

## I. Overview

Douglas E. Schoen, LLC conducted a national survey with a random sample of 1,800 likely voters. Our sample contained an oversample of 400 gun owners and 200 NRA members. The survey took place on December 27 – 29, 2012.

The survey aimed to assess the opinions of voters overall and of gun owners and NRA members specifically on the issue of gun violence in our country and on various proposed gun violence prevention reforms in the wake of the Newtown, Connecticut shooting.

## II. Strong support for gun violence prevention initiatives

Our survey found that there is *widespread support* for new gun violence prevention initiatives.

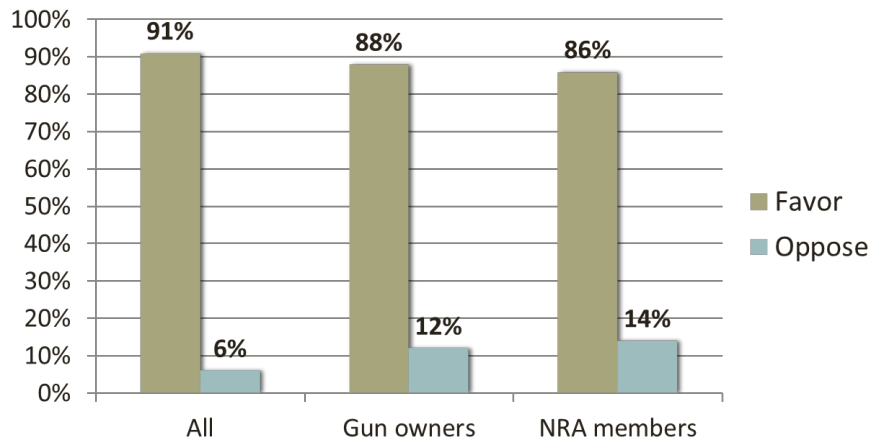
Indeed, voters show broad support for the following ideas:

- ✓ **Expanding background checks for all gun purchases, closing the private sale loophole**
- ✓ **Banning assault weapons**
- ✓ **Banning high capacity ammunition magazines**

Overwhelming majorities – 91% of voters, 88% of gun owners, and 86% of NRA members – believe that **all gun buyers should be required to pass a background check.**

**Table 1: Background checks**

**All gun buyers should be required to pass a criminal background check, no matter where they buy the gun and no matter whom they buy it from**



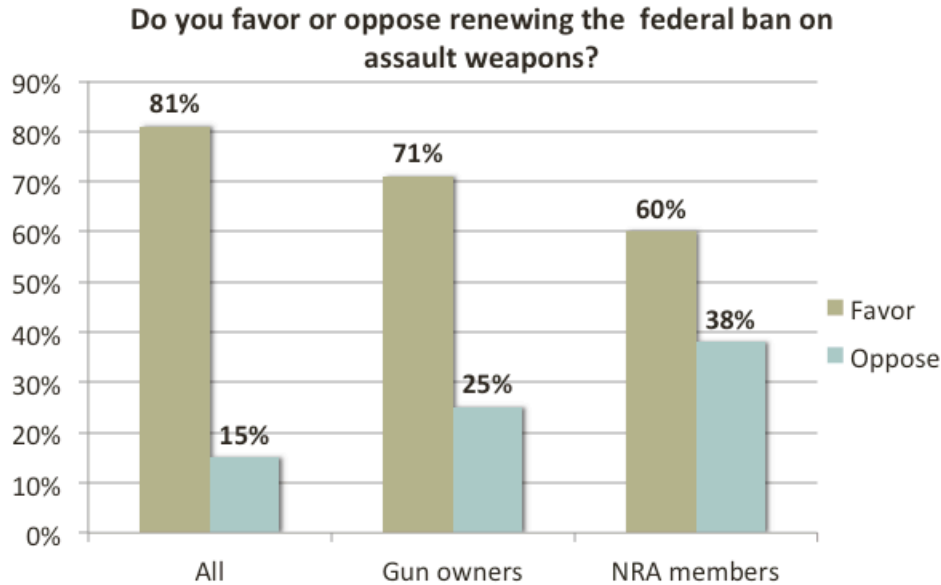
NATIONAL GUN SURVEY – INTERESTED PARTIES MEMO

JANUARY 2013

DOUGLAS E. SCHOEN, LLC

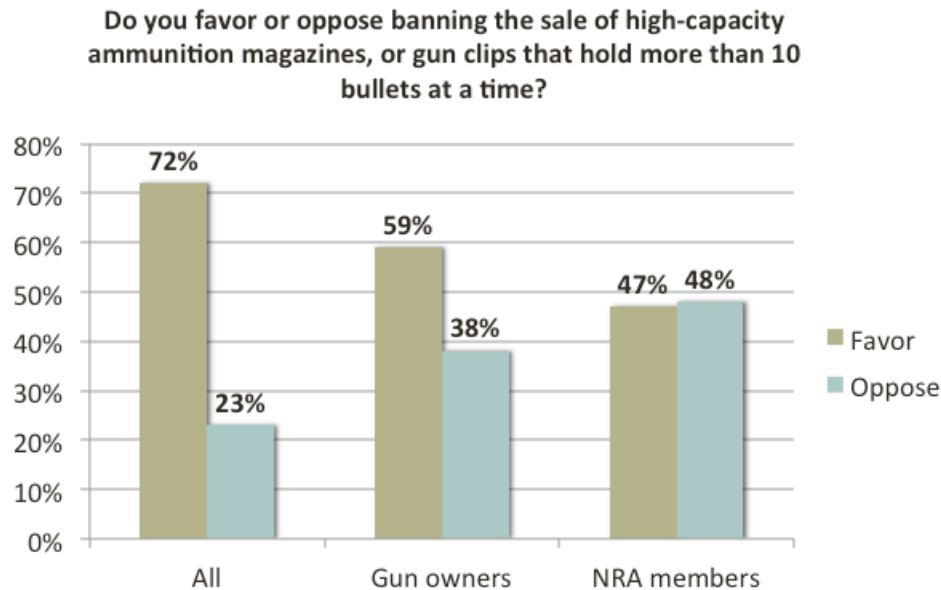
Solid majorities of voters **support banning federal assault weapons and high capacity ammunition devices**. By 81% to 15%, voters support renewing the federal ban on assault weapons. 71% of gun owners and 60% of NRA members agree. 71% of gun owners and 60% of NRA members agree.

