

How the NRA shapes youth's long-term viewpoints on gun rights at summer camps



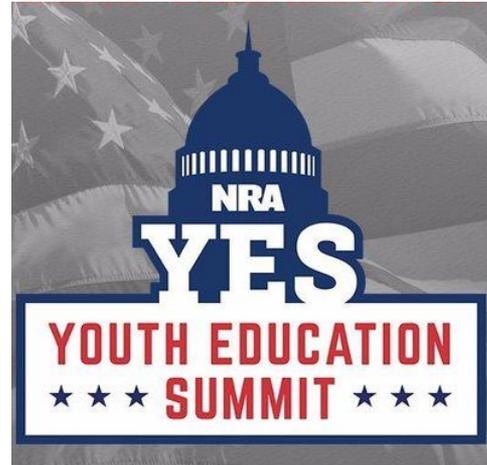
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Introduction

- 11 million children & adults attending 8,400 overnight camps/year
- Riflery activity: NRA targets & training
- 80% camps increasing enrollment in 2016



Background

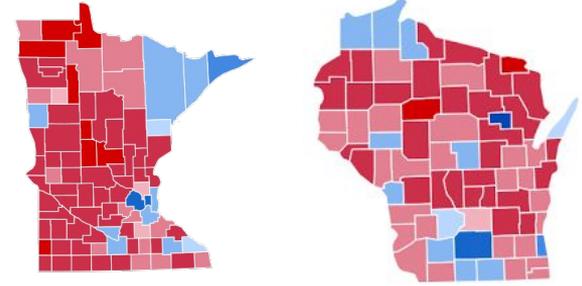


Theory

- Riflery → influences children's long-term viewpoints on guns, depending on familial background
- Family influence essential in deciding saliency of riflery experience (Lyons)
 - Child from gun-owning/supporting home : + likely support gun rights
 - Child from no gun/gun control home: -likely support gun rights
- Child unable to connect NRA with original gun stance b/c subtle influence

Research Design

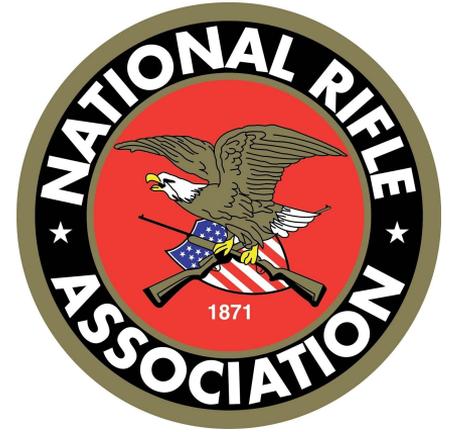
- Need new study
- Not shooting camps
- ½ campers participate in riflery every day : survey 5, 10 & 25 yrs later
- Demographics: ages 9-16, high income, mostly white



<i>All-Girl Camps</i>	<i>All-Boy Camps</i>	<i>Brother/Sister Camps</i>
<i>Camp Mishawaka</i>	<i>Camp Mishawaka</i>	<i>Camp Mishawaka</i>
<i>Camp Lake Hubert</i>	<i>Camp Lincoln</i>	<i>Camp Lake Hubert/Camp Lincoln</i>
<i>Camp Woodland</i>	<i>Red Arrow Camp</i>	<i>Camp Woodland/Camp Towering Pines</i>
<i>Camp Birchtrail</i>	<i>Towering Pines Camp</i>	
<i>Camp Agawak</i>	<i>Camp Highlands</i>	

Survey Questions

1. *On Gun History:*
 - a. Did you grow up in a gun-owning household?
 - b. Have you been in a gun's presence prior to attending camp?
2. *On Current Gun Viewpoint:*
 - a. How important is it to you that people can own guns?
 - b. Do you feel safer in an environment with guns?
3. *On Camp Gun Experience:*
 - a. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most, how much does your riflery experience at camp impact your stance on guns?
 - b. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the most, how upset would you feel if camp took away riflery and trap shooting next summer?
4. *On Connection to the NRA:*
 - a. Do you support the NRA's mission and programs?
 - b. Would you ever consider buying an NRA membership (either adult or junior)?



Main Hypotheses

- **H1:** Campers in experimental group +pro-gun rights
 - Shapiro et al.= +gun exposure= +pro-gun rights
- **H2:** Campers in experimental group AND gun owning households= much more pro-gun rights in long-term
 - Vice-versa: children in control group & no gun households: much less likely to have riflery impact their long-term viewpoints
- **H3:** Campers in experimental group will be more pro-gun rights 5 years after camp experience than 25 years later
- **H4:** Female campers in experimental group less likely to be pro-gun rights
- **H5:** Campers in experimental group less likely to connect NRA to viewpoint
- **H6:** White campers will be + likely to support gun rights in experimental group

Potential Implications

- Camps = feeders into NRA ideology
 - But dependent on family, experiences outside of the home, race, and gender
- NRA hidden tactics = beneficial, especially with controversy
- Future studies: public camps, more diverse samples, different geographic areas

