

Advocates, Law Enforcement Fear Impact Of Permitless Gun Law on Domestic Violence Survivors

WRITTEN TASK:

Summary

Tennessee consists of one of the highest rates of women killed by men particularly with a gun. A large component of this deals with the fact convicted abusers aren't required to turn their guns in to authorities in Tennessee whereas in other states, those convicted are required to surrender their firearms whether be due to a domestic abuse conviction or a restraining order. Since 2020 there has been a major increase in gun sales in both households with firearms and those without by more than 50%. Studies find that with access to any gun, abusers are 5 times more likely to kill their victim and especially use a firearm as a major threat in abuse cases. With permitless carry, this allows just anybody to easily intimidate and harm those with complete innocence as their rights aren't being fully protected against the violent segment of society. According to Jennifer Gollan, "Gun homicides involving intimate partners rose a stunning 25% in 2020 compared with the previous year, to the highest level in almost 3 decades. Women accounted for more than two-thirds of the victims shot and killed by intimate partners last year." Marissa Edmund states "Violence against women is a public health crisis, and guns make violent crimes against women exceptionally more deadly. In fact, the presence of a firearm in the home during a domestic violence incident increases the risk of death fivefold." Strong gun laws are such a necessary measure to protect domestic survivors from encountering the same wrongdoings.

Personal Reflection

These articles are meant to show the importance of gun laws and how guns are capable of being so impactful overall but especially on the lives of those who have suffered from domestic abuse. While these permitless gun laws do affect domestic abuse survivors, they truly impact everybody and their safety in every country they're implemented in since it's legal for just about anybody to hold a firearm. A solution for this issue would be implementing a gun law for people to obtain a permit before carrying any firearms and making sure those who are convicted turn in their gun instead of being allowed to keep it even after their crime. This would allow domestic survivors to feel safer and more secure knowing their abuser doesn't have easy access to weapons that may hurt them. I feel connection to this as I personally am not a big fan of guns and believe they do more harm than good; I believe the world would be a lot more peaceful without firearms and permitless laws take us in the complete other direction of safe and happy living.

Sources:

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