

# Lethality of Civilian Active Shooter Incidents With and Without Semiautomatic Rifles in the United States

Elzerie de Jager, MBBS; Dr. Eric Goralnick, MD, MS; Dr. Justin C. McCarty, DO; Zain Hashmi, MBBS; Dr. Molly P. Jarman, PhD, MPH; and Dr. Adil H. Haider

Research Letter

*Journal of the American Medical Association*

Published September 2018

Summary Report Prepared by

Hersh Merenstein, Communications and Outreach Manager

Office of Councilperson Erika Strassburger

Pittsburgh City Council, District 8

# Review of Findings

In this research letter submitted for inclusion in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the authors, a collective group with extensive experience as both researchers and medical doctors, shared the conclusions of their studies of the difference in active shooter incidents during which a semiautomatic rifle was used compared to those during which another, different type of firearm was used by the shooter.

The authors made use of information provided and collected by the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation. This data allowed for the identification of victims and examination into related information. Further, the analyses described also looked at media coverage to aid the determination of what type of firearm was used in the shooting event.

This research letter notes the authors findings: In the event of an active shooter, 10 victims are either killed or sustain injuries when the gunman utilizes a semiautomatic rifle, while that number is half as low in incidents without one. In active shooter situations where the perpetrator does not make use of a semiautomatic rifle, five victims are killed or sustain injuries.

---

All of the preceding statements in this summary report have been included on the basis of their relevance to the original document. As such, should any attribution be considered necessary or appropriate, it is noted that the sole resource used in this document's production was the source material.