



DENNIS R. YOUNG  
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**THIS WEEKS POSTINGS TO THE CANADIAN FIREARMS DIGEST**  
**National and International Gun Control News for the week ending August 23, 2019**

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**POSTS FROM CANADA**

**FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR HANDGUN POSSESSION**

**Justin Thompson was on three separate firearms prohibitions** when he was found in possession of two loaded handguns.

By Heather Polischuk, Regina Leader-Post Updated: August 23, 2019

<https://leaderpost.com/news/crime/five-year-sentence-for-handgun-possession>

**NOVEMBER 5, 2018 - GOODALE OPPOSES TRACKING HIGH PRIORITY GUN CONTROL TARGETS**

Public Safety Minister Goodale opposes new law requiring 422,887 convicted criminals, prohibited from owning firearms by the courts to report their current addresses to police. "With respect to the recommendation that individuals who are subject to a weapons prohibition order be required to report any change of address, the criminal justice system does not generally keep track of a person who is not serving a sentence." Liberal Government response to Firearms Petition e-1605

<https://dennisryoung.ca/2018/11/06/goodale-opposes-tracking-high-priority-gun-control-targets/>

**NOVEMBER 9, 2018 - TARGETING BAD GUYS WITH GUNS: PETITION TO PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU: SHOULDN'T POLICE KNOW WHERE THESE BAD GUYS WITH GUNS LIVE?**

We residents of Canada call on the Government to pass a motion making it mandatory for judges when imposing a firearms prohibition order, as part of a criminal sentence, a protection order or restraining order, also make it mandatory for these persons to report any change of address to police and this information be made available to police in a database on CPIC (Canadian Police Information Centre). By Dennis R. Young - November 9, 2018 <https://lnkd.in/eKnCw4n>

<https://www.change.org/p/justin-trudeau-shouldn-t-police-know-where-these-bad-guys-with-guns-live>

**REGINA POLICE 'CRIME GUN' STATS FAIL TO SUPPORT CHIEF BRAY'S STATEMENT**

On July 25, 2017 Global News reported: Police are struggling with gun crime on the Queen City's streets, and some people might find that the source of the firearms is closer than expected. "They're not being brought in by the United States, in fact most of them are not even being brought across a border to come here. They're coming from break and enters," Regina Police Chief Evan Bray said. <https://globalnews.ca/news/3624668/the-source-of-guns-on-reginas-streets/>

Regina Police Service Freedom of Information incomplete response received August 20, 2019 by Dennis R. Young

<https://dennisryoung.ca/2019/08/23/regina-police-crime-gun-stats-fail-to-support-chief-brays-statement/>

**CSSA COMMENTARY: FIREARM LEGAL DEFENCE A "NO-BRAINER" SAYS GRATEFUL GUN OWNER**

Opinder Singh's case took just over two months, from the time his guns were seized until all charges were dropped. His legal bill of \$15,000 was covered entirely by Firearm Legal Defence.

Team CSSA E-News | August 23, 2019 <https://cssa-cila.org/2019/08/team-cssa-e-news-august-23-2019/>

**CBC - POLICE TO DOUBLE NUMBER OF CCTV CAMERAS IN TORONTO AMID SPIKE IN SHOOTINGS**

Number of CCTV cameras will jump from 34 to 74 within 3 years, city says. CBC News · Posted: Aug 23, 2019

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/cctv-cameras-guns-gangs-shooting-1.5257329>

## **TACCOM: VISIT CANADA'S TACTICAL & COMPETITIVE SHOOTING SHOW**

TheGunBlog.ca — TheGunBlog.ca is excited to be among the leaders of the Canadian shooting community, firearm industry and thousands of shooters heading in two weeks to TACCOM, the Tactical & Competitive Shooting Sports Show. The three-day gathering in Toronto is the largest event of its kind in Canada. TACCOM runs Sept. 6-8 in Toronto. THEGUNBLOG.CA - AUGUST 23, 2019 <https://thegunblog.ca/2019/08/23/taccomm-visit-canada-tactical-competitive-shooting-show/>

## **RCMP PLANE CHASES FLEEING HELICOPTER AS PART OF MAJOR CROSS-BORDER DRUG BUST**

PENTICTON, B.C. — RCMP east of Vancouver were involved in a cross-border drug bust this summer that involved nearly 300 kilograms of meth, more than 100 guns and an aerial chase between a police plane and a helicopter. The court documents say searches of that property turned up 72 long guns, 35 handguns, ammunition, cellphone jammers, U.S. government helicopter decals, drones and currency from Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. The Canadian Press, Joe Fries, Penticton Herald - August 23, 2019 <https://nationalpost.com/pm-news-pmn/canada-news-pmn/rcmp-plane-chases-fleeing-helicopter-as-part-of-major-cross-border-drug-bust>

## **POINTS TO PONDER ON A NATIONAL LEVEL**

1. The gang-related shootings in Toronto have the Toronto mayor and police chief at their wits end! They are mostly correct in blaming the judicial system for a large part of the problem. An all too lenient bail system is allowing offenders back on the street to repeat offend. There is no hope of enforcing the inconceivable monitoring required by bail conditions. There are 326 persons charged with firearms offences presently out on bail!. By Dale Ferrel, Prairie Post - August 23, 2019 [https://www.prairiepost.com/opinion/points-to-ponder-on-a-national-level/article\\_46a63994-c5b2-11e9-b05d-0b6164ce9c6d.html](https://www.prairiepost.com/opinion/points-to-ponder-on-a-national-level/article_46a63994-c5b2-11e9-b05d-0b6164ce9c6d.html)

## **EDITORIAL – IS THIS FOR REAL?**

To add to the constant stupidity coming out of the Prime Minister's Office, we now have promises of new Gun Control legislation! If there is anything that says loud and clear "I don't care what you think in northern Alberta, on farms in Quebec, in the bush of Newfoundland or all the places that are not cities, it is gun control. August 23, 2019 · by Jeff Bugar, South Peace News <https://southpeacenews.com/editorial-is-this-for-real/>

## **LEGAL GUN OWNERS FEEL SCAPEGOATED AS CANADA GRAPPLES WITH RISING HOMICIDE AND GUNS PROBLEM -**

They feel it's unfair they follow rules to enjoy the privilege of gun ownership, only to feel blamed and punished when someone else uses an illegally obtained gun to kill people. by Luisa D'Amato Waterloo Region Record - August 23, 2019 <https://www.therecord.com/opinion-story/9563745-legal-gun-owners-feel-scapegoated-as-canada-grapples-with-rising-homicide-and-guns-problem/>  
<https://www.waterloochronicle.ca/news-story/9563269-responsible-gun-owners-feel-unfairly-accused-mp-told-at-town-hall-meeting/>

## **MP HAROLD ALBRECHT AND CCFR TEAM UP FOR FIREARMS TOWN HALL**

The town hall covered the current state of firearm rights going into the federal election

PHOTO CAPTION: Kitchener-Conestoga MP Harold Albrecht alongside CCFR VP of Public Relations Tracy Wilson for a town hall at Shooter's Choice in Waterloo. By Phi Doan, Kitchener Today - August 23, 2019 <https://www.kitchenertoday.com/local-news/mp-harold-albrecht-and-ccfr-team-up-for-firearms-town-hall-1654213>

