


**From:** johnrlott crimeresearch.org johnrlott@crimeresearch.org   
**Subject:** Re: Brazil  
**Date:** March 13, 2023 at 2:14 PM  
**To:** Helmke, Paul phelmke@indiana.edu



Thank you for getting back, Paul. I hope that you and your family are doing well.

Thank you.  
Best,  
John

John R Lott, Jr., Ph.D.  
President  
Crime Prevention Research Center  
johnrlott@crimeresearch.org  
(484) 802-5373

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 13, 2023, at 3:01 PM, Helmke, Paul <phelmke@indiana.edu> wrote:

John-

Sorry for the slow response. I don't have any record of receiving your 2/24/23 email - not sure where it went.

Sounds like some interesting developments in Brazil. I am not familiar enough with the issues and data collecting there to have a strong grasp of what may or may not be happening now, or in the future, but it certainly is something I will try to follow more closely.

I'm not in the practice of making bets (and certainly not of the amount you suggest) so I'm going to have to respectfully decline your offer. Happy to read/review any data and conclusions you come to with regard to the situation in Brazil in the future.

Best,

Paul

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**From:** johnrlott crimeresearch.org <johnrlott@crimeresearch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 8, 2023 8:43 AM  
**To:** Helmke, Paul <phelmke@indiana.edu>  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Brazil

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Dear Paul:

I hope that you are doing well and that you are still having fun at the University there. I have yet to hear back from you, so I thought that I should give you one more chance on this. Given your strong views on gun control and the experiment in Brazil, I thought for sure that you would jump at this chance.

Thank you.  
John

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<CPRC JPEG Letter.jpeg>

On Feb 24, 2023, at 4:43 PM, johnrlott crimeresearch.org <johnrlott@crimeresearch.org> wrote:

Dear Paul:

I suspect that you are happy about the changes in Brazil with the defeat of Bolsonaro, who increased gun ownership by over 600% (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/12/23/brazil-gun-rights-control-bolsonaro/>), and the election of Lula. With Lula becoming president of **Brazil on January 1st**, and his first executive order banning the sale of ammunition and moving to take away people's gun licenses, you must be very optimistic about the future of crime in Brazil. This across the board crackdown on gun ownership provides a great opportunity to test the claim that reducing gun ownership will reduce the homicide rate or increase it.

Here is what I offer you. Let's bet \$1,000 and make it simple on whether the homicide rate in Brazil will go up or down during the first two years of Lula's presidency. If the homicide rate goes down from what it was in 2022, I will pay you \$1,000. If it goes up, you will pay me \$1,000. Given the importance you put on gun control and the large percentage change in gun ownership that Lula is imposing, you should expect a substantial drop in homicides, but, as I say, let's keep it simple on whether the homicide rate goes up or down.

I look forward to your response.

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