

Guns, Hallways, Teenagers, and Civil Disobedience

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Reading about the most recent American school shooting from a Canadian perspective, one tends to go numb. At this rate, what is another US mass shooting? Shootings are far from unheard of in Canada, the deadliest being The Ecole Polytechnique massacre and the most recent being the Quebec City mosque shooting. In Canada the fight for gun control as we have it today was pushed forwards by survivors and victims' families, especially with regards to Ecole Polytechnique. Quebec has often fought the hardest for gun legislation, being the last province to give up the Long Gun Registry following a Supreme Court ruling. Overall, Canada's doing ok when it comes to gun regulation. It's not impossible to acquire a firearm in Canada, and individuals interested in hunting and recreational shooting still have options. Purchasing a gun in Canada is a complete possibility for most adults and the system of licensing assures firearms awareness and safety for those who seek to own one. Organizations such as the National Firearms Association argue for a loosening of gun control in Canada, but these organizations rarely gain any meaningful traction towards thier objectives. Canada's current, and arguably effective system of gun control remains relatively secure. It still stings to hear news report after news report of school shootings from a country that's not that far, or that different from us. There is however, some good news. Students are refusing to become victims of a broken system. In a time of divisive politics and frequently ignored voices the student's of Stoneman Douglas High School, the scene of the most recent mass school shooting, have grouped together and are fighting for gun control. Creating the Movement "Never Again. several states have begun to review there legislature. In response to the now infamous, "thoughts and prayers", students are questioning the millions of dollars in NRA political donations.