

I am Jennifer Phelps from Fairfield, CT and I am speaking out AGAINST proposed gun control measures. I'm sure that our governor would love to follow in the footsteps of the State of New York in strict gun legislation, but that is not the answer. Connecticut is in a unique position, particularly because we are the home to many large gun and ammunition manufacturers. Ruger in Southport, Colt in Hartford, Remington Arms, etc. Gun control won't only hurt the law abiding citizens of this state, but FURTHER hurt the floundering economy of this state. Do not give businesses yet another reason to leave Connecticut in favor of more business friendly neighboring states.

As far as gun control is concerned, there is no concrete evidence that supports that gun control would stop the kind of violence we are trying to prevent. The Sandy Hook killings could still happen tomorrow even with the type of gun control New York has implemented. The only thing that would have prevented Sandy Hook is a preventative mental health care system. Nancy Lanza knew Adam had problems but had nowhere to turn- if he had received the medical attention that he needed it's probable this never would have happened. Nancy Lanza should have also been a responsible gun owner, being stuck with the situation that she was. As a gun owner, I would never have guns like that in my household with an unstable child and I do believe she shares a portion of the blame. I am not against more background checks for gun owners and closing the 'gun show loophole'. As someone who has nothing to hide, there is no reason for me to be afraid of that sort of legislation. But any magazine or gun specific bans beyond that I find to be ludicrous. If someone wants to commit a massacre like that, there is nothing to stop them. If goat farmers in Afghanistan have the ability to make a dirty bomb, then there's no reason a weapon like that couldn't have been used here. Therefore I believe mental health is the solution here, not more gun bans.

Furthermore, my 9th great grandfather is Major General Noah Phelps of Simsbury Connecticut. He was a patriot of 1776 and helped capture Fort Ticonderoga during the Revolutionary War. I will never forget what he fought for, and neither should you. Please do not befoul his legacy by defying the wishes of the Constitution. We are Americans and cannot forget the liberties this country was founded with, as members of the legislature I hope you can remember this.

Thank you,
Jennifer Phelps
Fairfield, CT