## **RCMP REPORT: FIREARMS SEIZED 'CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS' BY PROVINCE, 2017-2019**

RCMP Response to Access to Information Act request dated August 16, 2019 – Received by Dennis R. Young August 22, 2019 NOTE: Also see attached: RCMP Firearms Seized 'Criminal Investigations' by Province 2015-2017

<https://dennisryoung.ca/2019/08/22/rcmp-firearms-seized-criminal-investigations-2017-2019/>

## **POLICE SEEING MORE MODIFIED GUNS ON TORONTO STREETS AMID 'BRAZEN TURF WAR'**

Since July 1, police have seized 56 guns that were used in a crime. About three-quarters of them come from the United States, which is why Toronto police are working closely with border authorities to stop the influx of illegal firearms. While semi-automatic pistols are the most common type of guns seized in the city, Matthews said they are seeing more modified guns. "We are seeing a little bit of an increase of the different types of devices that are put on firearms so there is that automatic rapid fire that will happen," he said. By Tracy Tong, Reporter, CTV News Toronto Last Updated Thursday, August 22, 2019 <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/police-seeing-more-modified-guns-on-toronto-streets-amid-brazen-turf-war-1.4559839>

## **LETTER TO THE EDITOR: AN ARGUMENT IN FAVOUR OF HANDGUNS**

Re: 'No one needs a handgun,' Cape Breton Post, Aug. 9.

I'd like to take columnist Russell Wangersky up on his offer to argue for the right to own a handgun. I need a handgun. So does my wife and many of my friends. My perspective is that of a lifelong hunter, retired armed forces weapons tech and president of a cowboy mounted shooting club in Nova Scotia. By Ken Jardine, Little Bras Dor - August 22, 2019 <https://www.capebretonpost.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor/letter-to-the-editor-an-argument-in-favour-of-handguns-343901/>

## **75% OF SEIZED HANDGUNS ENTER FROM US SAYS TASK FORCE BOSS**

Tracey Tong, of CTV, has interviewed the head of the Toronto Gun and Gang Task Force, Inspector Joe Matthews. Here are some of the specifics:

- 75 percent of 450 illegal guns seized so far this year in Toronto came across the border with the US.
- As many as 100 gangs stalk the streets of the City. They range in size from a few people to several and can readily morph
- Crime occurs in known neighborhoods. Some have a lot but downtown shootings are usually traceable back to a place of origin
- Guns are being increasingly altered to become semi-automatic
- Town Halls are planned for the Fall

The South Bayview Bulldog - August 22, 2019

<http://bayview-news.com/2019/08/75-of-seized-handguns-enter-from-us-says-task-force-boss.html/>

<https://www.cp24.com/news/city-is-in-midst-of-street-gang-turf-war-head-of-task-force-says-1.4560607>

## **'WILDEST THING WE'VE EVER SEEN': BEAR WANDERS INTO NORTHERN ALTA. BARBERSHOP**

By Diego Romero, CTV News Edmonton - Wednesday, August 21, 2019

<https://edmonton.ctvnews.ca/wildest-thing-we-ve-ever-seen-bear-wanders-into-northern-alta-barbershop-1.4560201>

## **THE HILL TIMES - DESPITE MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR A CANADIAN HANDGUN BAN, THE POLITICS OF DOING SO MAY REMAIN INSURMOUNTABLE**

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberals promised in 2015 to take handguns and assault weapons 'off our streets,' but have made only limited progress in the face of strong opposition. By Les Whittington - Aug. 21, 2019 <https://www.hilltimes.com/2019/08/21/despite-majority-support-for-a-canadian-handgun-ban-the-politics-of-doing-so-may-remain-insurmountable/212230>

**GUN-CONTROL ADVOCATES CALL FOR QUEBEC TO CRACK DOWN ON PEOPLE WHO DON'T REGISTER FIREARMS** - The numbers tell the story: only 700,000 out of 1.6 million firearms have been registered since the deadline passed last January. "We think the government needs to put a bit of teeth behind the law. I mean, there have been zero fines and yet thousands of gun owners are deliberately not respecting a public safety law," Heidi Rathjen, spokesperson for PolySeSouvient, a gun-control advocacy group. By Raquel Fletcher, Quebec City Correspondent, Global News - August 20, 2019 <https://globalnews.ca/news/5790090/quebec-gun-control-bill-25/>

### **GO AFTER ILLEGAL GUNS, SAYS SHEER**

Scheer said his Conservative government would fight gun violence by cracking down on criminal gangs and illegal firearms, but not by asking law-abiding gun owners to follow more rules. Under his party's "comprehensive" plan, Canadian border guards would get additional resources, such as equipment and more people to investigate travellers entering Canada with illegal firearms. Laws would also be changed to make it easier to prosecute gang members and harder for them to get bail or parole. There would also be a registry identifying criminal gangs, so that prosecutors wouldn't have to continually prove with each new case that well-known gangs, such as the Hell's Angels, are criminal organizations. News Aug 19, 2019 by Luisa D'Amato Waterloo Region Record

<https://www.therecord.com/news-story/9556883-scheer-visits-kitchener-damage-from-scandal-may-be-permanent-/>

### **LETTER: PUNISHMENT FIT THE CRIME**

**By Terry Taller, Kanata - Toronto Sun - August 19, 2019**

EDITOR'S COMMENT: (Harsher penalties, sentencing reform is what's needed. And politicians with the strength to show leadership) <https://torontosun.com/opinion/letters/letters-to-the-editor-aug-19-2>

**CBC - 2 BEARS KILLED TO DETERMINE IF EITHER INVOLVED IN FATAL ATTACK LAST WEEK IN N.W.T.** - Officials believe a bear killed a man near Tulita Thursday, the 4th N.W.T. bear fatality in 20 years

By Walter Strong · CBC News · Posted: Aug 19, 2019 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/2-bears-killed-to-determine-if-either-involved-in-fatal-attack-last-week-in-n-w-t-1.5252531>

**CBC - P.E.I.'S FEDERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES OFFERED EDUCATION ON GUN CONTROL**

'It's a very emotional issue for the public, which I totally understand'

By Isabella Zavarise · CBC News · Posted: Aug 19, 2019 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-women-shooters-firearms-education-federal-candidates-1.5248069>

### **MOUNTIES REMAIN SILENT AFTER RAID ON NEO-NAZI SOLDIER'S HOME**

The Mounties have declined an interview request from the Free Press and refused to answer any written questions, including whether they executed other search warrants linked to Mathews and whether several firearms removed from the home have been, or will be, returned to him. By: Ryan Thorpe |

Posted: 08/21/2019 <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/mounties-silent-after-raid-on-neo-nazi-soldiers-home-military-must-act-national-security-expert-says-557792392.html>

### **EDITORIAL: A HANDGUN BAN? DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH**

But the larger point is it's time to move beyond debating a handgun ban because unless Trudeau completely reverses himself during the election campaign, it's off the table. Time to focus on things that might actually work. Toronto Sun - Postmedia News - August 20, 2019 <https://torontosun.com/opinion/editorials/editorial-a-handgun-ban-dont-hold-your-breath>

## **REGINA POLICE SERVICE FIREARMS REPORTS**

<http://reginapolice.ca/category/firearms-statistics/>

## **OPEN LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU: HIGH RIVER FORCED ENTRIES**

### **Waiving Solicitor-Client Privilege on High River Forced Entries Records Being Withheld**

By Dennis R. Young - August 20, 2019

<https://dennisryoung.ca/2019/08/20/open-letter-to-prime-minister-high-river-forced-entries/>

