Appendix A: Flowchart of MTurk Respondent Inclusion and Exclusion

We sought to recruit approximately 200 respondents in each group for a total of 1,200 respondents, screening for group membership by asking if respondents owned a firearm at the time they took the survey, if they personally owned a firearm on January 1, 2020 (a date selected both as it occurred prior to detection of COVID-19 in the U.S. and as it is an easily recalled date given its significance as the beginning of the new calendar year), if they acquired a firearm since January 1, 2020 in response to COVID-19, and if a current household member (other than the survey respondent) owned a firearm. All MTurk workers are over the age of 18 and were required respondents to be U.S. residents.

Of the 1,280 respondents who completed the survey, we excluded responses from respondents who completed the survey multiple times (n=23 respondents for a total of 46 records removed). We additionally excluded responses from respondents who incorrectly answered our two survey validation questions which asked respondents to enter the word ‘green’ in a text box (n=12) and select ‘Almost never’ in a question matrix (n=70). We also excluded respondents who completed both the screener and survey in less than 3 minutes (n=69). We additionally excluded one record where the respondent entered ‘1986’ into both the age field and as the year they completed their firearm safety training. After exclusion the remaining 1,105 respondents (86.3% of total responses) were compensated based on MTurk protocols and their responses were retained for analysis.