

## On the Merit of Gun Control

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The number of crimes relatively speaking to the number of people living in a country are thus high that it's impossible to maintain that the police can handle all crime by themselves. There simply aren't enough people interested in being police officers and it simply isn't affordable to have a sufficiently large police force for them to be able to take care of crime all by themselves. The police need backup and we the people are it.

Say one murder be committed, how many police officers does this take? It varies per case. Sometimes people are caught immediately. Sometimes it takes days, weeks, years, decades, and time and time again the police need to look at these murder cases, working in teams. These teams consist of at least two detectives partnering up, simply because you need a sparring partner, that interview witnesses and those related to the victim and possible suspects. They also consist of forensic specialists. They consist of police officers working the streets.

Even when the murderer is caught, a single team has to index all of the evidence and execute a clean up of the crime scene (for as far as this is allowed) which can easily take up a day, if not more. We have the most advanced research facilities available, but to gather all of the evidence, even every little trace of DNA, to help the police establish what happened, where, who was involved, and so forth, more than one day is necessary.

Turn to the crime rates. In 2017 the Dutch police only registered 20% of all charges. The Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) crime figures show (Hobo, 2018) that there's a direct correlation between the total amount of registered crime and all specific forms of offenses (not violations). These offenses as such include homicide.

Due to the fact that there's a correlation, it's properly founded to say that the number of actual murders for instance in 2017 actually was 5 times as high as what they registered. When you check it, they registered more than 160 murders in 2017, and that's only 20%. In reality the number of murders alone as such equals more than 800 murders (160 / 20%).

That's a problem and as the population grows, that number is only going to go up with the same percentage as the population's growth, regardless of where it's coming from.

A team, or at least a large part of the team, can only work one murder at a time, unless they are related, so you already need a couple of thousand people working homicide and to patrol the streets in the Netherlands to check anyone that's suspicious. To be fair, for murder alone to cover the Netherlands as a whole with specific cops focusing on specific murders, you would need tens of thousands of police officers if not more, just for all of the murders that were committed to keep the streets safe.

This isn't a strange thing to say. You should note that murders currently often aren't solved. The rate of solved crimes relatively speaking to the number of registered crimes has according to the CBS since the 1960-s gone down far below 50% of the registered number of crimes.

So then we have murder. Then there's also assault and battery, rape, child molestation, kiddy porn networks, breaking-and-entry, general theft, threats... You would expect crooks to be a bit more inventive but in reality they just repeat the same list over and over again.

As illustrated in Hobo (2018) the number of crimes, not criminals, equals about 24% of the number of people living in the Netherlands. This also seems to correspond to actual international numbers as found in countries like the United States where they do register all crime. With the number of crimes being committed, for a country it simply isn't possible to finance a police force that takes care of all of the research and catching the criminals. There also aren't enough people interested in joining the police.

As such we need to place more emphasis on the people being involved in enforcing the law, but not at that time passing judgment: they need to learn how to control situations so the police can take over and take suspects into custody, without those very same suspects finding unnecessary untimely deaths.

In order to catch all criminals, you need individuals that are good-hearted, caring, and sound. That way you get people enforcing the law that don't project their own hard-edged criminal inclinations and immaturities on the people around them, or simply victimize the innocent.

This means that you need to equip citizens that have both been found sane and without criminal inclinations with the means to help the police enforce the law. They need to be able to place people under citizen's arrest.

In order to enforce the law, after they have been tested and they have been found sane, without any kind of mental disorder or mental developmental disorder, and without criminal inclinations, governments have no other choice than to offer citizens education on how to handle guns, cuffs, and maybe even tie-wraps, and provide regular citizens with the means to enforce the law. That's the only way you can catch all criminals, preferably before the act has been finished or even started, and keep the people safe.

As such gun control is both necessary and vital to a working system including law enforcement, but it doesn't include the general allowing or disallowing of possession of a firearm: it entails proper safety regulations, procedures, and education in gun use after future gun owners have been found mentally healthy and without criminal inclinations.

## **Literature**

Emile M. Hobo (2018) "Europe: Breeding Ground for Murder?" : [www.emilehobo.nl](http://www.emilehobo.nl)