

## Annotated Bibliography

Acosta, Luis. "United States: Gun Ownership and the Supreme Court." *The Library of Congress*, July 2008. Web. 25 July 2015.

<http://www.loc.gov/law/help/secondamendment.php>

The author of this article is Luis Acosta. From the website it is not clear on Mr. Acosta's background or qualifications. After some research I found that he is a democratic Senator from Missouri and he has served as gun control chair. He has written the article to educate the reader on the history of gun laws. He writes in a very neutral tone stating only past and current gun regulations and appears to not have an opinion of pro or anti guns. However I did find through research not in this article that he is in favor of The Gun Control Regulation act that limited the capacity of gun magazines to 10 in an effort to reduce mass shootings, but is not necessarily for laws that involve limiting the ability to carry guns. This article is based on the history of court case rulings and references several credible articles and books. The author does not make any conclusions in the article; it serves as purely informational facts summarizing gun laws. It was originally published in 2008 it was last updated in June of 2015 so it is currently up to date and relevant.

Jost, Kenneth. (2008, October 31). Gun rights debates. *CQ Researcher*, 18, 889-912.

Retrieved from <http://library.cqpress.com.santarosa.idm.oclc.org/>

The author of "Gun Rights Debate" is Kenneth Jost. He is a Harvard and Georgetown graduate and has experience in writing about the Supreme Court and is familiar with current laws. He is very qualified to write about current laws and debate

gun rights. The purpose of this article is to debate if restrictions on firearms should be relaxed. The authors' perspective leans towards the fact that gun laws are too strict. The information in the article is fact based and includes historical events throughout gun history and references many laws in place all over the U.S. He also used many quotes from members of congress, gun foundations and included research and databases. The conclusion of the article is that the author supports gun ownership and gun rights and supports this argument with research, data and laws. This article was written in 2008, which was right after the most recent Supreme Court ruling in regards to the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment. Significant weight is given towards the pro gun right point of view as the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment in fact does protect an individuals right to own a gun. There is not only supporting laws, data and research but the author illustrates many graphs and illustrations that support his claim.

Stingl, Lee "Gun control." Alexander, Salem Press Encyclopedia, January, 2015

The authors of this article are M. Lee and co author Alexander Stingl. The co-author Alexander Stingl is a sociologist and science historian with a MA and PhD. The purpose of this article as stated by the author is to examine the political and social debate of gun control. This is a general overview of the history of guns, gun control laws, terms related to the debate and information regarding both sides of the debate. This article appears to be written in a neutral tone to inform the general audience of the debate that exists between gun control and gun rights advocates, not persuading the reader in either direction. The information used in this article was obtained from several books, Periodicals and web sites that were a mixture of pro gun rights and pro gun laws. The content written in the article is mostly factual evolution of the gun debate not opinion

based material. The conclusion implied is that the current gun law debate has two sides with supporting justification for each argument. The author states several historical events to educate the reader how the gun laws and debates have evolved. Works cited are similar in that they to provide general information about the gun control laws in place and the two different opposing standpoints. A few of the works cited differ in that they are opinionated in one direction either for or against gun rights. This article has a balanced collection of sources and manages to leave all opinions out of the article. This is a recently published article in 2015 reflecting collected information over the history of the gun debate. It is helpful for this article to be up to date as it includes current incidents involving guns and crime impacting the social debate today.

Trot, Bill and Lambert, Lisa. "Senator to Renew Gun Control Push After California Shooting Spree." *Reuters.com*. Reuters, 25 May 2014. Web. 26 July 2015.  
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/05/25/us-usa-shooting-california-guns-idUSBREA4O09R20140525>

Bill Trot and Lisa Lambert reported this News article based on Senator Blumenthal addressing the proposed and denied gun legislature after the Newtown, Connecticut School massacre. His argument is that if the gun control had been in place to restrict sales of certain types of guns and require greater background checks that it could have stopped future mass shootings. The purpose of this news article was to broadcast to the general public the opinions of Senator Blumenthal. This point of view is the opinion of the Senator and is in favor of gun control. Since the Senator most likely has a political agenda there is likely to be some bias and may be an attempt to persuade the publics

perception of him in favor of votes. The reporters do not form a conclusion nor do they state an opinion on the Senators standpoint. The Senators opinion is in favor of increased gun laws and control. The article was published in May of 2014 and is still relevant to the current debate.

Wilson, James Q. "Gun Control Isn't the Answer." *LATimes.com*. Los Angeles Times, 20 Apr 2007. Web. 23 July 2015.

<http://www.latimes.com/la-oe-wilson20apr20-story.html>

This is a news article from the Los Angeles Times by James Q. Wilson; he is an instructor educated and teaching public policy and has taught at Pepperdine, UCLA, and Harvard University. In his article he analyzes whether further gun control will have an effect on gun violence. He is very clear on stating his argument and his position on the debate. He is directing this article to the general public and anyone who reads the LA Times newspaper. The debate is argued from the perspective of an individual that is pro gun rights. He tackles the pro gun law arguments with logic and opinion based persuasion and backs it up with criminologists' thoughts and statistics. His argument is that gun control will not necessarily stop gun attacks and guns play an important role in self-defense. This is a slightly older article from 2007 but still clearly reflects the current debate on gun control that is present today.