

I am a mother who has held her son as he died. He was ravaged by disease so we knew the end was in sight. I had to tell my 7 year old daughter that her brother had died while she was in her second grade classroom that day. We were prepared but not ready, never ready. The families of Newtown had no time to prepare.

I see no reason one more family should have to suffer a loss so that people will be free to purchase, own or carry assault weapons or 30 round clips. I believe that government has the responsibility to provide reasonable safeguards for its citizens. We must ban large capacity ammunition magazines in Connecticut and strengthen Connecticut's assault weapons ban.

I firmly believe the second amendment should not be used as used as a basis to deny citizens the protections they deserve.

Thank you for your attention and your service to Connecticut.

Helen D'Avanzo

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