

Findings from the Crime Prevention Research Center (CPRC) show that 97.8 percent of mass shootings over a 68-year period occurred in "GUN-FREE ZONES." According to CPRC, 97.8 percent of mass public shootings from 1950 to May 2018 occurred in gun-free zones.

Gun laws should not punish individuals whose only crime was failing to properly navigate a nightmarish complex and expensive web of bureaucracy prior to defending their life, liberty, and property with a handgun. Senate Bill 554 is indeed a felony trap for responsible gun owners.

Gun free zones are magnets for crime because such zones present less of a threat to those hell bent on doing evil. People in the United States use guns to defend themselves against criminals an estimated 2,500,000 times – more than 6,500 people a day, or once every 13 seconds. 1 (see footnote) Of these instances, 15.7% of the people using firearms defensively stated that they "almost certainly" saved their lives by doing so. The Supreme Court, have ruled consistently that the police are responsible only to the public at large and not to individual citizens. Per a June 2005 ruling from the SCOTUS, police are NOT responsible for the citizens' safety. You can literally die waiting on the police to arrive in time to save your life; those who choose to assume responsibility for their own safety understand this harsh reality.

Even the government's estimate, which has a major methodology problem, 2 estimates people defend themselves 235,700 times each year with guns. 3

The number of times per year an American uses a firearm to deter a home invasion alone is 498,000. 4

In 83.5% (2,087,500) of these successful gun defenses, the attacker either threatened or used force first, proving that guns are very well suited for self-defense.

The rate of defensive gun use (DGU) is six times that of criminal gun use. 5

Of the 2,500,000 times citizens use guns to defend themselves, 92% merely brandish their gun or fire a warning shot to scare off their attackers. 6

In most of the remaining 8% of defensive gun uses, a citizen never wounds his or her attacker (they fire warning shots), and in less than one in a thousand instances is the attacker killed. 7

After the implementation of Canada's 1977 gun controls prohibiting handgun possession for protection, the "breaking and entering" crime rate rose 25%, surpassing the American rate. 8

It is not a gun debate, it is about freedom and exercising your God given right of self-defense. Without The Second Amendment, The Constitution and Bill of Rights is nothing more than an ideal, and can be taken at will by those with a political agenda. Cherish your freedoms, and never take them for granted.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, Kleck and Gertz, Fall 1995 ?

2. This ongoing victimization survey involved people from the government personally interviewing victims in person. Some criminologists believe this induces self-reporting biases (e.g., people don't like to tell the government they own a gun). Thus, this low number from the National Crime Victimization Survey is considered to be an outlier and not reliable. ?

3. Firearm Violence, 1993-2011, Bureau of Justice Statistics, May 2013 ?

4. Estimating intruder-related firearm retrievals in U.S. households, 1994. Robin M. Ikeda, Violence and Victims, Winter 1997 ?

5. Crime statistics: Bureau of Justice Statistics – National Crime Victimization Survey (2005). DGU statistics: Targeting Guns, Kleck (average of 15 major surveys where DGUs were reported) ?

6. Targeting Guns, Gary Kleck, Aldine de Gruyter, 1997, from the National Self-Defense Survey ?

7. Targeting Guns, Gary Kleck, Aldine de Gruyter, 1997, from the National Self-Defense Survey ?

8. Residential Burglary: A Comparison of the United States, Canada and England and Wales, Pat Mayhew, National Institute of Justice., Wash., D.C., 1987 ?