**Table 2: Federal assault weapons ban**



By 72% to 23%, voters support banning high capacity ammunition magazines, or gun clips that hold more than 10 bullets at a time. 59% of gun owners and 47% of NRA members agree.

**Table 3: High capacity magazines**



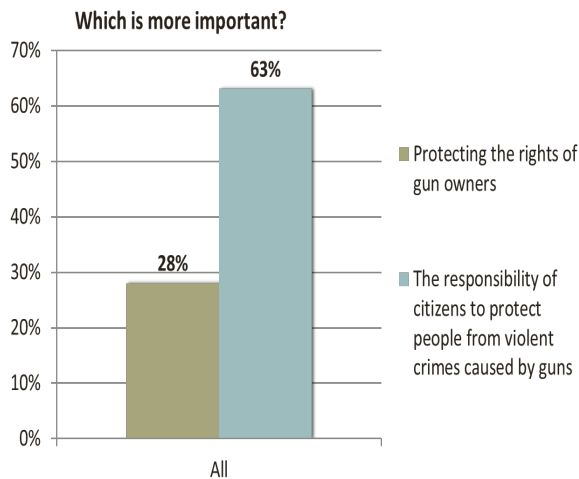
### III. Rights and Responsibilities

#### *Responsibility to keep citizens safe*

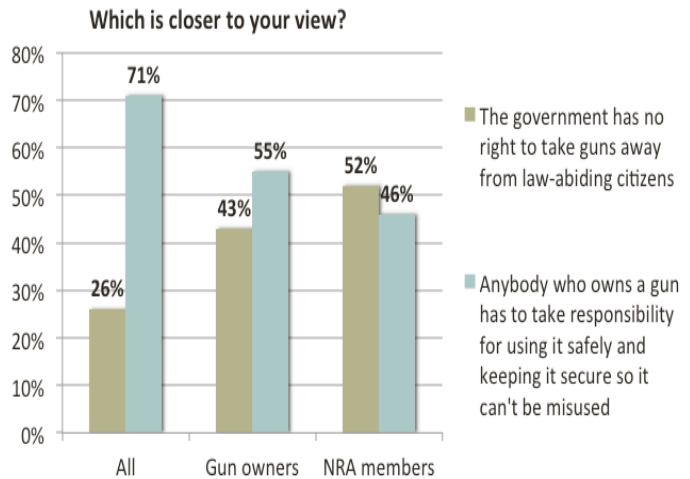
Voters support the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment and believe citizens have a right to own guns, but they also believe that **with gun ownership comes the need to engage in responsible policies.**

Voters believe strongly that there exists a **responsibility to protect others** from violent crimes that **overrides protecting the rights of gun owners** (63% to 28%). And an even larger majority – 71% – believes that gun owners have a responsibility to use their weapons safely, and to keep their weapons secure so that they cannot be misused.

**Table 4: Rights v. Responsibility**

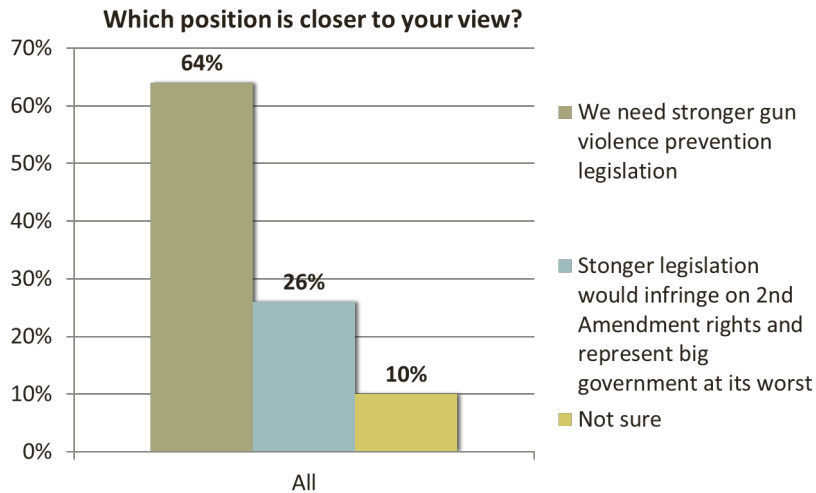


**Table 5: Gun owners have responsibilities**



Further, when given the choice between gun legislation and no legislation at all, by 64% to 26%, voters say we need stronger gun violence prevention legislation rather than that such legislation would infringe on 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights.

**Table 6: Broad support for stronger gun violence prevention legislation**



#### IV. Conclusion

These findings represent clear, unambiguous evidence that after the Newtown shooting, people want **bold, decisive action and stronger gun violence prevention legislation**. There is consensus among voters for expanding background checks and banning assault weapons and high capacity ammunition magazines.