

I write to express my support for stricter gun laws. There were so many tears shed and sympathy felt in Connecticut after the shootings at Sandy Hook School. We owe it to the victims to not let apathy and fears set in. It is for this reason that I feel strongly that there needs to be new legislation to ban high capacity ammunition magazines and strengthen the current assault weapons ban, there should be a universal background checks on all sales and transfers of all guns.

For those that argue that tighter legislation contravenes the Second Amendment, they are mistaken...the Founders' rationale for this amendment was those who bore arms did so *as members of a well-regulated militia*. This was never a license for freelance vigilantism.

The second amendment says nothing about administering personal justice or taking the law into one's own hands. But let's suppose that the majority of Americans do believe that individuals have the right to defend their property and family, nobody needs high capacity ammunition used for warfare! "There is plenty of room in gun-control reform to allow hunters their rifles, to let people with valid permits keep a handgun in their homes, or to allow gun fanciers to add to their collection. None of these involve loading up guns that can shoot off 50 or a 100 rounds a minute. There is no reasonable purpose for civilians to be walking around with such weaponry" Jack Schwartz

To quote Jack Schwartz from US News "Will tighter gun control laws prevent the kind of mayhem that we have recently suffered in movie theaters, malls, temples, coffee bars, universities and public schools? To be sure, it is difficult to prove a negative. But it stands to reason that by making it more difficult for assault weapons to fall into the hands of dangerous, demented people, we are at least limiting the possibility of another Newtown school massacre. It is not much to give up, and it is a sacrifice worth making"

Please, let us make sensible changes to our gun laws! If it had been your child that was shot dead that day, what action would you want your government to take!

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