**EXCERPT:** *You can start to repair this broken trust by making public the hundreds and hundreds of pages of records on the High River Forced Entries and rights violations withheld by your government using the solicitor-client privilege exemption. Please give the authority to your Ministers of Justice and Attorney General, Public Safety and Defence and the Judge Advocate General to waive privilege on these records. I would also ask you to direct the Minister of Public Safety to expedite the processing and release of 2,280 pages of High River rights violations records I requested from the RCMP in 2016. See the details regarding the records being withheld and updates on my Access to Information Act requests attached.*

## **GUN SEIZURES INCREASING AT ALBERTA-U.S. BORDER CROSSINGS**

“Regardless of what the laws are in Canada, there will always be a flow of firearms coming from the United States into Canada,” said CACP President and Vancouver Police Chief Adam Palmer. “We don’t want anybody to be under the misconception that there is a magic solution — that all of a sudden you ban weapons that we’re not going to see them in Canada.” By Tom Ross, CALGARY (660 NEWS) Posted Aug 20, 2019

<https://www.660citynews.com/2019/08/20/gun-seizures-increasing-at-alberta-u-s-border-crossings/>

## **CBC - WILL THE SNC-LAVALIN SCANDAL TURN OFF VOTERS?**

**The Canada Votes newsletter is your weekly tip-sheet as we count down to Oct. 21 - 6,008 comments**

**Samantha Grills emailed us this question: I'd appreciate greater clarity on where each of the parties stand on firearm control and specifically the debate around banning handguns and/or assault-style firearms.**

CBC News · Posted: Aug 18, 2019 <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-votes-newsletter-week19-1.5251009>

**TAP HERE TO GO TO THE CANADA VOTES POLL TRACKER**

<https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/elections/poll-tracker/canada/>

## **LIBERAL VOTERS WANT GUN OWNERS GONE FROM CITIES, EKOS POLL SHOWS**

TheGunBlog.ca — Almost all Liberal Party of Canada supporters want gun owners evicted from cities, according to a new poll by Ekos Research Associates, confirming the party as the most-hostile political force against millions of men and women. About 86 percent of Liberals agreed with the statement: “I think that there should be a strict ban on guns in urban areas,” Frank Graves, the president and founder of Ottawa-based Ekos, said on Twitter last night with the results.

THEGUNBLOG - AUGUST 18, 2019 <https://thegunblog.ca/2019/08/18/liberal-voters-want-gun-owners-gone-from-cities-ekos-poll-shows/>

## **CBC - RCMP OFFICER'S GUN, TASER, STOLEN DURING ISLAND LAKES BREAK-IN**

**Police say the gun was secured with a trigger lock and was not loaded.** CBC News · Posted: Aug 17, 2019

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/rcmp-officers-gun-taser-stolen-1.5251173>

## **LILLEY: HUNDREDS OF GUNS GO MISSING FROM THE MOUNTIES, MILITARY AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS**



Firearms researcher Dennis Young obtained a list of the number of guns lost or stolen by police or public agencies from 2005 through 2019 and the numbers might shock you. A total of 640 firearms were reported lost in that time frame, another 173 were reported stolen. That includes 469 handguns reported lost and another 117 handguns stolen. One of the sources of the guns floating around in the public is the Department of National Defence. In a third access to information request, Young obtained documents showing 559 firearms reported lost by the military and another 14 stolen between 2008-18. By Brian Lilley, Toronto Sun Updated: July 22, 2019 6:49 PM EDT.

READ THE REST: <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/lilley-hundreds-of-guns-go-missing-from-the-mounties-military-and-other-departments>

## **HEADLINE IN THE CALGARY SUN PRINT EDITION AUGUST 18, 2019: Licensed owners selling firearms to crooks: ALERT GUN TRAFFICKERS SEEKING BIG CITY COVER DRAWN TO EDMONTON: ALERT**

- The investigations are often focused on a straw purchaser, says a new report from the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT). That's where a person with a valid firearm licence purchases a gun legally and re-sells it illegally to a criminal or someone who does not want to be traced by authorities. That type of trafficking is up particularly in Edmonton, likely because it's easier for the crime to go unnoticed, said Sgt. Eric Stewart with ALERT's guns and gangs unit.
- Staff Sgt. Pierre Blais with the Edmonton drug and gang enforcement section said local police assist ALERT with intelligence and resources in firearm investigations in the city. He said Edmonton police have seen gun-related crime hold steady, seizing an average 1,500 guns over the past three years while seeing an increase in seizures of airsoft guns used for intimidation. By DYLAN SHORT, Edmonton Journal - Updated: August 18, 2019

<https://edmontonjournal.com/news/crime/edmonton-centre-of-straw-purchasing-of-guns-alert>

<https://calgarysun.com/news/crime/edmonton-centre-of-straw-purchasing-of-guns-alert/wcm/8ed06a74-736a-4b8a-bf2b-4456401d2e7b>

## **SEPTEMBER 13, 2018 - RCMP HAVE NO RECORDS TO SUPPORT CLAIMS OF 'STRAW PURCHASES'**

CBC NEWS June 14, 2018: "It's the main source of how firearms are being purchased and how they come into people's hands on the streets nowadays," said Sgt. Eric Stewart, head of the Guns and Gangs unit for the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT)." <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/straw-purchasing-domestic-weapons-trafficking-increase-1.4704987>

RCMP ATIP RESPONSE: "Based on the information provided, a search for records was conducted in Edmonton, Alberta and Ottawa, Ontario. Unfortunately, we were unable to locate records which respond to your request."

<https://dennisryoung.ca/2018/09/13/no-records-to-support-rcmp-claims-of-straw-purchases/>

## **NOVEMBER 28, 2018 - DO CRIME GUNS COME FROM "DOMESTIC SOURCES"?**

Between 2007-2016, StatsCan reports that only 5% of the firearms involved in homicides were registered and used by someone other than the legal owner to commit murder — this percentage includes thefts as well as straw purchases.

By Gary Mauser, Justice for Gun Owners - November 28, 2018

<http://justiceforgunowners.ca/do-crime-guns-come-from-domestic-sources/>

## **CSSA COMMENTARY: GUN BANS – A LIBERAL FUNDRAISING GOLDMINE**

Minister Blair knows legal gun owners aren't the problem. He also knows banning guns from legal gun owners won't impact street violence because their guns aren't the threat to public safety. The scary part of gun bans isn't the threat of a ban, it's the weaponization of gun ownership for political gain. Threats of gun bans serve the Liberal Party. They are a proven, time-tested fundraising goldmine for the party and a vote-winner on Election Day. A statement from Minister Blair's office: "We have been clear. In order to ensure the protection of our communities there is no option that we will not consider, though if we are to take additional measures we will need a mandate to do so." Winning the election is the most important thing for Bill Blair and the Liberal Party Team CSSA E-News | August 16, 2019 <https://cssa-cila.org/2019/08/team-cssa-e-news-august-16-2019/>

**EXCERPT:** (Was it just us, or did everyone notice Toronto Police Chief Mark Saunders saying 80% of the crime guns in Toronto were smuggled into Canada? The exact numbers uncovered by stalwart firearms researcher Dennis Young and published in these pages many months ago.)

