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The ninth plank of The Knights Party platform is to abolish all anti-gun laws and encourage every adult to own a weapon. The cure for crime in America is not take guns off the streets but to put more guns ON the streets. Violent criminals should be punished, but law abiding citizens should be allowed to defend their homes, business and families with out fear of the federal government treating them as the criminal.

When you speak with your friends, family, or others that you meet each day, you may need to defend your position on firearms ownership. These speaking points will help you to defend that position. The Knights Party believes that firearms ownership is for all people, and not just White people. Responsible firearms ownership contributes to greater safety in society, not less safety. You may also encounter people who doubt themselves capable of being responsible firearms owner. These scenarios and argument patterns will prepare you to engage in constructive and polite discussion with such people.

A person that is opposed to firearms ownership will need to be walked through the following scenarios, or only just a few depending on what their opposition to firearms ownership is. Explain to the person that you want him to recognize that firearms ownership is not reserved solely for White people, that you want him to be comfortable with firearms in society, and also to recognize that firearms are no more dangerous than any other common place piece of property. Furthermore, reiterate that you want him to have confidence that he can make an educated decision about what type of firearm is most suitable for his own personal defense and safety plans.

The race riots of 1967/1968 greatly panicked congress, and the Gun Control Act of 1968 was passed in response. William Tonso is the author of, "Gun and Society" and he says that congress passed the GCA of 1968 to prevent and deter Black people from purchasing firearms by restricting how easily that low-cost firearms could be purchased. Well, firearms ownership is not just for rich White people. Firearms ownership is designed with all citizens in mind, and under-representation of one group of citizens as firearms owners should not imply that the same group has no interest in firearms. Don't speculate on what non-White people think of predominantly White gun shop owners except to say that there seems to be this feeling among the non-White community that White people don't want non-White people to own guns. According to William Tonso this is what the GCA of 1968 was explicitly created to do. Whatever it might have been in the past, it is just not the case anymore. Firearms shop owners are eager to sell a firearm to anybody that is allowed to legally purchase one. A Gallup Poll report shows that women are buying firearms at an increasing rate and represent one of the fastest growing groups of new firearms owners. Additionally, statistics indicate that Black women are the fastest growing group of concealed handgun holders in Texas.

Hunters, sportsmen, collectors, and safety conscious citizens all own firearms. It is possible to be safety conscious without owning a firearm, but we shouldn't use a personal choice as justification to bar others from using firearms as part of their own self defense plan. As reported by the an ABC affiliate, KOCO.com, On February 16th, An Oklahoma woman was accosted by a man with a butcher knife.

The woman was robbed at knife-point in a Wal-Mart parking lot with her four year old child in the car. This woman's plan of self defense was to scream as loudly as she could hoping that someone would come and help. For this woman, it worked. Her attacker retreated. If the attacker was more determined the woman and her child might have met with physical harm. The victim in this case exercised her freedom to not own or carry a firearm, and preferred to rely on others for her protection. Consider the case of a Hamilton County, Indiana man who was handcuffed, robbed, and attacked in his own home. Indianapolis RTV6 reported that a 66 year old man was robbed of more than \$8,000.00 dollars worth of property by two men on February 24th. The victim did not have a firearm on him at the time and was quoted as saying, "They'll never get me in handcuffs again ... I'm going to have a gun, too. They're not going to catch me off guard again." The victim in this case is expressing his desire to have and carry a concealed firearm as part of his self defense plan. These two examples show how important it is to allow people the choice to own guns. We can be pro-choice and allow everyone the liberty of choosing between self-reliance and reliance upon others for personal safety. Alternately, we can be anti-freedom and legislate that nobody will be allowed to use one of the most powerful self defense tools available to any law abiding American.

Many states have a law called, "Castle Doctrine law." You can check to see if your state has a Castle Doctrine law at USACarry.com. In most cases, Castle Doctrine law states that homeowners have the right to use deadly force to defend themselves from harm within their own homes. This law affirms the right of the homeowner to be secure in a home and affirms the right to use firearms in self defense. Our elected leaders have made every effort to allow all of us to exercise the freedom to choose how we will defend ourselves within our homes. Our leaders are not trying to mandate that any of us buy a firearm and keep it in the home, because it is not their choice to make. However, the person you are speaking with may at some time in the future decide that owning a firearm is something he wants to do. If he makes that decision to buy a firearm, we want him to have that choice.

Firearms culture is something special and unique which our elected leaders have decided to officially recognize. In the same way that we have an official flower, the State of Indiana has an official rifle. As an example, Indiana lawmakers adopted an early 19th century rifle as the official State Rifle. I don't expect anyone to know what his state flower is, let alone a state rifle. I'm sure you didn't have anything to do with deciding what flower was picked, but I am confident that you are not losing any sleep over it, and that you certainly don't feel alienated by this fact. I suspect that Indiana lawmakers officially recognized this rifle simply as a means to make themselves more recognizable to the firearms owner community, and not as a means to reject those people who do not approve of firearms ownership.

