

January 30, 2013

To the Gun Prevention Working Group of the Connecticut General Assembly:

I am concerned by the cultural polarization of the gun violence debate, when in fact I suspect both 'sides' of this debate actually agree on many things that can be done to make our communities safer and protect the innocent. Please do anything you can to take the inappropriate polarization out of the discussions.

If you have not done so already, I encourage you to read the attached article from the Journal of American Medical Association "Curbing Gun Violence: Lessons from Public Health Successes" 1/7/13.

On the issue of the second amendment, I encourage you and all citizens to read the DC verses Heller supreme court decision. Even Justice Scalia supported the regulation of guns. Please help take the second amendment argument out of doing what is right for public safety and freedom in our great nation.

Please do what you can to ban high capacity clips, ban rapid fire assault weapons, increase taxes on guns and ammunition, support education campaigns to reduce gun violence, support routine primary healthcare education & gun safety counseling, require periodic safety inspections of firearms, close loopholes background check requirements in gun show and private sales, support smart guns with automatic security and locking devices, increase fees for gun licensing, support minimum age requirements for certain weapons, increase penalties for gun safety violations, support research on how to prevent gun violence, require gun license for purchase of ammunition, and support strong & active nonprofit advocacy focused on reducing gun violence.

To be honest, I am appalled that the cost of licensing my cute neutered dog (with up-to-date rabies shots) costs only \$25 less than the license for a handgun over a five year period. (Annual cost of dog license \$9/year. CT handgun 5 year license \$70.)

Please continue to do all you can to support freedom and life in our great state.

Many thanks for your service to the great state of Connecticut.

Sincerely,
Ann Godzwon
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