### **CHRIS SELLEY: NO ONE SHOULD BE IMPRESSED BY CALLS FOR A HANDGUN BAN**

Focusing on the threat posed by legally purchased guns while all but ignoring the smuggling problem suggests one of the goals is to disarm Canadians on principle. By Chris Selley, National Post - August 15, 2019

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/chris-selley-no-one-should-be-impressed-by-calls-for-a-handgun-ban>

EXCERPT: The officer's story was that more and more people were obtaining licences to own restricted weapons — not an easy task — purely to sell them on. It's actually quite astonishing that this happens as often as it does, because detective work doesn't get much easier: Punch the seized gun's serial number into the computer, go to the address of the guy who legally purchased it, arrest him, and send him to prison for a minimum of three years on a first offence — five on a second. It's an astonishingly stupid criminal enterprise, but maybe we should make it even stupider as a deterrent.

### **GREEN PARTY CALLS FOR CANADA-WIDE BAN ON SEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLES, HANDGUNS**

"We support legal hunters and those who need guns in rural areas. But guns in urban areas are not acceptable," said Green Party Leader and B.C. MP Elizabeth May. Aug 15, 2019 by: Glacier Media

<https://www.castanet.net/news/Canada/263657/May-ban-semi-auto-guns>

<https://www.kamloopsmatters.com/local-news/green-party-calls-for-canada-wide-ban-on-semi-automatic-rifles-handguns-1640214>

### **LETTER: ANTI-HANDGUN COLUMN FIRING BLANKS — AS USUAL**

Good day, I am writing in response to your article "No one needs a Handgun." This is just another unwarranted attack on law abiding gun owners and on inanimate objects that some choose to own to carry out legitimate pursuits such as target shooting, hunting and collecting. If we were to boil everything in this world down to need vs want, we would have a very different, boring and useless existence. By Scott Manning, A proud NFA and NRA member, Torbay - Published: Aug 15, 2019 <https://www.thetelegram.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor/letter-anti-handgun-column-firing-blanks-as-usual-341348/>

### **GUN TRACKING, DECRIMINALIZATION FRONT AND CENTRE AT POLICE CONFERENCE: SMYTH**

Speaking to the Winnipeg Sun on Wednesday, the final day of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference in Calgary, Smyth said different services, including his own, haven't traced the source of weapons used in crimes such as robberies or homicides as much as they would like. By Scott Billeck, Winnipeg Sun - August 14, 2019

<https://winnipegssun.com/news/news-news/gun-tracking-decriminalization-front-and-centre-at-police-conference-smyth>

### **MANDEL: RETIRED SENIOR TORONTO COP BLASTS CHIEF, CALLS FOR STREET CHECKS**

The retired senior cop despairs at the escalating gun violence in Toronto and lays the blame squarely on a spineless judiciary and a disastrous decision to end carding. He's also blasting Police Chief Mark Saunders — "Nice man but he's 100% over his head. He has zero front line experience" — and Mayor John Tory's proposed handgun ban which he dismisses as useless By Michele Mandel, Toronto Sun - August 13, 2019

<https://torontosun.com/news/local-news/mandel-retired-senior-toronto-cop-blasts-chief-calls-for-street-checks>

### **ALERT: STRAW PURCHASING ON THE RISE**

Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19 Posted: June 1, 2019

<https://alert-ab.ca/straw-purchasing-on-the-rise/>

[https://issuu.com/alert\\_ab/docs/alert\\_annual\\_report\\_2018-2019\\_final](https://issuu.com/alert_ab/docs/alert_annual_report_2018-2019_final)

## **POSTS FROM THE UNITED STATES & OTHER COUNTRIES**

### **THE SECOND AMENDMENT DOES NOT BAR GUN CONTROL. LET'S STOP PRETENDING THAT IT DOES**

- In District of Columbia v. Heller, in 2008, for the first and only time in American history, the Supreme Court found a law to violate the Second Amendment. The Court struck down a 35-year-old District of Columbia ordinance that prohibited the ownership or possession of handguns. Justice Antonin Scalia, writing for the majority in a 5-4 decision, said that the Second Amendment protects a right to have guns in the home for the sake of security.

By Erwin Chemerinsky Special to The Sacramento Bee - August 24, 2019. Erwin Chemerinsky is dean and professor of law at the UC Berkeley School of Law. He can be contacted at [echemerinsky@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:echemerinsky@law.berkeley.edu)  
<https://www.sacbee.com/opinion/op-ed/article234275302.html>

### **GUNS PREVENT THOUSANDS OF CRIMES EVERY DAY, RESEARCH SHOWS**

How many lives are actually saved by gun ownership?

By Lawrence W. Reed, Foundation for Economic Freedom - Friday, August 23, 2019  
<https://fee.org/articles/guns-prevent-thousands-of-crimes-every-day-research-show/>

### **VANITY FAIR - TRUMP CONSIDERING "NEUROBEHAVIORAL" TECH TO PREDICT MASS SHOOTERS**

If you won't regulate guns, why not regulate people? By Eric Lutz - August 23, 2019

<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2019/08/trump-considering-neurobehavioral-tech-to-predict-mass-shooters-gun-control>

### **TAKING GUNS OFF SHELVES MAY NOT BE SO BAD FOR BUSINESS AFTER ALL**

Dick's Sporting Goods is experimenting with scaling back its sale of firearms. Its bottom line is doing fine. By Ryan Bort, Rolling Stone - August 23, 2019 <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/guns-dicks-sporting-goods-profitable-875761/>

### **POLICE THWARTED AT LEAST SEVEN MASS SHOOTINGS AND WHITE SUPREMACIST ATTACKS**

**SINCE EL PASO** Several of the alleged foiled plots appeared to involve men espousing far-right viewpoints and racist ideologies By Sam Levin in Los Angeles - Fri 23 Aug 2019

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/aug/20/el-paso-shooting-plot-white-supremacist-attacks>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/disgruntled-employee-had-arsenal-guns-threatened-mass-shooting-california-hotel-n1045076>

### **CNN ANCHOR USES 'IF IT SAVES ONE LIFE' ARGUMENT TO PUSH GUN CONTROL**

On Tuesday's Erin Burnett Outfront on CNN, fill-in host Kate Bolduan twice employed the lame "if it saves one life" argument that's typically not used on other issues as she made Republican guest Rob Astorino debate both her and liberal CNN contributor Aisha Moodie-Mills on gun control. By Brad Wilmoth | August 22, 2019

<https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/brad-wilmouth/2019/08/22/cnn-anchor-uses-if-it-saves-one-life-push-gun-control>

### **STUDY: HALF OF GUNS USED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY CRIMES NOT REGISTERED**

OAKLAND (CBS SF) — Only half of the guns used to commit crimes in Alameda County last year were registered in California and less than 10 percent were registered to the person who committed the crime, according to a study released this week by District Attorney Nancy O'Malley. The report by the District Attorney's Office covers six years from 2012 to 2018, reviewing data on gun use, sales, possession and theft in the county and looking at every gun used in a crime that was prosecuted by its office in 2018. August 22, 2019 <https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2019/08/22/study-half-of-guns-used-in-alameda-county-crimes-not-registered/>



**USA TODAY EDITORIAL: WANT AN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN? DON'T COUPLE IT WITH A MANDATORY GUN BUYBACK.** - Beto O'Rourke and other Democratic presidential candidates are playing right into the NRA's 'from my cold, dead hands': Our view

- Anything smacking of confiscation would breathe life and energy into the not-from-my-cold-dead-hands crowd.
- This would endanger law enforcement.
- And likely put a full stop to any further gun safety measures.

