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**Gao et al.**

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(54) **INSTRUMENT AND METHOD FOR PULLING AND TWISTING A TIE ONTO TWO SEPARATED ITEMS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An instrument and method for applying a suture of stiff but bendable material, such as wire, to broken bone for closing and holding the break. Also, the instrument and method are for pulling and holding two items together with a tie. The instrument has two parts movable relative to each other for pulling the items or bone together and for twisting the suture onto the bone to hold it together. The suture is strung onto the instrument on the exterior thereof without having the suture extend through the instrument interior, so the surgeon can guide the suture and accurately string it. A crank is applied to twist the suture after the suture has been initially secured to the bone to hold the bone together.

**22 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**

