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Submission from Charles J. Zach, Canada's National Firearms Association

Here is a partial list of quotes from studies that demonstrate gun buy backs, bans, legislation etc. of semi automatic rifles (so called assault weapons) has no effect:

“The NFA (gun buyback of firearms from legal owners including semiauto firearms) had no statistically observable additional impact on suicide or assault mortality attributable to firearms in Australia.” (1)

“It was also found that assault weapons bans did not significantly affect murder rates at the state level.” (USA) (2)

“but this was not statistically significant for firearm homicide (ratio of trends, 0.975; 95%CI, 0.949-1.001).” (Australia) (3)

“1994 Federal assault weapons ban, United States. This law banned the sales and ownership of semiautomatic firearms and large-capacity ammunition magazines. Koper and Roth (76) using UCR data (1980–1995) found no association between the law and homicide rates in 15 states after adjusting for the presence of other firearm laws and crime laws in NewYork and California. A recent study by Gius (48) showed that the federal assault weapons ban was associated with higher rates of firearm homicides.” [...] “The 1988 Victoria state law, Australia. Ozanne-Smith et al. (78) examined the Victoria law that tightened restrictions on semiautomatic long-arms and pump action guns, by comparing pre-versus posttrends of annual death rates in Victoria compared with other states in Australia. The law was associated with a 17.3% decrease in the rate of firearm deaths and lower rates of firearm suicides, but not with firearm homicides (78).” (4)

“Ban assault weapons Absolute Rate Difference: 0.97 0.84 (0.66-1.07), Table 4. No benefit.” (USA) (5)

“In all of these 23 incidents, the shooter possessed either multiple guns or multiple magazines, meaning that the shooter, even if denied large capacity magazines, could have continued firing without significant interruption by either switching loaded guns or changing smaller loaded magazines with only a 2- to 4-seconds delay for each magazine change. Finally, the data indicate that mass shooters maintain such slow rates of fire that the time needed to reload would not increase the time between shots and thus the time available for prospective victims to escape.” (6)

“The results of these tests suggest that the NFA did not have any large effects on reducing firearm homicide or suicide rates.” (Australia) (7)

“(Federal Assault Weapons Ban) We found no evidence of reductions in multiple-victim gun homicides or multiple-gunshot wound victimizations.” (USA) (8)

“This study failed to demonstrate a beneficial association between legislation and firearm homicide rates between 1974 and 2008.” (Canada) (9)

“Les homicides commis à l'aide d'AAF à autorisation restreinte ou prohibée n'ont pas réagi suite à l'introduction des lois.” (Homicides with restricted or prohibited authorization have not responded to the introduction of the laws.) (Canada) (10)

“The results are consistent with the findings of most previous studies that the 1977 Canadian firearms legislation did not have a significant effect on homicide rates.” (Canada) (11)

“There was little evidence to suggest that increased firearms legislation in Canada had a significant impact on preexisting trends in lethal firearm violence against women. These results do not support the view that increasing firearms legislation is associated with a reduced incidence of firearm-related female domestic homicide victimization.” (12)

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