The Editorial Board, USA TODAY - Aug. 22, 2019 <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2019/08/22/assault-weapons-ban-yes-mandatory-gun-buyback-no-editorials-debates/2082219001/>

## **TWO WAYS TO IMPROVE POLITICAL DISCOURSE ON GUNS**

Each side needs to approach the other not as adversaries but as partners in hashing out how we can balance people's right to defend themselves with the need to prevent people from harming others. There are whack-jobs on the left who want to ban all guns, and there are whack-jobs on the right who want everyone to open carry. By Antony Davies and James R. Harrigan, Foundation for Economic Freedoms - Thursday, August 22, 2019

<https://fee.org/articles/two-ways-to-improve-political-discourse-on-guns/>

**BIGOTRY AND HATE ARE MORE LINKED TO MASS SHOOTINGS THAN MENTAL ILLNESS, EXPERTS SAY** - How do we combat the roots of these hateful forces? By Mike Colagrossi - 22 August, 2019

<https://bigthink.com/politics-current-affairs/bigotry-hate-mass-shootings>

## **CALIFORNIA ARMS TRAFFICKERS USED SNAPCHAT TO MARKET ILLEGAL WEAPONS**

Recent investigations show that in the Bay Area, social media is playing a significant role in firearms sales  
By Darwin BondGraham in Oakland - Thu 22 Aug 2019

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/aug/21/snapchat-gun-sales-california>

<https://nypost.com/2019/08/22/california-gun-traffickers-used-snapchat-to-sell-illegal-firearms/>

<https://www.ammoland.com/2019/08/30-of-confiscated-firearms-in-california-are-homemade/>

## **NEW DOCUMENTS REVEAL MORE DETAILS OF LAVISH NRA SPENDING**

Good morning, Bulletin readers. As more details come out about the lavish spending of NRA executives, Democrats in the House are widening their probe into the group's nonprofit status. Plus, authorities in California say they may have foiled a mass shooting at a Los Angeles-area hotel. By Jennifer Mascia - August 22, 2019

<https://www.thetrace.org/rounds/daily-bulletin-nra-spending-march-for-our-lives-atf/>

## **NY TIMES - PARKLAND SHOOTING SURVIVORS RELEASE AMBITIOUS GUN CONTROL PLAN**

The plan by March for Our Lives would ban assault weapons, raise the minimum age for buying firearms and introduce other measures that the gun lobby has strongly opposed.

By Adeel Hassan - Updated Aug. 22, 2019

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/21/us/march-for-our-lives-gun-control.html>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/march-our-lives-unveils-bold-new-proposal-gun-control-legislation-n1044996>

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/parkland-students-unveil-sweeping-gun-control-proposal-and-hope-for-a-youth-voting-surge-in-2020/2019/08/20/145f4574-c36f-11e9-9986-1fb3e4397be4\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/parkland-students-unveil-sweeping-gun-control-proposal-and-hope-for-a-youth-voting-surge-in-2020/2019/08/20/145f4574-c36f-11e9-9986-1fb3e4397be4_story.html)

## **AUSTRALIA'S GUN LAWS HAVEN'T KEPT US SAFER, SAYS PROFESSOR TOM FRAME**

Australia's uniform national gun laws were framed in the grim shadows and national grief of the 1996 Port Arthur massacre in Tasmania, in which 35 people were shot dead and 23 wounded. The National Firearms Agreement has since

been held up as a model for firearms control around the world. But historian, academic and Anglican bishop Tom Frame argues the agreement is outdated and hasn't made Australia safer. In his new book Gun Control, the UNSW professor sets out the case of a new national gun agreement. Guest: Professor Tom Frame, University of New South Wales and author. Wednesday 21 August 2019 <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/australias-gun-laws-havent-kept-us-safer,-says-unsw-professor/11433822>

### **TIME - TRUMP REVERSES COURSE ON GUN CONTROL AGAIN, SAYS HE BACKS TIGHTER**

**BACKGROUND CHECKS** (WASHINGTON) — President Donald Trump on Wednesday once again backed tighter background checks for gun purchases, but said he wants to be careful that closing what he calls “loopholes” doesn’t clear the way for more gun control. By JILL COLVIN and LAURIE KELLMAN / AP August 21, 2019 <https://time.com/5657991/trump-gun-control-reversal/>

### **LAWS ABOUT WHO CAN BUY GUNS WORK, LAWS ABOUT WHICH GUNS YOU CAN BUY DON'T**

As a Harvard-educated, politically liberal researcher giving my first talks on firearm violence prevention, I was afraid the gun owners in the audiences would boo me. But the only backlash I faced was from a gun control advocate when I told her I was against assault weapon bans. “Your policies wouldn’t prevent mass shootings!” she said. I was presenting Dr. Michael Siegel’s and my research on what policies are effective in reducing gun violence. Our main argument is that laws regulating what firearms can be bought are ineffective, but policies controlling who can purchase them tend to work. By Claire Boine, The Washington Examiner - August 21, 2019 <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/op-eds/laws-about-who-can-buy-guns-work-laws-about-which-guns-you-can-buy-dont>

### **THE COMING WAVE OF ANTI-GUN RESEARCH**

The Dickey Amendment bars the CDC from politically promoting gun control—not from researching gun violence in order to present us with solutions. by Frank Miniter, NRA/ILA - Wednesday, August 21, 2019 <https://www.america1stfreedom.org/articles/2019/8/21/the-coming-wave-of-anti-gun-research/>

### **SHOOTING : TEN COUNTRIES WIN MEDALS, SEVEN - OBTAIN OLYMPIC QUOTAS IN LIMA**

Ten countries – USA, Cuba, Mexico, Guatemala, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Brasil, Chile, **Canada** - have won medals in shooting sport at the 18th Panamerican Games that took place in Lima, Peru. The first seven have also obtained Quotas to the Tokyo-2020 Olympic Games. - August 20, 2019 [http://aroundtherings.com/site/A\\_77748/Title\\_SHOOTING--TEN-COUNTRIES-WIN-MEDALS-SEVEN---OBTAIN-OLYMPIC-QUOTAS-IN-LIMA/292/Articles](http://aroundtherings.com/site/A_77748/Title_SHOOTING--TEN-COUNTRIES-WIN-MEDALS-SEVEN---OBTAIN-OLYMPIC-QUOTAS-IN-LIMA/292/Articles)

### **NPR - POLL: AMERICANS, INCLUDING REPUBLICANS AND GUN OWNERS, BROADLY SUPPORT RED**

**FLAG** - Overall, 77% of Americans surveyed support family-initiated ERPOs, and 70% support them when initiated by law enforcement, according to the survey, which was conducted before the recent Texas and Ohio shootings. There is broad support among Republicans and gun owners for these types of laws, the poll found. Two-thirds of Republicans and 60% of gun owners support allowing police to seek the court orders; higher percentages — 70% of Republicans and 67% of gun owners — support allowing family members to seek them By Leigh Paterson, National Public Radio - August 20, 2019 Heard on Morning Edition <https://www.npr.org/2019/08/20/752427922/poll-americans-including-republicans-and-gun-owners-broadly-support-red-flag-law>

### **GUNS ARE A HUGE PART OF AMERICAN SOCIETY; TAKING THEM AWAY WON'T HELP: TODAY'S**

**TALKER** - Guns are vital for protection in America. The acts of the few shouldn't affect citizens' rights to guns, which is protected by the 2nd Amendment. Gun control won't help, more guns will.

