

First let me introduce myself, My name is John Casertano I live in Shelton Connecticut. I am 49 years old and have lived my entire life in our state.

I am a retired police officer and a parent.

I understand the desire to pass new gun control after what happened in Newtown.

But I also know the reality that these measures will not solve or curb this type of behavior. Morality cannot be legislated criminals and madmen will not obey the law.

Lanza violated many laws prior to arriving at the school. These laws did not stop him and adding additional laws will not create a safe and loving society.

Hammers and clubs are responsible for more deaths than all long guns last year. Even if every firearm is removed from America madmen will always find a way to commit mass murder. Banning some weapons and magazines will only cause the law abiding to become criminals. I am an avid shooter and have been for most of my life. Now that I am retired my hobby will be threatened by the dream that the correct combination of laws can change what some people may do.

When I was working as a police officer I was never afraid of the honest citizen that purchased his firearm legally. Now the CT legislative body is deciding the fate of the second amendment for its citizens. I am horrified that this is even being considered. The citizens of America have inherited the right to arm themselves against criminals, foreign invasion and a tyrannical government. I like 99.999 percent of CT gun owners have done nothing to warrant these proposed laws. While you take the time to consider this legislation please think of the war on drugs and prohibition. Both of these government actions created a new class of criminal that caused the country a great deal in money, resources and lives. The result of both of these actions was nothing. Drugs are as easy to buy in CT as a newspaper and Prohibition was overturned.

I am sure that these laws will not affect the law enforcement community. The citizens of CT deserve the same equipment to combat the same evil that exists. Most believe that the police deserve a special dispensation because they protect the public. The supreme court has ruled that the police have no obligation to protect any individual. As an officer most times I would arrive after the crime was completed. I feel that the CT citizen should decide how they should protect themselves and with what weapon and the capacity of the magazine. This decision should not be made for them.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

John Casertano