

A firearm is a tool. It is an inanimate object that can only be used, it can not do anything by itself.

There are tools such as hammers, baseball bats, tire irons, and automobiles. They are in our everyday lives. A hammer can be used to build a house to shelter a person or family. A hammer can also be used to kill someone.

The same can be said for baseball bats which are used for sports events, and tire irons which are used for fixing automobiles. And automobiles themselves. These are all tools. When they are used properly, they are good.

Mr. Lanza murdered 27 people that day, and also took his own life. If all we do is focus on the tool he used to do this, we do not address the underlying issue that caused Mr. Lanza to murder 27 people, and break multiple other laws. The tool did not make Mr. Lanza commit these crimes, Mr. Lanza used the tool to commit multiple crimes and cost the lives of 27 people.

When a person makes the decision to break a law, that person is going to break the law. If we write more laws, a person that has made the decision, is going to break more laws.

I am a law abiding person. I work, I pay my bills and my taxes, I try to raise my kids properly and teach them what they will need in order to become contributing members of society. I use tools in my every day life. I drive an automobile every day. None of these are criminal acts. If the legislators begin banning firearms/tools, then retro actively I will become a criminal not by my choice.

I agree very strongly that we need to address the laws that are on the books regarding firearms. There are laws addressing storage of fire arms. There are laws addressing who can buy them. Those laws did prevent Mr. Lanza from buying one. Some of the laws are almost unenforceable. Some of the laws probably contradict other. But again, banning the tool is not going to make all criminal behavior go away. We have to address the criminal behavior.