Now you will want to explain to this other person what you have in common with him. Explain that you are both from the same state, went to the same school, go to the same church, etc... Then follow up by stating that you are also a firearms owner. This is helpful to explain because you are many things, and no single aspect of your lifestyle is fully representative of who you are. Firearms owners are not dangerous people, and firearms owners don't like it when other people think of them that way either. If a person decides to buy a firearm, this isn't going to inexplicably transform him into a dangerous person. It is fully possible for you to be a firearms owner and not change anything about your own lifestyle. If the person you are talking with is not comfortable displaying a gun cabinet in the living room, then tell them they can put it in

whatever other room in the house he pleases. There is nothing about owning a firearm which means a person must advertise the fact to his friends, family, or neighbors.

Case in point is a study from Responsive Management. Responsive Management is a public opinion and research company and their studies indicate that the Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources has sold no less than 200,000 hunting licenses per year between 1980 and 2004. That makes 200,000 Hoosiers per year that own at least one firearm. This also says nothing of the number of firearms purchased illegally or owned by people who are not legally allowed to own a firearm. To be perfectly honest, there is no way to authoritatively say how many firearms, or firearms owners there are in Indiana. The point you are trying to make here is that many people own firearms. Some people can be identified as gun owners much more easily than others, but it is simply not possible to be categorized in just one way if you make the choice to own a firearm.

It will also be important for you to explain that firearms are tools which we use for sporting purposes, hunting, and self defense. It is unfortunate that people are maliciously harmed with firearms, but this is really just a perversion of the great utility which firearms offer. It is important to emphasize that Banning firearms won't stop people from committing violent crimes. If firearms are permanently banned, the violent offender picks a new tool to victimize others. Lets get away from blaming guns for crime, and do something really revolutionary. Lets blame the offender because firearms don't commit crimes, people do. Let us go further and let go of the idea that gun owners are inherently dangerous and commit crimes. In fact, lets do it one better and agree that it just isn't right to say that gun crimes are inherently worse than other kinds of crime. Your car can be just as deadly as any firearm. Consider the dragging death of James Byrd Jr. The dragging death of James Byrd Jr. was committed with some of the most common place objects, an automobile and a chain. There is nothing inherently dangerous about cars or chains, but both were used in the execution of a murder. Granted, we don't use a double barrel shotgun to get to and from work each day, but the point is that a firearm should not be thought of as something which is used only in the execution of crimes.

People can be robbed or assaulted with any manner of weapon including knives, bats, or other things which we might not readily think of as weapons. As reported by The Boston Globe, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer was robbed in his home by a man wielding a machete. The honorable Mr. Breyer, his wife, and their visiting guests were robbed of approximately \$1,000.00 and the robber disappeared into the night. The robber did not use a firearm in the execution of this robbery. We shouldn't think that the thief's choice of weapon made him any less dangerous or even that a machete is a less lethal weapon. We are not trying to suggest that we should be more fearful of machetes, but we are trying to say that someone who has criminal intent will use any weapon he/she please regardless of laws which might specifically restrict ownership of certain types of weapons.

Some of the most widely purported advice which persists is the idea that if you just give a thief what he wants, he will go away. In theory, this is a very nice idea but it doesn't really do much to deter a thief from committing a robbery in the first place. It would be helpful to ask Channon Christian, and Hugh Newsom how that plan might have worked for them. Unfortunately, we can't. The both of them are dead. Jamie Satterfield and Don Jacobs reported the details of a double murder in The News Sentinel, a Knoxville, TN newsgroup. Christian, and Newsom were car-jacked and then gang raped, beaten, murdered, and

had their bodies desecrated by a gang of raping Negros. A thief is not always going to be satisfied by stealing only your personal property. Explain that it is not your desire to scare someone into owning a firearm, but that the person must consider the fact that one of the most widely purported pieces of advice concerning what to do during a violent encounter is fundamentally flawed.

Someone who does not own a firearm may also have concerns about how complicated a firearm is to operate. Depending on what type of firearm we are talking about, the operation can be very simple or more dynamic. Some firearms are built with very intricate optical equipment and other highly specialized features which are seen in use at the Olympic athlete level, and there are also other firearms are very modest in functionality. It will be helpful to explain that you have wanted to buy a motorcycle, as an example. Explain that you don't quite feel the need to limit yourself with a moped. Followup by explaining that you have confidence in yourself to safely operate something a little more substantial like a base model Harley-Davidson Sportster. Explain that you also have the awareness to know that you don't need to own a Suzuki Hyabusa racing motorcycle. At this point, it will be important to state that you have faith in yourself to make an educated decision on which type of motorcycle is most correct for for yourself, and that you have faith that the other person can make an educated decision about what type of firearm he is most comfortable owning as part of a personal safety and self defense plan.