

Chairman, Senators and Representatives,

I am a retired Police Sergeant with close to 20 years experience. I have served 2 different police departments during my career. I have learned to only deal with the facts not emotions, not to be subjective, but objective.

I would like to submit an uncomfortable truth, with the vain hope that it will not sound too callous. Mass shootings are small problem in our country and are always committed by criminals, which isn't to say that they aren't utterly horrifying in more than one way. Peoples' lives are destroyed, both literally and figuratively. First responders are left with vivid nightmares of what they had to deal with for the rest of their lives. However, if law makers were to prioritize their political attention on topics according to how many lives were at stake, mass shootings wouldn't even be on the radar.

I would be the first to admit that America doesn't have a gun problem but a gang/gang banger problem coupled with a bunch of mentally disturbed individuals. If you take the time to investigate all the shootings in schools over the last 10 years, you will discover that almost all of the shooters have been on some type of medically prescribed drug that induced killing or suicidal thoughts. Naturally, it would be tough to blame the medical profession, so politicians take the easy route and attack legal gun owners. They play on the emotions and phobias of non-gun owners, especially after the tragedy of Sandy Hook where small children were involved.

So what's the solution? First, we have to take a serious look at all the facts and circumstances surrounding Sandy Hook and other mass shootings. What do they have in common?

1. All the shooters were on medically prescribed medication and/or illicit drugs, which induced thoughts of killing, suicide or extreme anger and rage.
2. Most were between 13 to 30 years.
3. They all were able to "illegally" gain access to weapons and the necessary ammunition and magazines.
4. Most watched hours upon hours of some sort of combat or killing-type of video game without parental intervention.
5. Most showed telltale signs before they committed their atrocities without being reported.
6. They all drove to the scene of the crime in a vehicle.

7. Most killed themselves upon arrival of the police or another armed individual, except for gangs and gang bangers.

A Means to an End. (a/k/a: The Solution)

1. Tighter controls on mental health regulations and the HIPPA laws to prevent the mentally ill, gangs and gang bangers from getting access to firearms, ammunition and magazines.

2. Educational programs, TV and social media advertisements that persuade parents be more involved in their kids upbringing and well-being.

3. Strict weapons, magazine and ammunition storage policy for all legal gun owners. Mandate gun safes.

4. Restrict combat or killing themed videos until age 21.

5. TV and social media advertisements to encourage people, especially kids, to anonymously report unusual and/or deviant behavior. Let's not call them snitches, but heroes for reporting such incidents. Mandate that police investigate all claims.

6. Eliminate gun-free zones and utilize active police officers or retired police officers, certified under President Obama's Law Enforcement Safety Act to ensure all our kids safety in all schools.

7. These predators are cowards and when challenged by police or another armed individuals, they will usually commit suicide, be killed or drop their weapon. Initiate nationwide discreet carry for all lawful gun owners and preserve our U.S. Constitution.

8. Intensify all law enforcement activities towards our problem of gangs and gang violence.

9. Implement tighter control on health care providers who prescribe mind altering drugs and mandate strict follow up policies.

In conclusion, I am in no way trying to minimize what happened at Sandy Hook on December 14th, or any other shooting for that matter. In regards to Sandy Hook, Newtown, we owe it to the children, the teachers, the mom and perpetrator to make our world safer for all involved. This is not about political agendas, it's about safety. Thank you for your time.

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