Will You Be Safer If Guns Are Banned?

“Violence is out of control. Guns are a major cause. They all should be banned – the sooner the better.” That’s what many Americans seem to believe. As a result, a nationwide movement to ban all guns is growing.

Will gun prohibition (which means banning all guns from all people) make you and your family safer? The evidence from cities in the US where they have tried to ban guns doesn’t make us think so. If gun prohibition worked, Washington, DC and New York City would be the safest cities in the country. Since 1976, it’s been illegal in Washington, DC to own any handguns or to keep any type of gun in your home unlocked and fully assembled. However, Washington, DC is the “murder capital of the United States.”

If a criminal attacks you on the street or in your home, you cannot afford to wait 30 minutes, 20 minutes, or even 10 minutes for the police to arrive—if you even get the chance to call police and they come. Ten minutes is more than enough time for a thug to rob, murder, or cripple you for life. In fact, the Supreme Court has ruled that you, as an individual, have no right to protection by the police. Their only obligation is to protect “society”—whatever that means.

So if you want to protect your home and family, you have to rely upon yourself. And self-defense does work, for example:

“Her family taken hostage by her daughter’s ex-boyfriend, Barbara Holtand and her husband were threatened with death, then forced into the bathroom of their home. When the man, armed with a rifle, went into the kitchen with her daughter, Holt slipped into the bedroom and got her .22 pistol. Holt fired a single shot, hitting the assailant in the head, stopping the attack.” [From the Salt Lake City Tribune.]

Every day, thousands of peaceful Americans successfully use guns to defend themselves. A recent study by Florida State University criminologist Gary Kleck found that Americans use guns defensively 2.5 million times a year.

Firearms are the best way to protect your home from criminals. According to gun expert J. Neil Schulman, every 13 seconds an American gun owner uses his or her firearm in self-defense. Overall, a gun in the home is 216 times more likely to be used in self-defense than to cause the death of an innocent victim. And even if you don’t own a gun, preserving the right of your neighbors to own them is one of the best ways to keep criminals out of your neighborhood.

But what about gun accidents? According to Samuel Frances, your chance of dying from the accidental shooting of a firearm is 1 in 200,000. You are 29 times more likely to die in an automobile accident.

As long as you are peaceful, learn how to use your guns safely, and take reasonable safety measures to keep them out of the hands of children and criminals, a gun in the house makes you safer and could save your life if you are attacked.

Taking guns away from law-abiding citizens would simply put us at the mercy of criminals with guns. Given a choice between obeying the law and being able to continue to defend our homes, our families, and our lives—millions of Americans will gladly break the law by having a gun in a city where they aren’t allowed. Many already do. Gun prohibition is not good for you, your family, or America.

Taken from: http://www.isil.org/resources/lit/guns-safer.html

Revised by Mr. C so kids could understand it.