

# ESU TEACHING RESOURCE



**This House Believes that all police officers should be armed with guns**

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## Overview:

Regular police officers in the United Kingdom do not carry guns. When a situation arises that needs a weapon, an armed response unit can be called. These police officers carry guns, and are given extra training before being allowed to do so. Giving all police officers guns would allow them to respond immediately to dangerous situations. It also makes every situation more serious, as there is always the possibility of lethal force being used. Do you think this trade-off is worth it?

## Starter questions:

Are police officers likely to use their guns effectively? Would this make police officers safer?

Are mistakes possible? What would be the consequences of such mistakes? In what situations might a police officer make a mistake?

How would this change the behaviour of people planning crimes? Would they be deterred by better armed police officers? Or would they try to protect themselves with more advanced weapons?

