

Stopping Violence

Critique by Kenan Reeh

As our world continues to grow, and our population's interests also adapt, the outbreak of violence seemingly escalates. Our local and national news stations are constantly reporting stories about school shootings and gang violence. In Chris McGoey's article, "Banning Guns Is Not Enough to Stop Campus violence," he expresses his feelings toward what the real cause of violence is and what the biggest remedy is in stopping it. He explains that interdicting guns isn't the sole solution to stopping violence, and that other steps must be taken to stop it.

McGoey points out that there are many motives and tell tale signs when a violent outbreak will occur. America is a growing country where banning all guns is not a probable solution, but yet the availability of these lethal weapons is ever rising. "In a society where violent video games and violence in the media are flooding the homes, parents have to make sure that they address the problem and teach alternatives to sadistic aggression," he declares

. Surprisingly, with the rapid increases in all these factors, "the violent crime rate and criminal incidents involving guns has been declining over the past several years." Copycat crimes that cause media frenzy are often attributed to violent video games and movies. McGoey believes that while this does have a plethora of negative effects on many kids, this is only a small part of the overall problem.

"Sure, we can make it more difficult to bring guns onto campus. But this will come at a cost of personal freedom," he expresses. "For now, our students need more social awareness, parental interaction, and protection by our existing laws." The author claims that potentially violent behavior needs to be addressed before it takes a turn for the worst. He is extremely

knowledgeable on this topic, and he has had many firsthand accounts on just how terrifying these violent outbreaks can be. He uses a tone and writing style in this passage that accurately catches the opinions of most adults, and many children who don't ever want to be stuck in these lethal situations.

Chris McGoey has a very strong stand on campus violence and how it is caused, and I couldn't agree with him more. As an avid gun enthusiast that promotes responsible firearm use, I love it when he says, "Guns, children, and school should never be used in the same sentence." I believe, though, that video games and many TV shows have a greater effect on violent outbreaks than what he acknowledges. The majority of video games are filled with killing and gore, and many youngsters get their ideas from these games without thinking of the consequences.

It is impossible to totally control violence and guns, especially with today's examples, but I think with strict expectations and parental discussion, schools can drop the campus violence rate even lower. I am from a small school, and even though violence isn't a big issue, I know people who have been affected by this tragic problem and it needs to be stopped. Many people may argue that security meters and random locker checks are necessary, but they are a huge and very costly step.

The author gives insight into how all of today's technology and cyber advances have been the motives for many violent outbreaks, and he shows how these outbreaks can be easily stopped. By taking small steps, such as parents expressing their love toward their children, and informing them about God, we can win the fight against violence; and campuses can be a much safer place, where everyone will be better off.

Work Cited

McGoey, Chris. "Banning Guns Is Not Enough to Stop Campus Violence." *Gun Violence*.

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