

APA header: Note that the title is in capital letters and prefaced by the words "Running head." The page number is also included.

Full title of the paper with the major words beginning with a capital letter

Safety First: Open Carry Firearms on Higher Education Campuses in Arizona

Student Name

The student's first and last name

Columbia Southern University

Name of the institution, which will always be "Columbia Southern University"

Para 1: Introduction

Safety First: Open Carry Firearms on Higher Education Campuses in Arizona

Much has been made in the past few years about gun restrictions in the U.S. Proponents of gun regulation are in a constant state of lobbying for state and federal bills that restrict access to firearms, whether that takes the form of more extensive background checks on potential gun owners or longer waiting periods before guns may be sold to individuals. On the other side, the National Rifle Association (NRA) and other like-minded individuals advocate for looser restrictions on the sale and carrying of firearms. For these supporters of pro-gun legislation, owning and carrying guns is a fundamental right—even a civil right. While this national debate continues to loom over the hot topic of guns, there are breaking news stories, especially within the last few months, that bring this fundamental debate to the threshold of our nations colleges, high schools, even elementary schools. Seung-Hui Cho’s massacre at Virginia Tech (April 16, 2007) is perhaps one of the more infamous school shootings, but there are others that are perhaps more difficult to remember, like the deaths of 27 killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newton, Connecticut (December 14, 2012) (CNN, 2015). Shootings like these in educational settings have drawn attention from both anti-gun proponents and pro-gun lobbyists, and the State of Arizona is no exception to this firestorm. The Arizona State legislature has proposed SB 1474, a gun bill that will allow students and faculty to carry guns on the campus grounds of its three state-funded universities. Supporters of the bill claim that Arizona is an open carry state, and those rights should not be restricted simply because the carrier crosses the border of a college campus. Those against the bill assert that guns have no place in education and that those who support the bill are only after their own election-year agendas. While the Second Amendment should be upheld, the educational learning environment should be protected;

Sentence 1 (S1): Amanda introduces the main topic (gun control) in a generalized manner; this sentence also introduces the con side of the controversy

S2 & 3: Follows S1 by introducing the position of the pro side; again, Amanda is general, focusing on the larger controversy

S5: Specific examples from the news. Note that these are examples of school shootings with which most people are familiar. This grounds the project to what is at stake in making arguments about this topic.

S4: Amanda begins to narrow the scope of the project by pointing towards a specific debate within the larger controversy of gun control: gun control in educational settings.

S7: In this sentence, the writer introduces the specific topic of the project: the controversy around SB1474.

S6: Amanda again narrows the scope of the project by moving from gun control in educational settings to this debate as it takes place in a specific location: Arizona.

S10: Amanda presents her thesis statement. She responds to the controversy by crafting a thesis statement that simultaneously agrees and disagrees.

S8 & 9: Following the same order from above (con first, then pro), Amanda presents the sides of the controversy by introducing each specific position.

Shortened version of the title in the header and the page number on each page

therefore, SB 1474 is a detrimental and dangerous bill that has the potential to change the university campus culture in Arizona state universities.

First-level heading: All major sections of the paper will be first-level, including The Literature Review, Body, and Conclusion. You may choose to mark the Introduction, but it is typically not done because the title of the paper stands for the heading level. Note that the title is centered and bold with sentence-case capitalization.

Para 2: Preface of the Literature Review

The Literature Review

In order to better understanding the origins of SB1474 and the controversy that surrounds

it, the history of gun violence in school settings must be taken into account; therefore, a brief look at some of the events of the past few decades is presented. Further, this review will examine in greater detail the positions of the two sides of the controversy, beginning with the pro-SB1474 side, which is in favor of allowing open carry on all Arizona state-funded campuses. Then the position of those against SB1474 will be presented; again, this con side is arguing for Arizona campuses to remain as they are now: a place without firearms.

This is a second-level heading. It is left-hand justified and bold. All major words are capitalized. This tells the reader that this next section is a division of the first-level heading that is directly above.

Note how Amanda prefaces the LR by giving the reader an idea of what will be included. You might also note that the paragraph is written in passive voice so that she can avoid using personal pronouns such as "I."

A Brief Look at Gun Violence in Schools

Amanda has made a mistake: Only the ampersand (&) should be used in a parenthetical citation.

Para 3: Brief History

The topic of gun control in educational environments exploded in 1999 when Eric Harris

and Dylan Klebold walked into a virtually unknown high school in Littleton, CO, and killed twelve students and one teacher (Gibbs and Roche, 1999). Questions of how such events could occur and concerns about the violence of which teens and young adults are capable became the concern of pressured administrators and horrified parents in big cities and small towns alike. A string of school gun-centered violence followed over the next few years. Perhaps most striking though was the way in which this one incident changed the culture of America: clear backpacks, more metal detectors, and (of course) fear. Cloud (1999) points out some of the extreme, "zero tolerance" actions taken by schools shortly following the Columbine shootings:

This citation is in APA. It shows the authors and year of publication. This sentence is a paraphrase of Gibbs and Roche. The reader can look at the references page to find the original document.

Here is another way to include a parenthetical citation. Amanda has incorporated the author's name into the sentence. Note that the year of publication is presented after the author, but there is no citation at the end of the sentence because the information is already presented at the beginning.

A seven-year-old boy in Cahokia, Ill., is suspended for having a nail clipper at school. A 10th-grader at Surry County High School in Virginia is booted for having blue-dyed hair.

