Strong Gun Laws Save Lives

1. **States with strong gun laws have lower rates of gun deaths.**
   
   Of the 10 states with the strongest gun laws, seven have the lowest rates of gun deaths. All seven have background checks for all gun purchases.¹
   
   *Connecticut has the third strongest gun laws in the nation and the fifth lowest rate of gun deaths.*

2. **Background checks keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people.**
   
   Since taking effect in 1994, Brady background checks have stopped more than 3 million gun sales to prohibited purchasers including felons, domestic abusers, and other dangerous individuals.²
   
   *Connecticut requires background checks for all gun purchases.*

3. **States with weak concealed carry permit requirements have higher rates of violent crime.**
   
   States that loosened restrictions on concealed carry permits, so-called “right to carry” (RTC) states, saw violent crime rates increase each additional year RTC laws were in place. According to a recent academic study, after controlling for changes in incarceration rates and the number of police per capita, RTC laws were associated with a 10% higher murder rate 10 years following the adoption of RTC laws.³

   *Connecticut is one of only eight “may issue” states where local law enforcement has the discretion to deny permits to carry in public. Connecticut requires a background check and approved training course to be eligible for a carry permit.*

4. **Universal background checks reduce domestic violence homicides.**
   
   In states that require a background check for every handgun sale, 38 percent fewer women are shot to death by intimate partners.⁴

   *Connecticut is one of 19 states with universal background checks.*

5. **Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO) lower gun suicides.**
   
   For every 10 to 20 guns removed from individuals at imminent risk of self-harm, one suicide is prevented.⁵

   *Connecticut’s “risk warrant” law was the first ERPO in the nation, passed in 1999.*

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¹ Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, 2016 Gun Law State Scorecard.
² Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Background Checks
³ Concealed Carry of Firearms: Facts vs. Fiction, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Nov 2017
⁴ Gun Laws and Violence Against Women, Mayors Against Illegal Guns using data from U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2010
Other info:

CT Permit requirement

MO repeal