

Testimony to the Bipartisan Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety.

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I am a law-abiding citizen and responsible gun owner, residing in Meriden, Connecticut.

I am saddened by the tragic events in Newtown, Connecticut, but I oppose new restrictions on lawful and responsible owners are misguided. Violent crime with firearms has declined since the Federal "assault weapons ban" expired in 2004. These are not "assault" rifles. They are JUST ergonomic rifles. Coincidentally, I have a permanently dislocated right elbow and I require a foregrip due to limited twisting motion, to even be able to shoot a rifle. The pistol grip, foregrip and adjustable stock are just comfort factors. They add no more harm or damage for the rifle.

Connecticut has some of the most restrictive laws concerning rifles in the nation. These laws did not stop the events in Newtown. Criminals do not follow the law. People that intend to commit violent criminal acts are not deterred by laws. Horrific acts committed by the evil and/or insane are no reason to punish the innocent and law abiding members of our society.

Please oppose all legislation that restricts the liberty of law-abiding gun owners. Instead, work to enforce the gun laws already on the books.

Sincerely,

Ken Taylor