

I have read through some of the testimony already provided to your task force, and while I am heartened to read many statements of support for stronger gun legislation, I am astonished again and again when I am faced with the opposing "arguments." I use quotations because really, to me, there is no argument.

Guns that shoot multiple rounds in mere seconds belong with the military or police. They are weapons of war. Period.

But what about my second amendment rights, many will whine.... Well, here's the rub... ALL our rights have limits. We have no unfettered, absolute rights. And thank goodness for that, because otherwise society would get pretty hairy if everyone could do whatever they please all the time. And wow, what if there were no limits at all? Do you think Wal-Mart could fit a F16 in aisle three?

But what about the threat of tyranny, still others will moan.... Ok, let's get real here... We live in a nation of laws that cover everything from cars to cribs. Regulating weapons is no more tyrannical than regulating Sudafed. But do you know what anarchy is? A citizenry armed to the teeth.

But new laws won't stop the criminals, they will claim... Is that an argument against ALL laws, then, we should ask? No speed limits, too? That is nonsense, of course, so let's not discuss it one moment further.

And the biggest whine of all... It isn't guns that's the problem, it is the crazy people! Nope, wrong again.... It IS the guns. There are crazy people everywhere, all over the world. America doesn't corner the market on crazy people, or even angry people (because most gun violence is in fact perpetrated by a sane person making a miserable choice). But you know what we do corner the market on? GUNS. We have lots of those, exponentially more than in other nations. We are gun-crazy that is for sure. And what do we have to show for that? Exponentially more gun violence, and more homicide overall. Because what is the fastest way to kill someone? A gun. The fastest way to kill 26 people in under ten minutes? A semi-automatic rifle with 30 round clips.

I was born in the 70s. The civil rights movement and the women's rights movement were things I read about, vs participated in. It is hard for me to understand that there were people at the time who actually argued against civil rights for blacks or for women, because really, there is no valid argument. And that fact may even seem clear today to some of those who were on the opposing side, because we as a nation have gotten a whole lot wiser since then.

For me (and I think for many other mothers) the eradication of weapons of war from our streets, our homes, and our store shelves, is my civil rights movement. My young children deserve to live out their lives in a gun-sane society. Please, turn a deaf ear to the profiteers of gun sales, and instead do what all good and smart people do, listen to the mothers. Because a mother usually knows best.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Kelly Hunt

Resident of Wilton, CT

