

Dear 'A Safer Connecticut',

What happened in Sandy Hook was a terrible tragedy. It was a 'Random Act of Violence' that new gun control measures will not stop.

Most gun violence in Connecticut spurs from drugs and gangs. Most gun violence comes from breaking laws already on the books. Most gun violence happens from criminals or people with mental illness who will not worry about breaking old laws or new laws.

Unfortunately, the police cannot be there protect innocent people in the few minutes that a criminal or madman can take several lives. If they could, they would have saved those little children at Sandy Hook. Even if all firearms were banned, criminals and madmen with intent to kill will find these weapons on the black market. Just think of the war on drugs. We are losing that as well. Drugs are everywhere. Drugs and gangs are behind most of the shootings in Connecticut towns and cities.

Please keep this stat in mind: The City of Chicago does not allow guns to be carried. They are illegal to carry. They have stricter laws than Connecticut. Yet even so, by December 29, 2012, there were 500 murders for the year 2012 and as of January 21, 2013 there have been over 30 murders for the year 2013. No one can legally carry a gun in Chicago. How in the world did all these murders occur? Criminals broke the law. Criminals thumbed their noses at the law. They bought the guns illegally. They carried the guns illegally. They bought ammunition illegally. They shot the guns illegally. They committed murder. Most of these murders are gang and drug related.

Adding new gun laws will put law abiding citizens in jeopardy from not being able to protect themselves and in jeopardy of running afoul of new laws that may be too complicated for them or the police to follow. The laws already on the books need to be enforced.

Connecticut has the 4th strictest gun laws in the country but this tragedy at Sandy Hook still occurred because someone sought the means to skirt and break the laws already on the books. New laws will not stop someone willing to give up his life to cause a rampage such as what happened.

Please use restraint in these hearings since most law abiding gun owners will be the ones who will pay the price, while most criminals will still be on the loose, breaking laws by getting their guns on the black market no matter the law, no matter the restrictions, no matter the taxes, no matter the fines.

Sincerely,

James G. Boisvert  
Cheshire, CT