

APPENDIX 5 GUN CONTROL – PROS AND CONS IN A NUTSHELL

PRO 1 The Second Amendment is not an unlimited right to own guns.	CON 1 The Second Amendment of the US Constitution protects individual gun ownership.
PRO 2 More gun control laws would reduce gun deaths.	CON 2 Gun control laws do not deter crime; gun ownership deters crime.
PRO 3 High-capacity magazines should be banned because they too often turn murder into mass murder.	CON 3 Gun control laws infringe upon the right to self-defence and deny people a sense of safety.
PRO 4 More gun control laws are needed to protect women from domestic abusers and stalkers.	CON 4 Gun control laws, especially those that try to ban "assault weapons," infringe upon the right to own guns for hunting and sport.
PRO 5 Guns are rarely used in self-defence.	CON 5 Gun control laws will not prevent criminals from obtaining guns or breaking laws.
PRO 6 Legally owned guns are frequently stolen and used by criminals.	CON 6 Gun control laws give too much power to the government and may result in government tyranny and the government taking away all guns from citizens.
PRO 7 Gun control laws would reduce the societal costs associated with gun violence.	CON 7 Gun control laws such as background checks and microstamping are an invasion of privacy.
PRO 8 A majority of adults, including gun owners, support common sense gun control such as background checks, bans on assault weapons, and bans on high-capacity magazines.	CON 8 More gun control is unnecessary because relatively few people are killed by guns.
PRO 9 More gun control leads to fewer suicides.	CON 9 Gun control laws and lower gun ownership rates do not prevent suicides.
PRO 10 Enacting gun control laws such as mandatory safety features would reduce the number of accidental gun deaths.	CON 10 More gun control is not needed; education about guns and gun safety is needed to prevent accidental gun deaths.
PRO 11 The presence of a gun makes a conflict more likely to become violent.	CON 11 Gun control laws would prevent citizens from protecting themselves from foreign invaders.

<p>PRO 12 Armed civilians are unlikely to stop crimes and are more likely to make dangerous situations, including mass shootings, more deadly.</p>	<p>CON 12 Strict gun control laws do not work in Mexico, and will not work in the United States.</p>
<p>PRO 13 Countries with restrictive gun control laws have lower gun homicide and suicide rates than the United States.</p>	<p>CON 13 Gun control laws are racist.</p>
<p>PRO 14 The Second Amendment was intended to protect the right of militias to own guns, not the right of individuals.</p>	<p>CON 14 The Second Amendment was intended to protect gun ownership of all able-bodied men so that they could participate in the militia to keep the peace and defend the country if needed.</p>
<p>PRO 15 Civilians, including hunters, should not own military-grade firearms or firearm accessories.</p>	<p>CON 15 Gun control efforts have proved ineffective.</p>

SOURCE: <http://gun-control.procon.org>