Gun Control

[Name of the Writer]

[Name of the Institution]

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Gun control is a big issue in the United States as mixed opinions have been observed from the civilians regarding its policies. In the past, civilians were allowed to keep guns for safety, while new policies are made to restrict the accessibility of the civilians to the guns for controlling the gun violence. Various policies are made for gun control in America are Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act 2004 which implies that law enforcement officials can carry a concealed firearm within the country. In addition, Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act 2005 implies that states should protect firearms dealers and manufacturers from being held liable for negligence when their products have been used in a crime. I personally believe that these policies are beneficial for American society and it is important to control massive gun violence which is increasing every year (“Gun Policy in America,” n.d.).

Gun culture is symbolic for the American people as they keep weapons not only for self-defense but also for traditions like sport shooting and hunting. However, gun control became necessary due to the increase in gun death. Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report of 2017 indicates that about thirty-six thousand people died due to gunshot wounds in 2015 where more than half of deaths were of the suicidal nature. Recent debate regarding gun control policy includes limiting the access of civilians to own guns and ban on the use of large-capacity magazines. This policy depends on the second amendment which implies that “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.” (“U.S. Gun Policy,” n.d.) Through this amendment, policymakers' argued that weapons should be used for security purpose by military and civilians should have the right to own guns for protection. These policies are valid and useful to control gun violence.

Large capacity magazines result in an increase in crime and murders of law enforcement officers on duty. This restriction is also valid because reports indicate that most of the time, crimes take place from the stolen guns of the civilians. Therefore, it is important to limit the access of the people to the guns so that crime rate can be reduced (“What Science Tells Us About the Effects of Gun Policies,” n.d.). In addition, restriction on sales of gun and protection to the salesperson on sale’s gun crime record is significant to cover for the legal sale and purchase of the weapon. However, it should be made sure that the registration and legalization of guns cannot ensure a low crime rate because the crime rate in America is so high that various cases even put on media outlets.

Many activists are raising voice against gun control policies. They believe that it is the right of civilians to keep the weapon for self-defense. They also argue that by restricting legal guns, crime cannot be decreased because the criminal can have access to weapons through illegal ways. However, crime might not decrease by an issue like suicide, murder, hate crime can be decreased by these policies. Reports indicate that twenty children and six adults were murdered in an elementary school in Newtown while 49 people were killed by the gun attack in a night club in 2016. Gunshot case in New Zealand where a white person entered in the mosque and killed number of Muslims is also a warning for America because this nation is more diverse where people from different race and religion live with each other. It is the duty of government and law enforcement institutions to provide the security to the civilians not only from the border but also from the crime that is happening within the society.

**References**

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