This quotation is called a "block." If a quotation is over 40 words long, then you must "block" it by removing the quotation marks and indenting the entire quotation 1/2" from the left-hand margin. If this quotation would have been from a print text, then the page number would have been included at the end of the sentence, but it was an electronic source.

A Minnesota high school nixes a yearbook photo of an Army enlistee in the senior class because it shows her sitting atop a cannon outside a Veterans of Foreign Wars post. Far from the exception, these actions considered these many years later seem unreasonable, even in a post-9/11 world filled with uncertainty.

The Argument for Open Carry Everywhere in Arizona

Para 4: Pro side

However, in Arizona, the newly proposed SB 1474 would not seek to disarm students; on the contrary, the bill would allow students the right to concealed carry on state-funded university campuses. Proponents of the bill assert that such a measure is long over due. According to an NRA poster that were taped to message boards all over The University of Arizona campus, “[s]elf-defense is one of the most fundamental rights of every human being.” Further, the poster states that the NRA has worked diligently over the past 25 years to expand the right of open carry: the NRA has been “working for passage of fair Right-to-Carry laws, expansion of carry reciprocity between the states and the elimination of many ‘no-carry’ zones that only affect the law-abiding.” For the NRA, one of the major private-public backers of the SB 1474, the restriction of concealed carry on college campuses is an infringement on these basic rights. The flyer goes on to state the following:

Those who oppose campus carry [of firearms] argue that educational institutions should be treated differently, based on emotional claims that places of higher learning are somehow exempt from real-world violence. But the truth is, despite current prohibitions on legally carrying on campuses, crimes already occur on campus, and the right to self-defense from those violent acts should be respected. (NRA, 2012)

The NRA is correct. In fact, given the number of school-related shootings in the past few months alone, it would seem that a student’s chances of being shot on campus seem greater than if that

Amanda presents a closer look at the pro side before the con side. Note that she is not engaging with the arguments, only presenting them as fairly as she can. The LR is about the arguments of others. Amanda knows she will be able to make her own arguments in the Body of the paper.

same student were walking the streets of the community. From larger cities to small towns, it seems that the size of the community does not matter: the violence of a shooting can occur anywhere. However, even with this fact floating in the backs of students' minds, students must still attend classes and while it would seem obvious that lawmakers on both sides want student safety, they just see the means to that safety from different sides of the same coin.

The Case for Campuses as Unique

This citation is correct. Amanda did not have to include the author's first name, but it is fine to do so the first time that the author's name is mentioned.

Para 5: Con side

Eugene Sander (2012), the Interim President of the University of Arizona, released the following statement about SB 1474: "I have been a gun owner for all my adult life, and am fully supportive of the right to own a gun. However, having faculty, staff or students bringing weapons into classrooms and other campus activities will do nothing to make our campus safer." While Sander does not go into detail about what this newly proposed bill does have to do with, he makes his case on the basis that 50,000 students, staff, and faculty attend the campus daily, along with over 20,000 visitors annually. For Sander (2015), the educational environment is a "unique atmosphere that is dependent on open and vigorous debate. Introducing guns into classrooms would dramatically and negatively impact the ability to engage in constructive dialogue." In other words, even if the NRA does not believe that the university is a unique atmosphere, as Sander and others do, then there is still a possibility that introducing the right to carry concealed weapons on campus might lead to a change to the very culture of the university.

Amanda has made a mistake. The actual year of publication is 2012. Be careful about editing for errors like this in your own paper.

Amanda has made a mistake. Each time an author is included, the year of publication must follow. So this should read as follows: "While Sander (2012)...."

Para 6: LR Conclusion

At the end of the LR, Amanda still needs to include one more paragraph that will act as a "conclusion" for the LR. The idea here is NOT to conclude the entire paper. Instead, she needs to include a paragraph that attempts to summarize the arguments once again in order to prepare the reader for the presentation of a second presentation of her thesis statement. The thesis statement should be presented after the LR and before the Body so that the reader has it fresh in his or her mind as he or she begins reading the Body, which contains the student's argument broken down into individual assertions.

SAFETY FIRST

An APA list of references should be labeled "References," NOT "Works Cited" or "Bibliography."

Titles in APA are presented in sentence-case capitalization, meaning that only the first word or any proper noun should begin with a capital letter.

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References

Proper nouns always begin with a capital letter.

The last name is presented first; then the first name and middle (if present) is included as initials. An ampersand (&) is used for more than one author. Last names are always presented first.

CNN Library. (2015, October 19). 28 deadliest mass shootings in U.S. history fast facts. *CNN*.

Retrieved from <http://www.cnn.com/2013/09/16/us/20-deadliest-mass-shootings-in-u-s-history-fast-facts/>

Cloud, J. (1999). The Columbine effect. *Time*. Retrieved from <http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,35098,00.html>

Gibbs, N., & Roche, T. (1999). The Columbine tapes. *Time*. Retrieved from <http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,992873,00.html>

Amanda has made a mistake. This capital letter "D" should not be capitalized.

National Rifle Association. (2012). *Arizona self-Defense on campus* [Flyer]. NRA: Author.

Sander, Eugene. (2012, March 20). UA President opposes campus guns bill. *KGUN-TV*.

Retrieved from <http://www.kgun9.com>

Amanda has made a mistake by including the full name of the author here.