

As I watched the testimony today, It became very apparent to me that no one really cared about the truth or what the best way to solve this problem would be. There were very many people there ,that also shared my view, that had a gun been present at sandy hook and used by any trained individual, be it the principal or someone else, many lives would have been saved. Had there been no Gun Free zones, these places mass killers go likely wouldn't be targeted in the first place. Legislators are in gun free zones yet they make sure they have armed protection, doesn't this show that gun free zones do not keep out criminals bent on killing? If a gun free zone designation is sufficient why do we have armed police at the capitol?

The bans that are being discussed also look solely at so called assault weapons which while not really any different than most other long guns,(not full auto as most of the public and even some legislators think) also do not account for most of the killings in this country. Only 323 per year are from all long guns(semi automatic rifles) and even hammers kill more people in the USA. why aren't we looking at medical malpractice which kills 150,000 per year. The money that will be spent (which could help our deficit), the money and jobs that will be lost by cut backs in the gun industry are staggering, and sadly it would only be a feel good measure not a truly helpful one.

There are so many other avenues to look at, mental health, proper gun training in schools, getting gun violence off the TV and movie screens, showing the public guns are used for shooting sports and not for killing.

In fact movies and TV portray guns as used violently in about 99% of the instances they are shown, even though 99% of gun owners will never use a gun in a violent way. What a horrible thing the media is teaching our youth and it isn't even true!

We could also promote caring, tolerance and selflessness ,instead of taking peoples sports away because of a few bad people.

If you watched the testimony today many people reiterated that guns are only made to kill, However today most people who buy assault weapons do it solely for sporting purposes and the guns made today are never expected to by the manufacturer to see any type of killing or combat. they truly are sporting riffles and the vast majority will only be used in that way.

Then we have the police chiefs association saying that magazine bans shouldn't apply to police off duty, but should apply to citizens. When asked why they said, because the police are specialists, then they stated that they train 3 hrs per year, but they try to get in 3 to 4 times per year at the range. After the comment they were being lead by a legislator to say that it was because the police have more threats against them, but that likely false. A regular citizen has no protection they are more likely to be coerced etc.

Most shooters who enjoy the sport, shoot a lot more than the police apparently do, even the people who rarely shoot , get to the range twice as often as that. So by the police chiefs organization, the citizen sport shooter is much better trained than they are, and should be allowed to use their guns unrestricted.

Doesn't it throw up a red flag that off duty police feel they need more than a 10 round magazine! its because a 30 round magazine is considered standard size.

I understand everyone wants to do something, but banning guns or magazines, further dividing the country, and putting thousands of people out of work here in Connecticut is not the answer.

We've heard allot about the awful AR15 and how dangerous it is but a .309 3030 3006 .35 caliber hunting rifle will do much more damage with less bullets, an AR15 round is actually much smaller than most pistol rounds and more in line with a 22 which is known as a plinker. The problem is not the AR15, but the person standing behind it that bent on killing people to punish the world. We need to ask WHY do these people want to punish the world. It could be the coldness and anti social behavior of the world today it is a digital world with much less interaction face to face. So if a young kid pulls back and only watched media, they can find the worst of the worst and concentrate on it 24-7 if they want. further

removing them from their peers. this is how many gangs work to separate their members from the rest of the world, Its how Manson did what he did.

Permits and taxes on ammunition will do nothing and a tax is really discrimination against those who have less money, it makes it harder for them to enjoy the sport or even to protect themselves.

As for banning REGULAR capacity magazines. it will destroy the shooting sports, anyone who shoots at the range knows how fast you go through ammunition. In any competition you already need to change magazines too often at 30 RNDS anything smaller would make certain shooting classes un viable.

I know that the country wants to fulfill agendas but that is not a viable is not a solution, Its sad really that we do not want to look for the correct answers, but rush into a decision to ban weapons instead. It has been done before and done nothing to protect people, we have an assault weapons ban here in CT already, it didn't help, it wont help. Criminals will always find a flow of illegal weapons. we haven't been able to stop the flow of illegal drugs and couldn't stop alcohol during prohibition you think we'll somehow stop bad guys from getting guns?

One of the Newtown parents had it right, gun laws already on the books don't even get enforced, if you look at the numbers convictions are mostly nollied. So what will more laws do other than make more criminals of people who were willing to follow the laws, while the people who break the laws will still do so and get everything nollied anyway. Teachers around the country are signing up and going to ranges to get pistol permits, there is no real support for gun bans or magazine bans around the country, even the we the people website for the white house has many more signitures on the pro gun petitions, so why are we still talking about bans taxes and more regulations? Its simple really political agenda!

We need leaders to do what's right for the people, all the people not a select few. Losing jobs, taking away a sport that for many has helped them cope with a bad economy, giving false hope of safety instead of a real solution, making criminals out of gun owners who bought their guns legally, and further dividing the country, is not really in the best interest of the people

Thank you
Jeff Palazzo