



## Restrictions on gun purchases is common sense

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According to a recent Quinnipiac University Poll, 97 percent of all Americans support implementing universal background checks for anyone wanting to purchase a firearm. Moreover, the same level of support (97 percent) was found among gun owners.

“If you think Americans are largely unmoved by the mass shootings, you should think again,” Tim Malloy, assistant director of the polling agency, noted on their website. “Support for stricter gun laws is up 19 points in little more than two years.”

And just in case anyone thinks the increased concern is coming only from liberal elites, consider this. “In the last two months,” Malloy observed, “some of the biggest surges in support for tightening gun laws come from demographic groups you may not expect: independent voters, men, and whites with no college degree.”

So what exactly is the problem with universal background checks? No one is talking about infringing on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens; rather, we are suggesting working harder to make sure all gun owners are law-abiding citizens.

The vast majority of Americans also favor restricting access to guns for individuals with a history of mental illness or a criminal record that includes gun violence. Honestly, why would any rational person want to make it easy for these people to get their hands on a firearm?

The exact same logic applies to age constraints. Our nation – legally – puts limitations on what age you have to be in order to vote, drive a vehicle or purchase alcohol. If you are not old enough to buy a beer, why would anyone think you are mature enough to purchase a gun?

Legislation that restricts access to guns for those who do not need access to guns is not an infringement on anyone’s rights. It’s simply common sense.

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