

My daughter is fortunate enough to attend George Washington University, probably one of the "safest" campuses in the US. She lives in Foggy Bottom blocks from the White House. Her neighbor is the State Department. Between campus police, DC police and the Secret Service there is more armed security there than maybe any other college campus.

But who is really safe? I know she is still at risk of gun violence because anyone can buy an assault rifle and multiple high capacity clips right next door in Virginia. Virginia has some of the most liberal gun laws in our country. Remember the massacre at Virginia Tech. Access to guns has a direct correlation to gun violence. Yes, guns from other states can cross over state lines. Hopefully Congress will do something about that. I can't influence the gun laws in Virginia but I can try in Connecticut.

After Sandy Hook, I had hoped Connecticut would have acted swiftly to put in place the strictest gun laws in the nation. It's not too late.

After Governor Cuomo's pressure and leadership, New York now has the strictest state laws in our country. Let's congratulate our neighbors and follow their lead. I believe New York City's laws are even stricter under Mayor Bloomberg's watch and crime is at it's lowest in decades in NYC. We need courageous leadership like theirs.

A few summers ago my daughter and I were attending one of her soccer tournaments in Aurora, Colorado. We happened to enjoy a movie after her game at the same theatre where all those innocent people lost their lives watching a movie one blissful summer later. What about their freedoms?

I feel it's just getting too close to home. We live with the fear and anxiety that another tragedy will occur next door, down the block or in another school. Since Newtown, my daughter's private school has even more security guards, newly installed locks and swipe pads only allowing faculty and staff entrance. She's 17 so she understands the world is not always safe. But what about the effect this has on the psyche of the younger students. Someone should start a study now on how all this violence effects the youngest of our citizens. They have rights too.

Yes, we are extremely fortunate that we live in Fairfield County where we ARE surrounded by strict gun laws but the NRA's solution is not the answer. More guns, more armed guards and God forbid adding armed teachers will not make our schools, our streets, our communities any safer. Limiting access to guns through background checks, adding waiting periods, banning military style assault weapons and large capacity clips are common sense and effective ways to curtail violence in our State and hopefully if President Obama and Vice President Biden are successful in our Country.

Please remember that freedoms do come with limits otherwise it's anarchy not a democracy.

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Sent from my iPad