

Persuasive Essay: The Role of Guns in Our Society

Use answers from your statistical research, family interview, and notes from the video to answer the essential question: *What is the role of guns in our society?*

The following questions may help you express yourself.

- If you were in this movie, what would you have said?
- Which statistical fact from your research most impressed you? Explain.
- Which answer from the family interview most interested you? Explain
- Have you thought differently as a result of this study? If so, how? If not, why?
- As an adult, do you plan to have guns in your house? Why or why not?
- At this point in your life, what can you do to make your life as safe as possible?

Directions: Organize your essay in three parts:

I. Introduction

- A. Attention grabber opening:
 - Startling statistic
 - Short anecdote of a personal experience around guns
 - Thought-provoking question
 - Appropriate quotation
 - Commonly accepted belief that you wish to disprove
- B. Background information to clarify the issue
- C. Your opinion regarding the role of guns in our society

II. Body

- A. Provide at least three arguments that support your opinion statement.
 - Begin each argument with the opposing argument and proceed to prove that argument incorrect with the following:
 1. Student testimonies from the movie "Guns in Our Lives."
 2. Researched statistics
 3. Researched stories and events
 4. Researched quotes
 5. Personal stories
 6. Family stories

III. Conclusion

- A. Have your thoughts about guns in your life changed in any way since as a result of this unit? If so, how? Why? If not, why not?

- B. Reaffirm your position by summarizing your main reasons for or against guns.
- C. If you oppose guns, suggest to readers what you want them to do.
- D. Visualize our future with or without guns.

IV. Citing sources

At the end of the essay:

I got my information from:

List alphabetically the Internet sources following the format below according to available information.

Basic Citation Format:

Author name (if available). "Article Title." Periodical Title Day Month Year, edition, section (if available): page (or *number of paragraphs if unavailable). Database. School or Library name. City, State. Date Accessed. < Internet Address >

*Example: (2 pars.)

Note: You must include at least two quotes from your sources. After each one put the author's name (if available), or the title of the article, and the page number in parentheses.

Example: (Adams, 12)