

Definition-Toulmin Argument - Sample Essay 2

AR-15 rifles should not be banned

AR-15 rifles should not be banned from public sale (**claim**) because banning one type of a firearm does not reduce likelihood of a gun related deaths (**reasoning**). This of course doesn't apply to convicted felons of violent crime who should not be entrusted with firearms given their criminal history (**qualifier**). But for law abiding citizens, banning firearms infringes on the constitutional rights of those of us who want to own and bear firearms (**warrant - definition**). The McDonald v. City of Chicago 2010 ruling by the Supreme Court stated that the Second Amendment is an individual right to bear and own firearms, which would be infringed on if the lawmakers decide to ban AR-15 (**evidence**).

Banning AR-15 rifles will not reduce the likelihood of gun related violence (**warrant**). Gun related deaths in this context are deaths caused by firearm injury (**backing**). Only 17 active-shooters were using AR-15 rifles, which only represents 10% of the overall number of active-shooter related incidents that took place since 2000 (Plumer, 2012) (**evidence**). In addition, banning one type of firearm does not reduce the number of firearms that are available for individuals to purchase at any gun store (**backing**). This further exemplifies the ban of the firearms as a failed attempt by government to infringe on constitutional rights of citizens.

It can be said that not all citizens are using firearms for just hunting, sport related activities, and self-defense – they're killing other people with them (**rebuttal**). In 2010, there were 36 criminal gun homicides for every one justifiable homicide (Jones, 2015) (**evidence**). Even though this number is large, the unknown is whether the AR-15 was used in these gun related homicides (**response**). Therefore, it is safe to say that a ban of the AR-15 would not reduce criminal gun related homicides (**claim**). What can be said for certain is that some of the individuals who are among those who used firearms 2.5 million times a year in self-protection will not be able to do so with a ban on AR-15 (Cox) (**warrant**).

In the end, a ban of the AR-15 from public sale does not reduce gun related deaths (**reasoning**). What this ban instead would do is take one type of firearm away to be used for self-defense (**warrant**). It would infringe on the constitutional right for individuals to own and bear arms as stated by the Supreme Court in 2010 ruling (**backing**). Therefore, AR-15 rifles should not be banned from public sale (**claim**).