

We probably all agree the acts of violence at the Sandy Hook school were tragic and heinous. The following is a list school shootings where multiple deaths have occurred. The irresponsible people were prosecuted under existing laws or avoided prosecution by committing suicide.

Location	Date	Year	Deaths	Perpetrator fate
Austin, Texas citizens	01-Aug	1966	16	Killed by police and armed
Olean, New York prison	30-Dec	1974	3	Committed Suicide in
Fullerton, California mental disorder	12-Jul	1976	7	Committed to treatment for
San Diego, California	29-Jan	1979	2	Imprisoned
Manchester, Missouri	20-Jan	1983	2	Suicide
Stockton, California	17-Jan	1989	6	Suicide
Iowa City, Iowa	01-Nov	1991	6	Suicide
Olivehurst, California	01-May	1992	4	Imprisoned
Great Barrington, Massachusetts	14-Dec	1992	2	Imprisoned
Grayson, Kentucky	18-Jan	1993	2	Imprisoned
Blackville, South Carolina	12-Oct	1995	2	Suicide
Lynnville, Tennessee	15-Nov	1995	2	Imprisoned
Moses Lake, Washington	02-Feb	1996	3	Imprisoned
San Diego, California	15-Aug	1996	3	Imprisoned
Bethel, Alaska	19-Feb	1997	2	Imprisoned
Pearl, Mississippi	01-Oct	1997	2	Imprisoned
Paducah, Kentucky	01-Dec	1997	3	Imprisoned
Jonesboro, Arkansas	24-Mar	1998	5	Imprisoned
Springfield, Oregon	21-May	1998	2	Imprisoned
Littleton, Colorado	20-Apr	1999	15	Suicide
Santee, California	05-Mar	2001	2	Imprisoned
Grundy, Virginia	16-Jan	2002	3	Imprisoned
Red Lion, Pennsylvania	24-Apr	2003	2	Suicide
Cold Spring, Minnesota	24-Sep	2003	2	Imprisoned
Red Lake, Minnesota	21-Mar	2005	8	Suicide
Bailey, Colorado	27-Sep	2006	2	Suicide
Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania	02-Oct	2006	6	Suicide
Blacksburg, Virginia	16-Apr	2007	33	Suicide
Baton Rouge, Louisiana	08-Feb	2008	3	Suicide
DeKalb, Illinois	14-Feb	2008	6	Suicide
Conway, Arkansas arrested	27-Oct	2008	2	Two of four suspects were
Huntsville, Alabama	12-Feb	2010	3	Imprisoned
Omaha, Nebraska	05-Jan	2011	2	Suicide
Blacksburg, Virginia	08-Dec	2011	2	Suicide
Chardon, Ohio	27-Feb	2012	3	Imprisoned
Oakland, California	02-Apr	2012	7	Surrendered after siege
Newtown, Connecticut	14-Dec	2012	26	Suicide

Additional laws are not necessary. The Gun control act of 1968 prohibits felons and the mentally ill from owning guns. Do not pass laws that can not be enforced or that target legitimate gun owners. Do not pass laws that will be overturned in the supreme court and cost the government enormous legal fees (i.e. 2010 McDonald v. City of Chicago repaid \$1.4 million in legal fees).

I understand why the location of sex offenders are made public. They have been convicted on a serious crime. I do not understand why anyone feels the location of people who have pistol permits should be made public. These people have successfully completed an approved firearms safety course. They have successfully completed a background check by the local police chief and obtained

a permit from the department of public safety. It would make more sense to me to expose the location of people who are mentally ill. I might suspect that this would infringe on their constitutional rights.

To solve the problem of increasing violence one needs a solid understanding of the problem. Without that understanding it is a total waste of time. If your car does not start in the morning and you lack the mechanical knowledge, it is unlikely that you will solve that problem. Do not start with a solution, identify the problem first.

Laws do not protect us from anything. Laws allow us to prosecute the people who violate the laws. Seat belts, bulletproof glass, Kevlar vests, The Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines can protect us. Please do not use the word "protect" to deceive the media. Please do not preach to the media "to protect the children", this personally insults me implying that my life is of some lesser value.

The Secret Service protects our president. I don't think anyone in Washington would allow you to limit the capacity of the magazine or type of weapon they use to protect the president. In a nation where all men are free and created equal, it would be appalling to treat political figures with special privilege.

If you have had the opportunity to serve in the military you may realize that the bullet flying past your ear can not be stopped by laws that we have created to "protect" us. Passing a law that the enemy can not have a weapon is very wishful thinking. Our enemies are not always wearing a uniform or on foreign soil. I served in the military and was honorably discharged at age 20. Ironically, the state of Connecticut feels a 20 year old is not responsible/mature enough to have a pistol permit, but the our federal government trusted me to conduct training for other personnel using the M16.

During my boot camp training, survival skills were taught. We were told if your opponent had a firearm and you had a bayonet, the opponent had the advantage. This is quite obvious to most of us. It is our human nature to survive. Our experiences in life guide us in making choices. If you feel you do not need a firearm to protect yourself and your family, you might select a serrated knife or butter knife. The serrated knife has the obvious advantage. If your opponent is someone like Adam Lanza your chance of survival would be greater if you have a choice of a firearm that was accurate, powerful and having greater magazine capacity as well as proper training to use it. I do not feel raising my hands and shouting "HELP POLICE" would protect me from harm. The other important point they made in boot camp was, take as much ammo into battle as you can carry. I found that to be sound advice. Our tax dollars trained me to make the choice to survive.

Greedy Bernie Madoff, arrogant Martha Stewart, corrupt John Rowland and violent Adam Lanza all made bad choices. Their choices and values are not what we see as acceptable in a civil society. Adam Lanza made a violent choice. When Adam Lanza targeted the defenseless, did he choose the wrong caliber firearm or wrong capacity magazine or the wrong location or the wrong time? They all demonstrate a total disregard for anyone or anything. A longtime departed friend of mine who grew up in a crime ravaged neighborhood said something to me that has never left my mind. He said "The people who lived around me had no expectation to live past the age of 25. They have no respect for their own life, how can you possibly think that they would have any respect for yours?"

Our police departments do not have any obligation to provide every citizen personal protection, nor do they have manpower to do so. They are there to arrest people AFTER they have violated the law. The fact is they will not respond to a complaint unless they believe the law has be violated.

If you are seeking political popularity, remove the criminals and mentally ill from our streets! Abolish the parole system. Don't make excuses that are prisons are over crowded. "Create Jobs" by building new prisons. Create legislation to ELIMINATE the deficit! Make a positive difference and do not create obstacles.

We share some of the same values and would all like to see the violence stop. We have had different life experiences that influence our views. We must respect our forefathers and should not conditionally uphold the constitution. The only solution to the problem I have is to protect myself within the boundaries of the law. Every man and woman has the right to survive and defend themselves. If you can introduce legislation that has the potential to reduce crime and violence, without infringing on my ability to protect myself, I can support your efforts 100%.

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