



サンプル問題 (英語エッセイ用)  
社会問題 2

LEO



- Why? Why do we feel a compromise of any kind is required here? Even liberals who would like to see gun control may be swayed by the fear of lost rights, of constitutional change, of interfering in private choice. Many other countries have decided that public safety comes before this particular private choice. What terrible tyrannies are these, which have banned or strictly limited the private possession of most guns? Australia. Canada. Spain. Germany. The death rate from firearms in the United States is 24 times higher than that in the United Kingdom. It is 196 times higher than that of Japan.
- These are not countries where the military marches in the street, enforcing curfews<sup>1</sup>. These are not societies where armed criminals run amok<sup>2</sup>. These are not, as the National Rifle Association likes to claim, countries on that first slippery step down the same slope the Nazis chose. I am unmoved by the insistence of the gun lobby that their desire to make, sell, buy, collect and, most of all, use mutilating<sup>3</sup>, lethal weapons somehow equals my need to allow them to do so. I am unmoved by claims of freedom, lifestyle or privacy in this realm. As a society, we have ignored such claims made (in remarkably similar language) by sexual predators, heroin dealers and white supremacists. Why do we think guns are different? What are we worried about, really? Perhaps we are worried that it is not a good idea to enrage people who like to wave guns about. It worries me, and it should worry you. We are a country of hundreds of millions of mostly rational people, and we are held hostage to a primitive killing urge.
- If an American cannot be happy without collecting and shooting deadly weapons, I invite him to move to a country where you can do so. There are a number of such places — most of them class-based or religious tyrannies without many of the freedoms we enjoy here, but you can't have everything. That is the point of a democracy, after all, one of its more subtle and vital points — you can't have everything and still be free. There are countries where you can shoot machine guns to your heart's content. Go there, if that's what you want.
- The phrase “gun nut” is not a joke. No one needs these weapons for anything. People just want them, and they want them with such angry lust that I had to face down a little fear to write this column. I am afraid of guns; I am afraid of people who like guns, own guns for the sake of owning them and shoot them for the feeling of shooting. I am a little scared all the time. I think we all are — and should be. Is there a legislator in this country brave enough to take this on?
- I no longer want gun control. I want an absolute ban on the manufacture, sale, possession and use of handguns and automatic weapons in this country, with long prison sentences for violations. I realize there must be exceptions. The police need guns — at least until we get rid of the hundreds of millions of guns floating around.

- I am not opposed to game hunting for subsistence, and I can live with hunting rifles. Single-shot rifles. It will not be an easy or swift matter to eliminate guns; 200 million weapons is a lot of metal, a lot to find. It requires money, effort, collective goals and government support. We must not feel this is a hopeless task; we must not give up or give in. It can be done. All that is really missing is our will.

(from a work by Sallie Tisdale)

- 1. When it comes to gun control, why do even liberals seem reluctant to take a resolute stand?
- 2. Interpret paragraph 3 in your words.
- 3. What is the author's message?
- 4. Some people say that 200 million weapons are floating in the country, so they have to possess their own gun to protect themselves. Also, some countries claim that they have to possess or develop nuclear weapons as long as there are countries that have nuclear weapons. Counter these arguments.
- 5. "Privacy versus social welfare." Write an essay on this.

ありがとうございます



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