

Dear Senators and Representative's

I am a father of 3 and a grandfather of a 5 year old and a 2 year old. The tragedy at Newtown is one of the most heart wrenching things a parent can hear. What also saddens me is all the young men serving our country that come home in body bags, or without limbs, and or with brain damage, and without much notice. Thousands have paid the price for freedom, they all took an oath to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. All elected Officials including the President, take a similar oath. I served in the mid 60's and one of my sons served in Iraq. Connecticut has some of the toughest gun laws in the U.S., but didn't stop that boy in Newtown from breaking them. I have read that over 500 young people died in Chicago last year, nearly all by illegal guns, none of which were AR-15's. The original plan of the Columbine shooters, was to kill 200 plus people with propane tank bombs, after planting the bombs, they waited by their car for them to go off, only after they didn't go off did they start shooting, an AR-15 was not one of the guns they used. Someone intent on killing other people will find a way with or without a gun. I am not against tougher background checks for all gun purchases, require gun owner to know how to secure and store their guns so the wrong people can't access them, give law enforcement the tools to enforce existing laws. The proposals I have seen so far are to go after the law abiding citizen, and the second amendment (which is not about hunting or target practice). I know there is a lot of (understandable) emotions now, but I don't think laws should be made based on emotions. I hope you will remember your oath to protect the Constitution.

Freedom is not free

Thank you

F.lynly Haggett