

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The real reason why we are having such a heated discussion about **“gun violence legislation and gun violence control”** is founded on economic interests of gun manufacturers in the U.S. A multi-billion dollar business is at stake and consequently the gun lobby and manufacturers don't miss an opportunity to suggest to every member of this society that we need protection and that life is getting more unsafe on a daily basis. This industry enjoyed magnificent growth rates in the first decade on this century (20-40% or higher) and if anything they would like to continue to enjoy this growing business. Combined with the argument that they preserve constitutional rights and traditions, their statements are a wonderful “emotional cocktail” for everyone who is buying into their story.

The request for more legislation has nothing to do with constitutional rights to own a gun. No one questions the second amendment. At the same time the second amendment does not spell out that you can own any gun you like or how many. It also is not specific enough whether or not someone has forfeit the right in light of more harm i.e. known criminals.

Assault weapons, high capacity magazines have only one purpose of existence and that is the destruction on a larger scale. This has also been proven so far in every gun related tragedy this society has experienced. And large capacity magazines force their owners to buy ammunition on a larger scale, much more than for conventional guns, which again is money in the pocket of the manufacturers.

A society that suggests that one needs to own a gun or assault weapon to be safe is an oxymoron. If that is the case cities like Detroit should be the safest place in the country.

Controlling the type weapon (no more assault weapons), the type people that can buy a weapon (rigorous back ground checks), making access to weapons in general more difficult (trafficking, gun shows etc.), is **“A STEP”** in the right direction that people like myself can be less afraid that the easy access will allow people that might have been my normal neighbor one day like in Newtown fill the headlines of newspapers at the expense of more unnecessary victims the next day.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christoph Hahner