

Resolution to Stand with Students of Stoneman Douglas High School

Whereas, 17 Students and Faculty were shot and killed on February 14th, Valentine's Day, at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL, and whereas they were murdered by a 19-year-old former student who had been expelled, who was carrying a legally purchased AR-15, who also owned 9 other firearms and whereas there was no diagnosed mental illness, which may or may not have prevented him from purchasing a gun,

Whereas, 14 were wounded and countless other survivors were traumatized and will have to recover, will need long term care, and the whole community is affected by this violence,

Whereas, students from Stoneman Douglas travelled to the state capital in Tallahassee to ask the legislature to pass laws to protect students and ban assault weapons, but legislators did not allow a vote to come to the floor, although the session is not over,

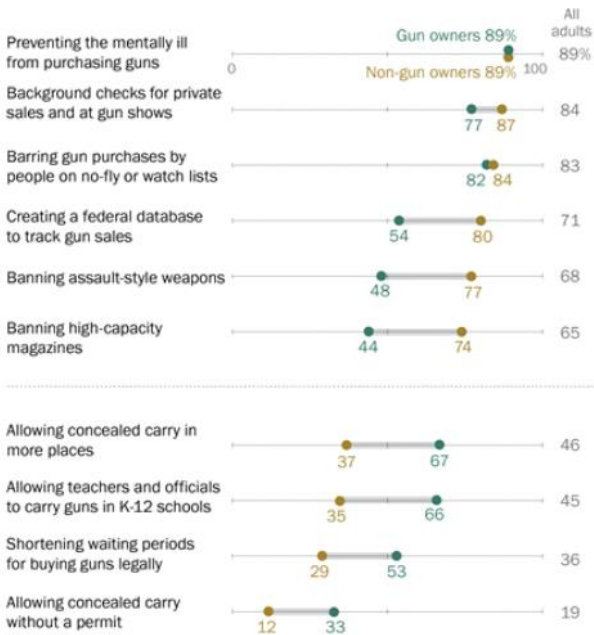
Whereas, the same students will be travelling to Washington DC for a "March for Life" to ask Congress to enact common sense gun legislation, including a ban on AR-15 and semi-automatic rifles, as was done in the 1990's for almost 10 years,

Whereas, 7 of the deadliest mass shootings have been committed with an AR-15 including San Bernardino, Sutherland Springs, Las Vegas, Orlando, and Sandy Hook,

And Whereas, the majority of the country agrees to these measures according to Pew Research,

Some agreement and many divisions between owners and non-owners on gun proposals

% who strongly or somewhat favor ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.
"America's Complex Relationship With Guns"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Whereas, 96 Americans are killed by guns every day, and whereas 7 children and teens are killed with guns on an average day, according to Everytown For Gun Safety, and according to the Washington Post (2-15-2018) 24 children die every day from guns, and an ongoing Washington Post analysis has found that more than 150,000 students attending at least 170 primary or secondary schools have experienced a shooting on campus since the Columbine High School massacre in 1999,

And whereas there have been 11 mass school shootings since Columbine, (according to the article), And Whereas, safety of sending a student to any school because of gun violence is a major and immediate concern, causing a crisis in confidence that schools can protect children,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Alexandria Democratic Committee stands with the students of Stoneman Douglas to say that there should be. through Federal legislation, a new ban on Assault style weapons like the AR-15, a ban on bump stocks and similar devices that allow semi-automatic weapons to act like automatic weapons, universal back ground checks, and new laws that would close the gun show loophole, raising the age it is legal to purchase a firearm, banning high capacity magazines, and creating a Federal Data Base, which would prevent those on a no-fly list from purchasing firearms, Therefore, the Alexandria Democratic Committee stands with this new movement, called "Never Again", and welcomes these new allies who have come through their own tragedy, and resolves that those most affected by gun violence must be listened to in State Capitals, the US Congress, and by our President, and agrees with their goal that not one more life should be taken by preventable gun violence. We support their efforts and will be Marching with them in Washington on March 24th.

PASSED and APPROVED this RESOLUTION on the 5th day of March, 2018.