By Louis Haas USA TODAY Published Aug. 20, 2019 <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2019/08/20/gun-control-second-amendment-rights-supreme-court-talker/2059968001/>

### **LICENCE TO KILL: HOW A DEADLY RIFLE THAT CAN FIRE SIX SHOTS IN THREE SECONDS AND IS PROMOTED AS 'SEMI-SEMI-AUTOMATIC' IS EXPLOITING AUSTRALIA'S TOUGH GUN LAWS**

- The Verney-Carron Speedline .308 rifle is being sold on the Australian market
- The rifle can fire six rounds in about three seconds but is not 'semi-automatic'
- It has been considered a 'Category B' firearm, the second lowest classification
- Opponents say it should be put on the Category D list and effectively banned

By Stephen Gibbs for Daily Mail Australia - 19 August 2019

<https://www.mailonsunday.co.uk/news/article-7370191/How-deadly-rifle-fire-six-shots-three-seconds-exploiting-Australias-tough-gun-laws.html>

### **U.S. NEWS - POLL: MAJORITY FAVOR GUN CONTROL**

An overwhelming majority of Americans favor background checks on guns.

By Kenneth T. Walsh, Contributor - Aug. 19, 2019,

<https://www.usnews.com/news/national-news/articles/2019-08-19/poll-majority-favor-gun-control>

### **THE OUTDOOR WIRE - AUGUST 19, 2019**

#### **FROM THE STREET: BANS, RED FLAGS AND MEDIA**

So let's take a police practitioner view of the proposals in order and see where we're at in terms of practical application.

<https://www.theoutdoorwire.com/features/4d8df6b6-f317-47c4-a452-d20d16403ea8>

### **WHY YOU SHOULD REJECT AN ASSAULT RIFLE BAN**

Assault rifles are ill-defined. Gun rights advocates generally only apply the term to rifles with fully automatic or burst-fire capability. Although these select fire weapons are commonly depicted on TV and in movies, guns capable of continuous fire by simply compressing and holding down the trigger have been effectively banned for decades. Still, gun control advocates have expanded the definition of an assault rifle to apply to various semi-automatic rifles. In this regard, the mechanics mean less and appearance means everything. Most state-level assault rifle bans restrict cosmetic accessories that have no effect on the rate of fire or the bullet velocity of the weapon. The lack of consensus on the definition of an assault rifle has created a patchwork of legislation that does not save lives but annoys the hell out of gun owners. Don't be fooled, this will not stop with the abolishment of the much-maligned black rifles. Written By: Raheem Williams | Aug 18th 2019 <https://www.inforum.com/opinion/columns/4615569-Williams-Why-you-should-reject-an-assault-rifle-ban>

### **THE REAL REASON OBAMA DIDN'T PASS GUN CONTROL**

America hasn't figured out yet how to overcome the intense opposition from the gun rights minority.

By Bill Scher 8/18/19 <https://www.politico.eu/article/the-real-reason-obama-didnt-pass-gun-control/>

### **WHAT IS RECESS RALLY? EVERYTHING TO KNOW ABOUT NATIONWIDE EFFORT TO END GUN**

**VIOLENCE** - Events for Recess Rally, organized by gun-control organizations Everytown for Gun Safety and Moms Demand Action for Gun Control, will occur in all 50 states on Saturday and Sunday. The groups announced plans to hold the nationwide rallies while Congress was on its summer break. More than 100 rallies are scheduled. By Janice Williams, Newsweek - 8/17/19 - <https://www.newsweek.com/recess-rally-gun-control-protest-1454883>

### **AS PRESSURE MOUNTS FOR WALMART TO STOP SELLING GUNS, THERE IS A WORKABLE**

**BUSINESS SOLUTION** - The coalition asks people to print out a letter on its website and personally hand-carry it to the local store manager. USA Today announced “Weekend of action planned to pressure Walmart to stop selling guns,” with rallies planned nationwide. By Pamela N. Danziger, The American Affluent - August 17, 2019

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/pamdanziger/2019/08/17/as-pressure-mounts-for-walmart-to-stop-selling-guns-there-is-a-workable-business-solution/#4a9eea6c7e09>

### **STUDIES FIND NO EVIDENCE THAT ASSAULT WEAPON BANS REDUCE HOMICIDE RATES**

The studies, data, and examination of the available evidence by scholars suggest that assault weapon bans or buybacks will have little if any effect on rates of violent crime and gun violence.

Foundation for Economic Freedom - Saturday, August 17, 2019

<https://fee.org/articles/studies-find-no-evidence-that-assault-weapon-bans-reduce-homicide-rates/>

### **MASSACRES UNDERScore NEED FOR GUN CONTROL**

Surely, we can find more and better ways to “red flag” young Americans with a propensity and a thirst for violence and get them the treatment they need. By David Leibowitz, Glendale Star Columnist - August 17, 2019

[http://www.glendalestar.com/opinion/article\\_9147ce18-bedc-11e9-9478-734908191f26.html](http://www.glendalestar.com/opinion/article_9147ce18-bedc-11e9-9478-734908191f26.html)

### **31 PEOPLE DIED IN ONE WEEKEND. DEMOCRATS ARE FINALLY GOING BOLD ON GUNS.**

Members of the House Judiciary Committee will return from recess a few days before the rest of their colleagues to mark up a number of gun measures, including a red flag law and a ban on high-capacity magazines.

By Kara Voght, Mother Jones - August 17, 2019 <https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/08/31-people-died-in-one-weekend-democrats-are-finally-going-bold-on-guns/>

### **AUSTRALIA: MORE SCRUTINY UNDER NSW FIREARM REFORMS**

The criminal and anti-social behaviour of firearm holders will be watched more closely under a suite of reforms made to the NSW Firearms Registry. The NSW government modifications will see an increase in police officers in the registry workforce to focus on seizing firearms and suspending licences to help ensure firearms don't fall into dangerous hands. By Dominica Sanda, AAP - Saturday, 17 August 2019

### **'GHOST GUNS' ARE BECOMING A BIG PROBLEM IN CALIFORNIA. HERE'S WHY**

**One in three guns seized in California is homemade** and has no serial number, according to federal firearms officials. At a meeting this week of L.A. City Council's Public Safety Committee, police Captain Paul Espinosa told council members that ghost guns started appearing more frequently about six years ago. by Emily Elena Dugdale in News on August 16, 2019 [https://laist.com/2019/08/16/ghost\\_guns\\_are\\_becoming\\_a\\_big\\_problem\\_in\\_california\\_heres\\_why.php](https://laist.com/2019/08/16/ghost_guns_are_becoming_a_big_problem_in_california_heres_why.php)

### **BETO O'ROURKE CALLS FOR BUYBACKS IN PLAN TO COMBAT GUN VIOLENCE**

(CN) – Former El Paso congressman and Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke assailed President Donald Trump on Friday in a newly released plan to combat white supremacy and gun violence in America, calling for a nationwide gun registry and a mandatory buyback program for assault-style weapons. By ERIK DE LA GARZA - August 16, 2019 <https://www.courthousenews.com/beto-orourke-calls-for-buybacks-in-plan-to-combat-gun-violence/>  
<https://7news.com.au/politics/security/more-scrutiny-under-nsw-firearm-reforms-c-405170>

### **CALDARA: I WANT TO GIVE YOU ONE OF MY GUNS, REALLY (click for details)**

I used to be passionately anti-gun. I gave money to anti-gun organizations. So, I know full well the emotional drive to promote “common-sense gun laws.” Today I am a proud life member of the National Rifle Association and own several firearms. I even own what people constantly mislabel as assault weapons. This makes me a criminal in my hometown of Boulder where I am in blatant and public violation of their new bigoted city ordinance. I would rather be arrested and go to jail than give up my civil liberties. That’s how strongly I believe in our right to keep and bear arms. By Jon Caldara | Columnist for The Denver Post - August 16, 2019

<https://www.denverpost.com/2019/08/16/caldara-i-want-to-give-you-one-of-my-guns-really-click-for-details/>

### **DID THE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN REALLY WORK? THAT'S COMPLICATED.**

The jury's out on whether it actually prevented mass shootings — but data suggests we need more data.

