

---

Subject: Re: Gun control

Posted by [warranto](#) on Wed, 25 Jun 2008 22:20:26 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

cheesesoda wrote on Wed, 25 June 2008 14:23SpoonyThe only people who will be inclined to follow laws on guns will be law-abiding citizens; therefore, only criminals will have guns. I have yet to be given a good defense to this. Hell, now that I think of it, I don't recall ever been given a response to this.

This is not my personal belief (I've already stated mine), but a response to this could be:

Crime involving guns in America has not become non-existent by both sides holding weapons. You have an equal weapon to defend yourself should the need arise, yes. But there is no MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction)-mentality going on here. Rather the opposite happens. It ensures the gun will be fired. Much of the time the gun is used for purposes of intimidation with no intent of being fired. By producing your own weapon you intensify the situation into a stand-off scenario. Sure, there will be times that the individual backs off when they see their target is armed, but not always. At this point it comes down to personal behavior. The individual may decide to pursue the action, at which point either producing the weapon will be seen as an act of desperation with no intent to use, or it is fired.

If it is fired, it better be to kill because the criminal you just fired at WILL fire back.

Now lets take your gun away. If the criminal was going to shoot regardless, then holding a weapon would do nothing to deter the person.

The best scenario to come out of this is that producing the weapon causes a would-be shooter to back off. However, I would stake that this is one of those "rare" instances talked about before. Since it is a "rare" instance, it can't really be used to determine the outcome that everyone should face.

The point being that the existence of a gun is more likely to intensify than defuse a situation. The criminals will always have guns. But the law-abiding people having them as well does little to ensure your own safety most of the time.

Edit: fixed the quote

---