

As a therapist I have worked with a number of people with severe mental health issues.

One woman in particular I had worked with a number of years ago had decided to fixate on me. This was a woman who was severely traumatized as a child. We worked very hard to heal those wounds.

She decided she wanted to be in my personal life. She began with emails, cards, phone messages, letters and packages filled with assorted things like bird feathers, rocks, crystals, poems, CD's etc. I blocked her phone number and she would call from payphones down the street from my house. She sent an anonymous package with an Italian address and put it in a mailbox in West Haven. The inspector from the post office called me, as it was a "suspicious package".

I turned it over to the police. I set clear boundaries told her to not call, write, send stuff or come to my house. I told her I would call the police if she came to my house again. Once in the Summer I was in my kitchen cleaning, she walked right in to my house. I had not locked the screen door. Why should I lock my door, I live in suburbia and it was Summer.

She began calling 25-30 times a day sending 25-40 emails a day. I started saving the recordings as per the police recommendation. She would drive by my house every day. She started talking to my neighbors and their children. She actually spied on me in my back yard while I was working in my garden and admitted it in an email. She would bang on my doors trying to get in and yelling up into my windows. I couldn't go outside of my house. I couldn't sit at my pool.

She escalated in her obsessive behavior. I called the police again made reports etc. They told her to leave me alone three times. I couldn't get a restraining order as she isn't a relative or a romantic relationship.

She chased me with her car, I tried to lead her into a police trap but she got away. She came and tried to break into my house again. She terrorized me and my elderly mother and my mother's home health aide.

She was arrested as she was trying to break into my house screaming she was going to bash in my face. She was given a \$250,000 bail with numerous felony charges. Her bail was lowered to \$100,000. It cost her around \$8000 to get out of jail. Half of her craziness was because she wanted one of the CD's back that she sent me, which became police evidence. I suspected she would go to more aggressive acts as she had threatened me with bodily harm because of a CD and now it cost her \$8000 to get out of jail. I believe the only reason she didn't come back was that she knew I was armed because I made it perfectly clear.

I was fortunate to have really good friends who gave me a shotgun and another friend gave me two hand guns. I walked around with one of the handguns in the back of my pants for over a month as I was fearful for my life and that of my mother and my pets. I slept with it. I took it to the bathroom.

When assaults happen police show up after the event. I was not going to be a statistic. I wanted to live more than I cared about legalities.

If you take guns away from the law abiding citizens they will not have protection from the criminals or the mentally ill. Australia, Chicago, DC are the perfect example of what happens to innocent people when they don't have guns and criminals do. More home invasions, robberies, murder and gang violence. We The People are the employers of the legislative branch of the government. You all took an oath to the constitution to protect the rights of the citizens of Connecticut. You need to vote to protect those rights and our lives or you will be in violation of that oath and liable. The founders knew what they were doing when they wrote the 2nd amendment. Get with the program or we will get you out of office with pleasure.

Chris