VICE News by Shawna Thomas - Aug 16, 2019

[https://www.vice.com/amp/en\\_us/article/8xwak4/did-the-assault-weapons-ban-really-work-thats-complicated](https://www.vice.com/amp/en_us/article/8xwak4/did-the-assault-weapons-ban-really-work-thats-complicated)

### **ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT "RED FLAG" GUN LAWS**

By Amy Swearer, Senior Legal Policy Analyst, The Heritage Foundation - August 16, 2019

Amy is a senior legal policy analyst in the Meese Center for Legal and Judicial Studies.

<https://www.heritage.org/firearms/commentary/answers-common-questions-about-red-flag-gun-laws>

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

1. These are the types of questions that must be explored in depth, with reasoned analysis and absent knee-jerk conclusions.
2. The Second Amendment protects the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms commonly used for lawful purposes.
3. Red-flag laws could have been used to prevent many high-profile mass public shootings without broadly infringing on the rights of all lawful gun owners.

### **WHAT WOULD A MODERN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN ACTUALLY LOOK LIKE?**

The assault weapons ban expired in 2004. Now some 2020 presidential candidates are talking about bringing it back—and giving it an upgrade. By Jay Willis - August 16, 2019 <https://www.gq.com/story/modern-assault-weapons-ban>

### **I'M A PROFESSOR, AND I CARRY A GUN ON CAMPUS. HERE'S WHY**

Even on the most secure college campus, the police response to an active shooter is measured in minutes. But when seconds matter, it is up to students and faculty to defend their own lives. By Timothy Hsiao, The Federalist - August 16, 2019 <https://thefederalist.com/2019/08/16/im-professor-carry-gun-campus-heres/>

### **NATIONAL REVIEW: ACTUALLY, BLOOMBERG, IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE**

Bloomberg’s editors argue that the Senate should pass a law mandating “universal background checks.” “Americans overwhelmingly support universal background checks,” they insist. So what’s all the fuss about?

Quite a lot, actually. For a start, the idea that “Americans overwhelmingly support universal background checks” is derived from national polling on the question in abstract, not from our experience with trying to pass actual bills into law. Indeed, when Americans are actually asked to line up on either side of the question — that is, when details of what would actually be involved becomes clear — that “overwhelming” support tends to evaporate. By Charles C. W. Cooke August 15, 2019 <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/actually-bloomberg-its-not-that-simple/>



### **TIME: THIRD OF AMERICANS AVOID CERTAIN PLACES BECAUSE THEY FEAR MASS SHOOTINGS**

A third of U.S. adults are so stressed by the prospect of mass shootings that they avoid visiting certain places or attending certain events, according to a new survey from the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Harris Poll. The survey found that an overwhelming majority of American adults—79% — experience some amount of stress related to mass shootings. A third of the 2,000 respondents said that fear was so great they avoid going to certain places or events, and almost a quarter said they've changed their lives due to fear of mass shootings. By Jamie Ducharme - August 15, 2019 <https://time.com/5653218/mass-shootings-stress/>

### **WHAT IF A 'GOOD GUY WITH A GUN' IS THE ANSWER TO MASS SHOOTINGS**

Long before the past weekend, when the US was shaken by yet another double-header mass shooting, President Donald Trump had voiced an opinion that's worth contemplating in the current conjuncture: what if there's a chance to stop a bad guy with a gun by simply having a good guy with a gun on the other side of the barricades? By Zara Muradyan - August 14, 2019 <https://sptnkne.ws/8WR5>  
<https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201908141076551368-what-if-a-good-guy-with-a-gun-is-the-answer-to-mass-shootings/>

### **FBI: MORE PEOPLE KILLED BY HAMMERS, CLUBS THAN WITH RIFLES OF ANY KIND**

The most recent FBI crime stats show that more people were killed in 2017 with hammers and clubs than were killed with rifles of any kind. Breitbart News reported the most recent numbers—those for 2017—on September 26, 2018. Those figures showed that 467 people were killed with “blunt objects (hammers, clubs, etc.),” while 403 were killed with rifles. By AWR Hawkins - 11 Aug 2019 <https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2019/08/11/fbi-more-people-killed-hammers-clubs-rifles-kind/>

**'IF I DIDN'T HAVE A FIREARM, I WOULDN'T BE HERE TO TALK TO YOU': REALTOR DESCRIBES ATTACK AT OPEN HOUSE** - What happened Sunday morning was a moment Dawna Hetzler said she had trained for, but never believed would actually happen. Realtor Dawna Hetzler has a concealed carry permit, and said she was attacked by a man wielding a knife and bear spray during an open house. By Allison Sylte - August 8, 2019 <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/if-i-didn-t-have-a-firearm-i-wouldn-t-be-here-to-talk-to-you-realtor-describes-attack-at-open-house/ar-AAFudhz>

### **OTHER ARTICLES ON ISSUES THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST**

**MATT GURNEY: INSTEAD OF ATTACKING SCHEER OVER A 2005 VIDEO, LIBERALS COULD ACTUALLY TRY DOING POLITICS DIFFERENTLY** - Goodale and Scheer have something in common: in the past, they both opposed same-sex marriage. By Matt Gurney, National Post - August 23, 2019 <https://nationalpost.com/opinion/matt-gurney-instead-of-attacking-scheer-over-a-2005-video-liberals-could-actually-try-doing-politics-differently>

**FEDERAL ELECTION LEADERS' DEBATE WILL FEATURE FIVE MODERATORS — FOUR OF THEM FROM ONTARIO** - 'If you were to go back and look at moderators in the past, it's the same sort of thing ... that Toronto-Montreal-Ottawa axis remains'. By Tyler Dawson, Ottawa Citizen - August 23, 2019 <https://nationalpost.com/news/federal-election-leaders-debate-will-feature-five-moderators-four-of-them-from-ontario>

**EXCERPT:** For example, in Ontario — where most of the moderators live — 34 per cent of respondents to a survey by the federal government wanted stricter handgun controls; 36 per cent wanted stronger rules around “assault-style” rifles. By now it's well known that Albertans don't feel the same way. But neither do northern Canadians: 87 per cent of them oppose increased handgun regulation and 83 per cent oppose restricting “assault-style” firearms.

**JOHN ROBSON ON 770 CHQR WITH DANIELLE SMITH ON AMAZON FIRES, GREENLAND ICE AND CLIMATE CHANGE - AUGUST 23, 2019**

<https://mailchi.mp/e297a7b05600/new-from-john-robson-this-week-3025789?e=9d6fe17616>

**FAILURE OF THE LEFT TO HARNESS THE POWER OF GOVERNMENT E-PETITIONS**

As of 2016 there are 96 universities in Canada. 1.8 million students are enrolled in university. Canada as a whole is about 37 million. The most popular petition got 131K signatures. It is an NDP sponsored petition for electoral reform.

