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Law, Criminology



Daniel Huynh Mr. Bandy Honors English 9 Period 1 January 24, 2013 Gun control The Sandy Hook shooting. The theater shooting. What do they have in common? Guns. The question though, is how we should limit them. Many think that we should completely legalize them, but is it really going to solve the problem? The truth of the matter is that guns don't kill people; the criminal that wields the gun kills people. Limiting the use of guns is not an ideal solution and it will not stop criminals from killing others. It's understandable that many people want to completely restrict guns because of their personal experiences or tragedies of someone they know dealing with shootings or guns. It's also understandable that gun laws are passed only to look out for the safety of others. Guns can be really dangerous once it's placed in the wrong hands. Saying from complete honesty, we can all agree that guns actually do help criminals kill or injure the innocent. Using a gun, a thief can easily rob a bank, or even a psychopath can easily gun down a school with just a press of a trigger. I mean, guns are dangerous right? Yes and no. Yes, because they can be a tool for evil and destruction. No, because they don't cause people to kill others, they serve only as a catalyst for the inevitable. If someone is insane enough to pick up a gun and kill innocent civilians, the problem doesn't lie within the gun, but the beholder of the gun. This means that the thought of killing someone else will eventually manifest whether guns are present or not. Taking away guns isn't going to make criminals mentally sane or even less dangerous. The problem shouldn't be emphasized on the tool the perpetrator used, but on the perpetrator himself. Saying that it was a gun that caused a person to kill is like saying if someone had a knife, he would automatically go out and slaughter innocent

bystanders. Intentions are intentions. If someone really wanted to kill another person, they would, with or without a gun. But ok. Say a law was passed to illegalize all guns. Would it finally be a stop to all the madness and violent killings in America? Of course not. Illegalizing guns will only take away firearms from the law abiding citizens. Criminals that are likely to commit crimes are the ones that won't abide to laws. And even if it's against the law, whose stopping the criminals from obtaining arms illegally? This means that the law abiding citizens will have no guns to protect themselves, and the people that don't follow laws will have guns regardless. Even though a series of recent tragic events occurred, it shouldn't mean that owning guns should be made illegal. Illegalizing firearms will not cause anything but even more chaos. In fact, Crime rates in Great Britain have doubled since handguns were banned along with heavy restriction on long guns. Clearly, illegalizing guns will not decrease crime rates, but instead, increase them. Illegalizing guns. It does not seem to be a relevant response to recent shootings. Even if looking out for the safety of fellow citizens of America is the main goal, making guns illegal will not solve anything. The issue of the matter lies within the intentions of the gun wielder. Though guns may be a destructive tool, it is still the person's responsibility to adequately own and operate the gun while obeying the laws. Guns themselves might seem like the easiest thing to blame for unforgivable crimes but, in truth, America should first focus on the people and the logical part of the situation.