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## Political implications of another school shooting

Adam Leipzig · Wednesday, February 14th, 2018

- 1. Gun-owners are more likely to vote Republican than ever before. *Source: Social Science Quarterly, quoted in Newsweek.*
- 2. Americans with less education are more likely to vote Republican; Americans with more education are more likely to vote Democratic. *Source: Pew Research Center*.
- 3. Republicans consistently vote against gun control/gun safety measures, and consistently vote to reduce education funding. Both of these political positions increase their voter base. Fifty-eight percent of Republicans believe higher education is hurting America. *Sources: The New York Times; Pew Research Center*.
- 4. I do not believe that Republicans advocate violence in any form, especially not school shootings.
- 5. Nevertheless, the shooting at Douglas High School in Broward County, Florida, advances the Republican agenda, because it activates gun-rights supporters (who get energized by the inevitable calls for gun control) and fulfills the narrative that education is dangerous.

It is self-evident that a society with fewer weapons and more education is a better society. It is also evident that a society with more weapons and less education is more likely to vote Republican.

Isn't it time we call out the cynical bargain that has been struck? By keeping weapons at-large and education minimized, Republicans hold onto power.

Image: NBC News interrupted regular programming to carry live coverage.

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