

## Guns, guns, guns

World and Press • 1<sup>st</sup> August issue 2022 • page 2

page 1 of 2



### Cartoon interpretation

**Topics:** Guns • shootings • politics • society

This cartoon interpretation is written in American English.

<sup>1</sup> In this cartoon from Guy Parsons, a group of six people stand underneath a cycle of four thought bubbles. The top thought bubble reads “Oh no! More gun violence!” and an arrow points from it to the next thought bubble: “I should get a gun!” This leads to the next statement, “More gun violence,” which is then followed by “Get more guns.” This last thought leads back to the original statement. The six people, all with different skin tones and backgrounds, beneath these thoughts all have different expressions on their faces. Three of the men have one bulging eye each, and they all look worried. A woman with blue hair and a pearl necklace throws her hands up in the air and looks as if she doesn’t know what to do. A man next to her with a tiny green hat holds a finger to his face, as if he’s thinking, and a woman on the left side of the cartoon looks concerned as two beads of sweat fall from her forehead.

<sup>2</sup> The cartoon shows one particular reaction to mass shootings in the United States. A shooting occurs, and people decide that they can protect themselves or even prevent future shootings by getting a gun. More shootings occur, and rather than admit that the “get a gun” solution may not be the right solution, people double-down and say, “Well, I guess we need even more guns.” More guns means more shootings. And so the cycle continues.

<sup>3</sup> The cartoonist may have been inspired by the recent mass shootings at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, and at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas. After the shooting in Uvalde, where 19 children and two adults were killed by one teenager with a gun, the prices of gun and ammunition stocks increased. Within two days of the Uvalde shooting, the gunmaker Smith & Wesson saw its stock go up by 8.4%. This isn’t a new phenomenon. It’s common for gun stocks to increase after mass shootings, as it’s thought that people will rush to buy guns – some out of a desire to protect themselves and some out of fear that guns will be banned or restricted.

<sup>4</sup> The cartoon does a good job of suggesting that this rush to buy more guns will not solve the problem of gun violence. It will only add to it. Uvalde might be a good example of this. Over 40% of the city’s budget reportedly goes towards policing, and the school district even has its own dedicated police force. More police officers with more guns didn’t stop an 18-year-old boy from killing 21 people – in fact, it took the police and their guns over an hour to even enter the shooter’s classroom. Some politicians in the state, like Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, know how shootings like the one in Uvalde can be prevented, though: He told Fox News that we just need to buy more guns and give them to more teachers.

<sup>0-2</sup> **underneath** (ˌʌndəˈniːθ); s.w.u. **beneath** unter – **cycle** Zyklus; Kreislauf – **thought bubble** Gedankenblase – **gun violence** (ˈvaɪələns) Waffengewalt – **expression** Ausdruck – **bulging** (ˈbʌldʒɪŋ) hervortretend – **concerned** (kənˈsɜːnd) besorgt – **mass shooting** Amoklauf; Massaker – **to occur** (əˈkɜː) s. ereignen – **to double-down** (e-e Vorgehensweise) verstärkt verfolgen

<sup>3</sup> **elementary school** Grundschule – **prices of stocks** Aktienkurse – **ammunition** (ˌæmjəˈnɪʃən) Munition – **gunmaker** Waffenhersteller – **phenomenon** (fəˈnɒmɪnən) Phänomen – **to rush to do** eilig tun – **desire** Wunsch – **to ban** verbieten – **to restrict** (-) h.: den Verkauf durch Auflagen beschränken

<sup>4</sup> **to suggest** andeuten – **to solve a problem** ein P. beilegen – **budget** Haushalt – **reportedly** angeblich – **policing** Polizeiarbeit – **school district** Schulamtsbezirk – **dedicated** ('dedi:etɪd) speziell dafür vorgesehen – **police force** Polizei – **Attorney General** (əˈtɜːni ˈdʒenərəl) Justizminister(in)



**Wir halten Sie auf dem Laufenden!**  
 Mit unserem Newsletter erhalten Sie per E-Mail monatlich  
 aktuelle Informationen rund um die Sprachzeitung.  
**Jetzt anmelden unter: [www.sprachzeitungen.de](http://www.sprachzeitungen.de)**



## Cartoons interpretieren, Bilder beschreiben

- intensives Training: Cartooninterpretation und Bildbeschreibung
- Üben in aufsteigenden Schwierigkeitsgraden: ideal für Binnendifferenzierung
- als Vorlage für Klassenarbeiten und Tests geeignet

**Cartoon & Co.** € 14,90 [D] · ISBN 978-3-7961-1062-7  
[www.sprachzeitungen.de](http://www.sprachzeitungen.de)



### World-and-Press-Sammelbezug für Ihren Kurs oder die Schulbibliothek?

Sie sparen sich lästige Vorbereitungen, und Ihre Schüler/innen stehen nicht mit leeren Händen da, wenn Sie mit dem Übungsmaterial arbeiten wollen!

**Hinweis:** Die Zugangsdaten zu Ihrem persönlichen Abo dürfen Sie nicht an Dritte weitergeben.pp