

Alameda City Council March 3, 2020 Re: 2020-7722 - Gun Control Proposal

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The proposed measures, while laudable objectives, are ineffective. Fundamentally, they are no different than expecting witchcraft to work. Instead Council should consider proven, effective measures.

Note: Cable locks are included with firearm purchase

#	Description / Claim	Benefit	Issues
1	Safe storage lowers "Gun violence"	None observed due to "safe storage" laws.	*Locks and popular safes easily opened by kids (e.g., 6-year old) with paper clip or soda straw. See DefCon security conference & Youtube. ¹ *Easily cut with common household tools.
2	Often can shoot with trigger lock affixed (but not cable lock)	Trigger locks provide false sense of security.	*Trigger locks offer less security than cable locks.
3	"Safe storage" reduces theft, but increases vulnerability (86" to open cable lock v. "less than 60 seconds" to break into a home. Additional time needed to "make ready" i.e., load gun, aim, prepare to fire to defend self or loved ones.	*No theft reduction observed. <u>Locks don't prevent thefts</u> . Safes probably do if secured to structure.	*No benefit observed. Locks offer no theft reduction. Safes usually more difficult to open and steal.
4	Violations virtually impossible to detect. Details: locked or carried while dwelling occupied? Only upon leaving dwelling? Upon leaving property? When minors present in home?	NA	* APD or other law enforcement met by armed residents if guns not secured? SJPd: "No - too dangerous for everyone".
5	Duplicates state law, but less effective.	None observed.	State violation can be felony, cities limited to misdemeanors.

¹ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/marcwebertobias/2017/04/04/the-gun-lock-that-a-child-can-open-with-a-paperclip/#28bb1bfe1ea1>

Submitted by Dave Truslow
Re: 6-A 3/3/2020

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6	<p>Funds for education & implementation?</p> <p>Note: Free training and material for K-12, free 4-hour safety program for adults, free 'hands-on' experience, free gun locks, grants.</p> <p>Note: Neither Alameda PD, nor Alameda sheriff participate in Project ChildSafe's free gun lock program.</p>	<p>Self-reported compliance increased when combined with education, but <i>"the intervention county did not experience significantly greater overall improvements in household storage practices for handguns or long guns than did control counties."</i>²</p> <p>NC study self-reported a 29% compliance increase³ but no measured harm reduction.</p>	<p>Seattle education program: \$300,000 / year. Free locks and \$50 gun safe coupon offered. Each awareness event: ~\$20,000</p>
7	<p>Video transactions. Note: ammo & guns readily obtained with no video recording -i.e., easily avoided.</p>	<p>Studies show benefit is highly variable and some outcomes are worse.</p>	<p>Exorbitant cost: Likely > \$100,000 / year. No benefit reported for gun crime. Economic loss like Seattle.</p>

What Works? (supportive data upon request).

a. Aggressive prosecution:

- Clear or arrest Armed Prohibited Persons (over 24,000 - doubled in past 10 years, scant enforcement)
- Like sex-offenders, publish names and addresses of Armed Prohibited Persons. Remove when cleared.
- Gun crime - too many cases are 'plead down' to expedite prosecution
- Make 'lie & try' illegal in Alameda. Urge strong state penalties
- Prosecute under stricter Federal law (as does SJPD)
- Prosecute 'lie & try': friends and family supply most Alameda County crime guns. 90% unregistered⁴

b. More CCW holders (FBI: armed citizens are 94% successful at active shooter events)⁵

c. Education and screening. Encourage community and school safety education

d. Reduce County's 60% recidivism rate

e. Provide gun safes for Alameda PD private vehicles (private fundraising)

f. Implement "Operation Crimestopper" - anonymous tip line and bounty program

g. 'No questions asked' guns and ammo turn-in to APD

h. Distribute free gun locks (Project ChildSafe)

² <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/15930192>

³ <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/190712>

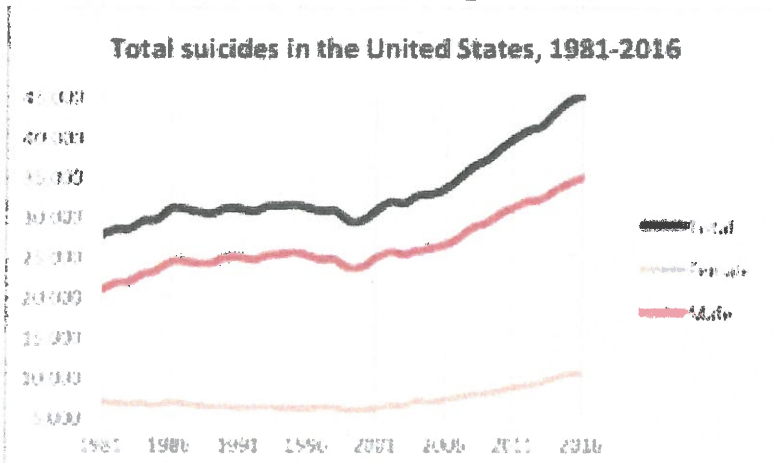
⁴ Alameda County District Attorney

⁵ 2018 FBI Active Shooter report

GUN CONTROL PROPOSAL KEY POINTS

a. Proposal fails to address principle cause of death: suicide

- About 2/3 gun deaths. Despite millions in prevention, rate up by 1/3rd since 1999
- 32 other countries have higher rates. All severely limit or ban civilian firearms



b. Unenforceable according to law enforcement

c. Ineffective: Data doesn't support proposal's objectives

d. Video's high data storage cost makes it unaffordable. No studies on injury or crime reduction benefit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Define problem, success criteria
- Engage community: solicit & prioritize ideas, level-set stakeholders
- Use free resources before expensive, burdensome regulation