

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments for your proceedings. My proposal can be summarized this way: Guns with high capacity are prolific, which makes them cheap and accessible. Let's make mental health care cheap and accessible and make guns less accessible!

The gun control I am supporting does not prohibit a typical person from owning a gun. But guns in the hands of individuals should be regulated to be reasonably safe from misuse. Just as we trust most citizens to drive 3000 pound steel machines at 70 miles per hour, we must trust our citizens with the right to bear arms. However, like with automobiles, there must be limits. Gun control is like putting governors in cars to control how fast they can go. Gun control is need block the use of guns that can chop down 30 other people in two minutes.

Reinstate the assault weapon ban and make it retroactive. All semi-automatics. Allow individuals to own and carry single shot hunting rifles, double barrel shotguns and revolvers with maximum of 8 rounds held. How is any more than that really needed for home protection, self protection, hunting or even sport?

Instate a magazine limit. No more than 8 (or less). Here in Connecticut, in Newtown, a group of students showed up at a neighbors house after the school shooting. They were Soto's students. For days, this neighbor was trying to understand how they got out since other children that tried to run out were cut down. We now know that they ran out, past dying children, as the shooter jammed or reloaded. If he had to reload every 3 shots instead of 10, how many more kids might have made it out?

A major concern is the second amendment and the reach of government. I don't subscribe to the panic that the government is looking to take guns so they can impose a totalitarian regime but some fear it. To assuage this concern, allow military grade weapons (high capacity, semi-automatic) to be sold and owned by groups. Disallow major retailers and gun shows to sell guns with exception of antique single shot rifles, single or double barrel shot guns or revolvers and allow gun shops to sell military grade weapons (high capacity, semi-automatic) only to registered militia that have a) more than three people in membership b) been audited to prove they have secured locations for the weapons c) have been audited that they have a quality process for the check-in and check-out of their weapons.

Guns with high capacity are prolific, which makes them cheap and accessible. People leave them laying around in cars, coat pockets, gym lockers. Tax them so they are incredibly expensive. Destroy any that you can confiscate. While it might make them even more of a "status symbol", it may make their owners (legal or illegal) more protective of their asset and result in less falling into circulation.

Create a standard on the trigger pressure that requires adult strength pressure on the trigger to fire. This seems as reasonable as child proof caps for medicine and would be more effective than the "safety."

Require background check, training and testing for a gun permit

Ensure gun sales collect this information and serial number information into a SINGLE national database

Close all background check loop holes in gun sales.

Make sales of any gun outside that background check system a felony.

Make failure to secure your weapon in a approved locking container a felony.

Please do something on these issues. Whether it is mental illness, disgruntled employee, gangs, reckless teenagers or jealous boyfriend, there is just too much gun violence. I just feel like we have to DO something this time. It is not OK to say that 'mentally ill people will find a way, guns or not.' It is not OK

to say 'we're sorry this happened but that is the price of freedom.' It is not OK to allow unsafe practices to proliferate because the NRA has deep pockets filled with profits from their own rhetoric.

Please also find ways to make ongoing mental health care cheaper and easier. If you are depressed or suicidal or homicidal, you aren't going to jump through hoops to get help. It has to be cheap, fast and easy. Maybe we need Mental Health Urgent Care centers and better coverage for ongoing personal treatment and monitoring.

Finally, please read this short article: <http://mobile.wnd.com/2013/01/the-giant-gaping-hole-in-sandy-hook-reporting/#TQYzv5U0CCbAal3G.01>

I ask that you budget and press for studies into the delivery of anti-depressant and anti-psychotic medications. Too often, these can be prescribed without regular follow up. Like NRA, big pharma and the big money at stake should not influence our government when it comes to protecting our safety.

Thank you,

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