

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

I am here today to hopefully shed some semblance of sanity to what I believe is a "Witch Hunt" against guns. Not unlike the hysteria that ran rampant in Salem, Massachusetts during the "Witch Trials".

I do not, in any way, make light of any of the past, horrific tragedies that have come upon us. Action **DOES** need to be taken. But, let us take the right action. Let us make the right choice.

What the anti-gun Legislatures, the "ant-gun" activists, the very biased media are proposing is the same mentality that was used during the "Witch Trials". Reaction to the hysteria of, "This is **very bad!** We need to **do something.**" The facts and statistics support legal and safe gun use and ownership. These are available for everyone to see; if you choose to step back, take a breath, and look at them. They have been quoted over and over many times.

These anti-gun movements are like a horse walking along that is suddenly spooked by a snake. It rears up and bolts into a blind, full out run. Only now it's running straight for the edge of the cliff. I, and what I represent, am the rider on this run-away horse; pulling back on the reins, speaking soothingly and calmly, changing the run-away horses direction. Regaining the sanity that has been lost in the hysteria.

Laws are set forth as a guide for us, the abiding citizens, to follow and keep order where it is due. The criminals, the law-less, do not follow or obey these laws that have been enacted. They scoff at us. They call us weak. They are anxiously and zealeously waiting for the greatly anticipated, draconian gun ban proposals to become law. Why is this? It is, because the new, unnecessary laws, will further tie the hands of the abiding citizens behind their backs.

In the boxing ring of society we have the law-less in his corner, fully armed and ready. In the abiding citizens corner, the citizen stands, arms firmly tied behind his back. The outcome of this fight is woefully and sadly obvious.

Our Great Society. Our Great State of Connecticut and all of its Sisters and Brothers of this Great United States of America does not need more laws. Does not need more restrictions. What we DO need is aggressive enforcement of the existing laws that are already in place. Let us make it so uncomfortable for the law-less that they go elsewhere.

The police are not our first responders. By the time they respond to a call for help, the crime is most often over. All that is left for them to do is interview the fortunate victims still alive, file reports, and notify the relatives of the defenseless deceased victims. The first responders are the abiding citizen. It is therefore prudent and right, to not tie and to prevent from being tied, the arms of the abiding citizen behind their backs. We don't send our soldiers into battle unarmed. Why then are you supporting this movement to disarm the abiding citizen, the first responder.

When the hysteria has been calmed... When sanity has regained its footing... If this anti-gun movement continues... It will be blatantly obvious what the true agenda is about... About you ask? **GUN CONTROL!!** The restriction and removal of guns from the abiding citizen. Turning them into **DEFENSELESS PREY**. Turning them into **DEFENSELESS CITIZENS**. Paving the way for turning abiding citizens into controllable peasants and slaves of the King.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John LaRose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John LaRose