

To: NEA

From: GBA Strategies

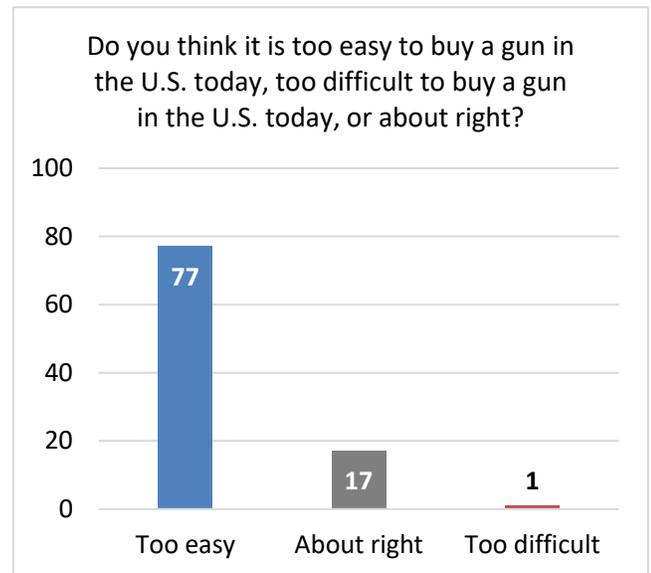
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Poll Analysis: Educators Oppose Proposal to Arm Teachers

A new survey¹ among members of the National Education Association finds that educators strongly support a number of gun safety measures, but they clearly oppose proposals to allow teachers to carry guns in schools.

Key Findings

- ❖ **Educators see gun violence as a huge problem.** Half (51 percent) believe gun violence is a *crisis* for the country and 36 percent see it as a *very serious* problem.
- ❖ **Educators believe it is too easy to access guns in the United States.** Three-quarters (77 percent) of NEA members say it is too easy to buy guns.
- ❖ **Educators strongly support a number of gun violence prevention measures.** NEA members favor universal background checks (99 percent total favor), preventing people with mental illnesses from purchasing guns (91 percent) and prohibiting those with a history of domestic violence from purchasing guns (90 percent). Strong majorities also support creating a federal government database to track gun sales (87 percent), banning assault weapons (85 percent), banning bump stocks (84 percent) and high capacity magazines (80 percent), and raising the age of gun ownership to 21 (78 percent).



¹ GBA Strategies administered this nationwide survey of 1,000 K-12 public school employees who are members of the National Education Association. This survey, on behalf of NEA, was conducted March 1-5, 2018 and reached respondents on both landlines and cell phones. The survey results carry a margin of error +/-3 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence interval.

- ❖ **Educators do not support arming teachers and other educators in schools.** Seventy-four percent of members oppose proposals to arm school employees, even if they receive training. Nearly seven-in-ten (69 percent) educators say allowing school personnel to carry firearms in schools would be ineffective at preventing gun violence in schools.
- ❖ **Educators say they would feel less safe if school personnel were armed.** Two-thirds (64 percent) of NEA members say they would feel less safe if teachers and other school employees were armed with guns in their school.



- ❖ **Educators say they would not carry a gun to school.** If allowed to receive training and carry a gun to school, 82 percent of NEA members say they would not carry a gun to school.