Nothing on climate change or inequality, the top two concerns of Canadians especially millennials RABBLE.CA - Thu, 2019-08-22 <http://rabble.ca/babble/activism/failure-left-harness-power-government-e-petitions>

**TRUDEAU GOVERNMENT FORGIVES \$7.4 MILLION LOAN FOR MULTI-BILLION-DOLLAR IRVING FAMILY**

- According to CBC, "The two loans were part of a \$55 million federal program launched in 2003 to cushion the economic impact of J.D. Irving Ltd. closing its shipyard in the city. Ottawa established the program after Irving centralized its shipbuilding business in Halifax." The Irving family has repaid some of this significant \$55 million figure, but it is not certain how much they had promised to pay or what amount of this figure the Canadian government has got back, reports CBC. By Dylan Gibbons, August 22, 2019

<https://www.thepostmillennial.com/government-forgives-million-loan-for-irving-family/>

**EDITORIAL: THIS IS WHY CANADIANS SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SNC-LAVALIN AFFAIR**

The Canadian government has been corrupted. By True North Wire - August 20, 2019

<https://tnc.news/2019/08/20/editorial-this-is-why-canadians-should-be-concerned-about-the-snc-lavalin-affair/>

**FEDERAL MEDIA SUBSIDIES UNDERMINE THE PROVINCES AND FOSTERS DEPENDENCY**

The announced federal government subsidy for "trusted" media outlets risks undermining provincial jurisdictions. The federal lathering of a \$595-million subsidy on "trusted" media over five years may encourage a regressive democratic step of making more outfits more dependent on Ottawa, feeding a centralising spirit. By Marco Navarro-Genie, Frontier Centre for Public Policy - August 19, 2019 <https://fcpp.org/2019/08/19/federal-media-subsidies-undermine-the-provinces-and-fosters-dependency/>

**DISCUSSING CLIMATE CHANGE DURING THE ELECTION COULD BE DEEMED PARTISAN ACTIVITY: ELECTIONS CANADA**

- An Elections Canada official warned groups in a training session earlier this summer that because Maxime Bernier, the leader of the People's Party of Canada, has expressed doubts about the legitimacy of climate change, any group that promotes it as real or an emergency could be considered partisan, said Tim Gray, executive director of the advocacy group Environmental Defence. By Mia Rabson The Canadian Press - August 18, 2019

<https://globalnews.ca/news/5781258/elections-canada-climate-change-partisan/>

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/chris-selley-climate-change-fracas-exposes-ridiculous-third-party-spending-rules>

**KNIGHT: THE RCMP HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO INVESTIGATE THE SNC-LAVALIN SCANDAL**

The RCMP, in my view, has no choice but to conduct a formal investigation into all of this and publicly say so. No matter the result, I would say they have that duty to Canadians or risk further reputational damage. Then they need to either recommend criminal charges or explain to Canadians why no charges are applicable. The air needs to be cleared. by Leo Knight, True North - August 17, 2019

<https://tnc.news/2019/08/17/knight-the-rcmp-have-no-choice-but-to-investigate-the-snc-lavalin-scandal/>

### **LILLEY: TRUDEAU FINDS AN APOLOGY HE CAN'T GIVE**

Justin Trudeau is no feminist, and he's showing that by not owning up to what he did and apologizing, once and for all, to the Canadian public — not to mention Jody Wilson-Raybould herself. By Brian Lilley, Toronto Sun - August 17, 2019 - 40 COMMENTS <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/lilley-trudeau-finds-an-apology-he-cant-give>

### **GUNTER: TRUDEAU APOLOGIZES FOR EVERYONE'S BEHAVIOUR EXCEPT HIS OWN**

Maybe that's why he won't apologize in the SNC-Lavalin case. When it comes to apologies, Trudeau is the Boy Who Cried Sorry. Perhaps he guesses no one will listen. But more likely, our arrogant, sanctimonious (but lightweight) leader believes he is the only one without sin; the one justified in casting the first stones. That is how he can justify apologizing for all sorts of others' behaviour, but never for his own. By Lorne Gunter, Toronto Sun - August 17, 2019 <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/gunter-trudeau-apologizes-for-everyones-behaviour-except-his-own>

### **JUSTIN TRUDEAU AND THINGS THAT ARE NOT SO**

**On three occasions, Justin Trudeau or people around him made statements that the Ethics Commissioner's report shows were untrue. It is remarkable that a prime minister and his most trusted advisers would make statements that were not borne out by the facts. By John Ibbitson, Globe and Mail - August 16, 2019**

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-justin-trudeau-and-things-that-are-not-so/>

1. Mr. Trudeau told reporters: "The allegations in the Globe story this morning are false." Ethics Commissioner Mario Dion in his report this week found that "Mr. Trudeau used his position of authority over Ms. Wilson-Raybould to seek to influence, both directly and indirectly, her decision" on whether to overrule the Director of Public Prosecutions and grant the Canadian engineering firm a reprieve. The allegations in the Globe story were true, and the Prime Minister knew it.
2. The testimony of Michael Wernick, then clerk of the Privy Council, before the Commons justice committee in February, "I can tell you my view, very firmly, is that they were entirely appropriate, lawful, legal," he added. "I'm prepared to submit to the judgment of the Ethics Commissioner on that." The judgment of the Ethics Commissioner was that "the authority of the Prime Minister and his office was used to circumvent, undermine and ultimately attempt to discredit the decision of the Director of Public Prosecutions as well as the authority of Ms. Wilson-Raybould." So there.
3. The third thing that turned out to be less than candid is still ongoing. "What we have done as a government is grant an unprecedented waiver so that a full airing could happen at the justice committee," Mr. Trudeau declared in March. Mr. Dion wrote in protest. "I must be satisfied that decisions made by the most senior public office holders, including those discussed at cabinet, are free from any conflicts of interest." So much for the PM's promise of "a full airing."

### **THE MYSTERY OF TEAM TRUDEAU'S SNC-LAVALIN OBSESSION**

Instead, for Mr. Trudeau's subordinates and perhaps for the PM himself, the more their desired goal escaped their reach, the more they stretched — ethics, propriety, good sense — to grasp it. It was what the boss wanted. All of which leaves the government's brain trust looking like something less than backroom masterminds. Instead of a symphony conductor deftly directing the levers of power, what's on record is more like a marching band that could never get itself into tune, with its players compensating for a lack of sheet music by simply blowing harder. GLOBE AND MAIL EDITORIAL - UPDATED AUGUST 16, 2019 - 185 COMMENTS

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/editorials/article-the-mystery-of-team-trudeaus-snc-lavalin-obsession/>

### **WILL JUSTIN TRUDEAU SKATE THROUGH THE LATEST SNC STORM?**

In the last campaign they ran, Mr. Trudeau was someone who would do politics differently. "Transparency" was one of his vows, as I recall. But now, his best hope is to count on the cynicism of the public. Sure, he's no one to be proud of. But what politician is? And for all his flaws, he's probably no worse than all the rest of them. By Margaret Wente, Globe and Mail \_ August 16, 2019 <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-will-mr-trudeau-skate/>

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