

Dear Sir/Madam,

The writer, H. L. Mencken, said, "For every complex problem there is an answer that is clear, simple, and wrong."

I implore you to look at the facts and to not try to solve this problem with the simplistic answer of more gun laws. For example, Connecticut already has an assault weapons ban, and this law did not prevent the Newtown tragedy. Significant damage was done at Columbine with magazines of only 10 rounds. Chicago has extremely strict gun laws and an extremely high homicide rate. More gun control laws will not prevent further tragedies, just as drug laws have not prevented drug abuse.

Please look at other factors involved, such as the violence in our movies, TV shows, and video games, This portrayal of violence as an acceptable means of solving conflicts promotes violence. Please have the courage to face the entertainment industry and stop this type of violence.

Laws that make it easier for people to obtain mental health care are required. Our laws make it impossible to obtain care for someone who does not realize they are sick. We give medical care to children when they need it, and we must allow for treatment of the mentally ill, even when they do not realize they need help.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters,

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