

I believe that gun violence has become a Public Health Issue, and to reduce violence, we need a comprehensive approach. We have laws that diminish health hazards in other areas .For the safety of the many we have implemented laws ( that may upset the few) -- seat belts in cars and no smoking ordinances in public buildings.

We need to ban assault weapons and all high capacity magazines . We need to have background checks on all people who purchase guns at gun shows, stores, and those transferred among buyers, and all guns need to be registered. ( We already do that with vehicles) . We also need to provide funds for continuous oversight of these sales and background checks. Just as we have accident insurance for cars, I think we should have mandatory liability insurance for those who own guns.

In addition, we need better assessment of people with Mental Health issues as well as a mechanism for reporting and providing access to mental health treatment for those who appear dangerous to themselves and/ or others. Again, this too requires adequate funding.

To those who say the answer to violence is to arm everyone with guns, I strongly disagree. To me it is like saying, the answer to having a safer world is to arm every nation with nuclear weapons.

Sincerely,  
Marilyn Gordon  
Ridgefield, Ct.  
[MNGordon@aol.com](mailto:MNGordon@aol.com)