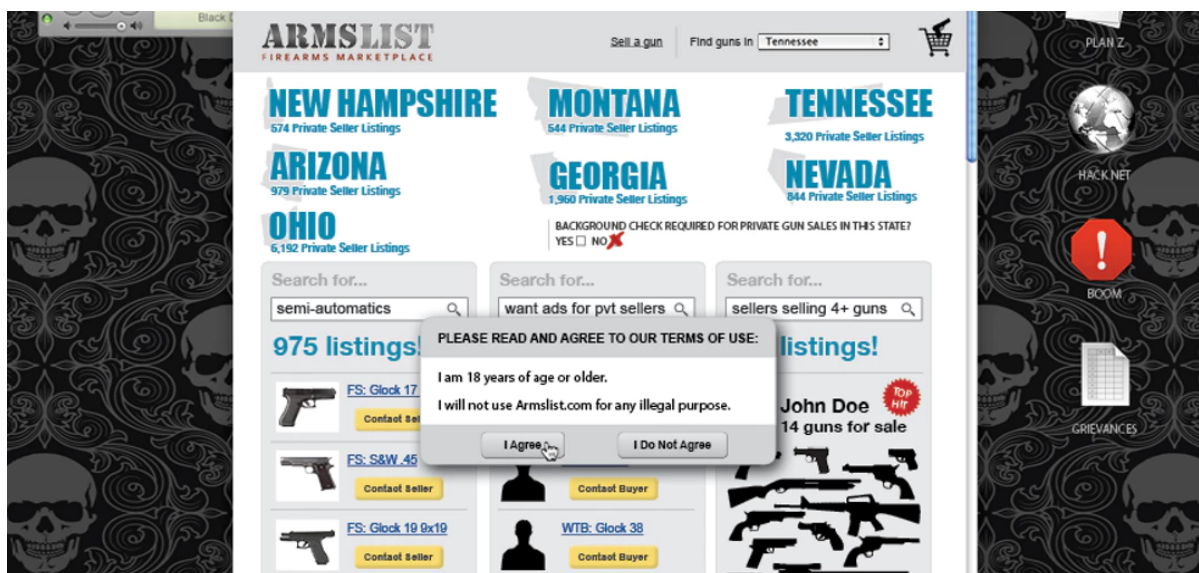


Armslist: Don't Ask, Don't Tell



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Armslist.com is the eHarmony of gun sales—just one of many websites linking private sellers of firearms with strangers who want to buy their guns. These sales effectively avoid federal laws requiring criminal background checks for gun purchasers, since they skirt the gun store altogether. Third Way surveyed Armslist.com to provide a state-specific snapshot of the availability of guns for sale through this virtual loophole.

VIOLENT FELON? MENTALLY ILL? TERRORIST?
DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL



The screenshot shows the Armslist website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with "ARMSLIST FIREARMS MARKETPLACE" and a search bar set to "Ohio". Below this, a large banner reads "OHIO GUNS FOR SALE" with "6,192 Private Seller Listings". To the right of the banner, a note states "BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIRED FOR PRIVATE GUN SALES IN OHIO?" with "YES" and "NO" options, where "NO" is selected. The main content area is divided into three columns, each with a search bar and a list of results. The first column shows "1,840 listings!" for "semi-automatics". The second column shows "940 listings!" for "want ads for pvt sellers". The third column shows "225 listings!" for "sellers selling 4+ guns". Each column lists specific items with images and links to "Contact Seller" or "Contact Buyer". A pop-up window titled "PLEASE READ AND AGREE TO OUR TERMS OF USE:" is overlaid on the middle column. It contains the text: "I am 18 years of age or older. I will not use Armslist.com for any illegal purpose." and two buttons: "I Agree" and "I Do Not Agree". The "I Agree" button is being clicked. At the bottom of the screenshot, there's a small audio player showing "Voices in my head: Black Death - Metal Mania".

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Gun Sale listings data source: Armslist.com, June/July 2013.

For more on this subject, read "The Virtual Loophole: A Survey of Online Gun Sales," by Jim Kessler and Sarah Trumble. Available at: <http://www.thirdway.org/publications/719>.

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