two ways in determining the best course of action in relation to gun control and minimizing or reducing Lake County Florida's public violence. First, there are those people who use their personal beliefs in what is best. Second, an individual can use data, statistics and historical facts in determining the best course of action. I am no different than any other individual; who have their own beliefs. However, I also believe in being a pragmatist and one who requires statistical or overwhelming proof before totally committing to a position. Remember, history will always repeat itself unless we learn from the past. I determined that there are four crucial categories that will ultimately factor into Lake County's public safety concerning gun control. Needless to say, I believe these factors can be used anywhere in the United States in reference to gun control and public safety.

First category is the continuance of the United States Second Amendment. In the survey analysis, each of the six groups strongly support the Second Amendment as percentages ranged from a high mark of 98.9% to a low of 93.9%. Clearly, the 265 total survey participants did not want the politicians to alter or change this personal right. Combine that support with several statistics previously mentioned such as New York City's strict gun laws and the results of 2245 murders since 1990. Or that Kennesaw Georgia has mandated gun ownership for each resident and there was only 1 murder from 1982 to 2009 (Brown, 2012). One can argue and I agree that New York City has an overwhelming population advantage in comparison to Kennesaw and therefore a greater chance for its murder rate to be higher. Nevertheless, only having 1 person killed in a 27 year span with everyone possessing a gun is quite remarkable. In addition, let us not forget that Norway has the highest gun per capita in Western Europe and the lowest murder rate. While Holland's murder rate is 50% higher than Norway's with the lowest gun ownership. Furthermore, Luxembourg has a total handgun ban and its murder rate is 9 times greater than Norway. Finally, Russia enforces strict gun laws and their results are just as disappointing with murder rates being 20 times greater than Norway and 4 times higher than the United States (Kates & Hehmeyer, 2008). Statistically speaking society is safer when the public possesses firearms.

The second category pertains to reducing or preferably stopping the diagnosed mentally ill from possessing or obtaining firearms. In the survey, 92.7% of total respondents believed that the mentally ill do not have a right to bear arms. Also most of our recent history with public gun violence has included individuals such as Seung-Hui Cho, James Holmes, Jared Loughner and Adam Lanza. The one thing in common with all four of these individuals is that they have been diagnosed with mental illnesses. After the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting, New York Governor Cuomo quickly passed a new gun law which fortifies rules for the mentally ill. The object of this law is to mandate and authorize doctors to notify the state if they believe a patient could commit harm to themselves or others (Aristo, 2013). While protecting doctor-patient confidentiality is important, protecting society from known mentally ill individuals possessing guns is more important as witnessed through our tragic and recent history. Some form of preventive measures for the mentally ill having access or purchasing guns should be implemented. As noted earlier, Florida ranks 49th in spending on mental health services; while many may point to this as a state failure. I caution that throwing money at a

problem does not always give the best results. For example, the United States has spent more money with the Department of Education since its inception in 1979. Only to have our children's test scores get worse and worse. Therefore, it is not the money spent that is important, but the effectiveness of each program developed. In other words, Florida and the United States needs quality not quantity mental health services.

Perhaps stopping the mentally ill from possessing a gun can be best prevented within the third category of gun purchasing individual background checks. For instance, President Obama after the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting emphasized the need for a requirement to conduct background checks on all gun purchases. In support of the President's position, 100% of civilians that answered the survey believed that gun sales should include individual background checks. Over 90% of survey participants agree that background checks should be a requirement, before purchasing a gun. Society will remain at a higher risk if loopholes remain for dangerous people purchasing guns. Furthermore, diagnosed mentally ill individuals should not even have access to other people's guns. Adam Lanza gained access and used his mother's firearms in reining terror and killing school children at Sandy Hook Elementary. It would be beneficial to pass a law that would subject individuals to felony charges who negligently permit any knowingly mentally ill person from gaining access to their guns. In addition, the consequences of breaking these gun laws need to be harsh. Most people only stop an act or obey a law when the consequences are severe.

The final category and most importantly using statistical data for public safety, we need to eliminate gun free zones. Most schools are gun free zones and 36.2% of those surveyed want schools to remain gun free. In fact, 56% of civilians and 51.3% of females surveyed want guns out of our schools. These groups of people have great intentions understandably; however they lack the statistics and facts to support their beliefs. Remember the story about Kennesaw, Georgia only having 1 murder from 1982 through 2009? That trend ended in 2010 as an individual killed 3 people in a Kennesaw gun free school zone (Brown, 2012). James Holmes killed 12 and wounded 58 in a Cinemark Century 16 Theatre that was mentioned earlier. Even with James Holmes being diagnosed as a mentally ill person, he chose the only local theatre of seven possibilities to conduct his shooting spree. This theatre wasn't the closest to his residence nor did he choose the theatre with the most seats (Lott, 2012). James Holmes thought logically enough to pick the only theatre where no law abiding citizen would be carrying a gun in order to defend themselves or others. Basically, James Holmes was free to shoot whomever he chose without any fear of being shot or stopped immediately. Hence, it was the only theatre that he could inflict the most casualties before being stopped. In another public shooting at the Clackamas Town Center in Portland, Oregon, Jacob Roberts shot at many people in the mall and killed two. Once again, this was a gun free zone that only stopped when Jacob Roberts' gun jammed. At this point, a shopper named Nick Meli who did not realize the mall was a gun free zone started taking out his gun. As Roberts noticed Meli and was able to unjam his gun, he shot and killed himself. The examples of gun free zone shootings and attacks are endless (Benner, 2012). While some people may not like hearing the facts, because it contradicts with their own beliefs, I will repeat an overwhelming statistic that was presented earlier which should make everyone rethink their position on gun free zones. In every United States public shooting since 1950 that resulted in 3 or more deaths

happened in a gun free zone, with the only exception being the Tucson shooting with Jared Loughner on United States House Representative Gabriel Giffords among other citizens (Lott, 2012).

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Appendix A

Survey Questions

- 1) What is your gender?
Male Female
- 2) Do you support the Second Amendment of United States that the people have a right to keep and bear arms?
Yes No
- 3) With people having a right to keep and bear arms, public safety is?
Greater Worse
- 4) Should gun sales include individual background checks?
Yes No
- 5) Should convicted felons have a right to legally purchase a gun?
Yes No
- 6) Should mentally ill people have a right to bear arms?
Yes No
- 7) Do you have a gun for self-defense?
Yes No
- 8) Should the U.S. government ban weapons that shoot many bullets per second?
Yes No
- 9) Should guns be available in schools to protect our children?
Yes No
- 10) Florida's "Stand Your ground" Law states an individual has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and meet force with force, including deadly force. Do you support Florida's "Stand Your Ground" Law?
Yes No