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Gun Control

Today in America there are many political controversies about immigration, crime sentencing, and drug trafficking. Although these are just some big controversies, there is one even bigger than the ones mentioned. The number #1 controversy in America today is Gun Control. This controversy of gun rights has been going on for decades and the legislative, judicial, and the executive branch have tried to address and fix the issue. People feel like having restrictions on owning guns violates the 2nd amendment found in the Bill of Rights and do not support the restrictions that have passed down.

The Legislative Branch of the United States has tried to address the problems surrounding. This branch of government has started movements in congress to pass laws. One of the first laws that passed was the Gun Control Act of 1968. This act was due to the assassination of famous and important people such as President John F. Kennedy and an icon figure like Martin Luther King Jr. The act made dealerships keep records about all the firearms sold, made it illegal to buy guns over state lines, and also banned certain people from possessing firearms. It also set an age limit to where you need to be 21 or older to register a handgun. Another law that passed was the Crime Control Act of 1990. This act outlawed the assembly of illegal semiautomatic rifles and shotguns from imported parts. In the same year, the Brady Handgun Violation Act was passed and this required background checks on all individuals that wanted to register.

Presidents too believed that guns were dangerous if fallen into wrong hands and did something about Gun Control. One president that enforced background checks was President Obama. President Obama enforced the background checks making the dealerships identify and record people with mental problems and drug usage into the FBI system. He stated that even though background checks will not completely stop mass shootings and nation-wide gun violence, it will soon potentially save lives and spare families from pain. Before President Obama, Franklin Delano Roosevelt also had a stance in gun control. In 1934, Franklin Roosevelt failed to get a bill through congress saying that all guns should be taxed and create a federal registry of guns. Years later in 1941, Franklin Roosevelt told congress that we needed a world-wide reduction in armaments for the country’s good. The controversy there was that if guns would be limited, then not everybody will bear arms and that would violate the 2nd amendment. One president that did support gun rights was John F. Kennedy. JFK believed that it was important for people to have a gun at home to keep their property and loved ones safe.

The judicial branch has also taken actions based on the controversy of gun control. Even though people can have guns, the real problem starts when citizens walk around outside their home and onto the streets. In many cases, the police department has taken those certain people to jail for classifying them as a threat to the public. The Supreme Court has not yet answered if the 2nd amendment lets the person carry a gun out in public and that has fed the controversy of gun control. In some cases, such as one that happened in Illinois a couple of years ago, the federal court said that the 2nd amendment does give the person the right to walk around in public with a loaded gun. Not all cases have been the same though. In New York and in Maryland, the federal courts have issued a law that an individual can only carry a gun by showing a good and substantial reason.

To wrap this all up, all the branches of government has taken a stance in the controversy of Gun Control. The legislative has passed a couple of gun control acts, many presidents have taken a stance and ratified as well as strengthen some acts, and the Judicial branch have set up controversial laws about carrying a gun in public. I believe that the acts and laws that have passed down have been sort of successful as they try to keep the public safe while not totally violating the 2nd amendment. If I were the one to make the decisions, I would let people have gun rights if and only if they are sane and passed a background check.