

Gun violence & School security

The Honorable Senator Tony Guglielmo,

As a constituent of your district and a supporter for many years I feel it is imperative I contact you and comment on the current issue of gun violence, school security, and the approach that is being taken to address these issues. I have been a Connecticut state pistol permit holder since 1967, I served three years in the U.S. Army with one year in Viet Nam, and have been a member of a local sporting club for thirty five years. I am also a proud Life member of the NRA. I feel I have enough life's experience to submit a bit of unbiased opinion. It is without doubt a sad day when a tragedy such as Sandy Hook/Newtown occurs, and let it be known that all of my associates and fellow gun owners were devastated by this terrible crime and loss of so many young innocent lives. We are also saddened by the senseless murders that have occurred at the colleges, malls, theaters and city streets across America ! Guns, no matter what style, shape, form or color are only as safe as the individual holding them. Unfortunately for the responsible and law abiding gun owners of our community the reprehensible actions of a few antisocial, mentally unstable, or deranged young men and numerous gang bangers, drug dealers, and common criminals have distorted the vision to the laymen as to what a true gun enthusiast really is and that being so, we are faced with a blanket persecution and ultimately prosecution of honest, law abiding, responsible sportsmen, target and competitive shooters, and family members protecting life and limb ! If some politicians want to use the horrible tragedy of lives lost at Sandy Hook to springboard their careers and dupe the American public to think it's anything else, we have fallen into the lowest of lows. After the shock of the slaughter of the innocents in that school eased to sadness, talk went out as how to protect and make safe our children and grandchildren in our schools. What has been born is anything but ! Talking heads across the country are feeding the American public falsehoods and distortions, telling them only what they feel will promote a total ban of all guns. There is now talk of blanket ban's of almost every conceivable type of weapon, exorbitant taxes on ammunition, tacking on more fees, and requiring permit holders to renew every year. None of these FEEL GOOD showboating tactics will lessen the threat to our children and everyday citizen- we must step back, think, and adopt rationally prudent policies to meet this goal. WE don't need this media feeding frenzy or political grandstanding to attain safer schools and streets. How about electronic doors in hallways similar to fire doors, or secure lobbies to detain anyone entering until cleared by staff. When guns are outlawed only outlaws will have guns !! That metal placard has been tacked up in my garage for forty some years and it is as true now as it was then ! Thank You, Respectfully, Daniel J, Quirk Ashford CT.