

My name is Michael Tabone of Beacon Falls, CT. I am a free citizen of this Great State and this Constitutional Republic the United States Of America.

I am here to testify that ANY ANTI-LIBERTY laws or measures which are past or proposed will do nothing except make law abiding citizens criminals and give the slight nudge necessary for many people who are already close to moving out of this state that push. Gun Safety is an issue that was stressed in my house growing up, and I was taught that guns are to be respected with the same fear that fire is. When someone is taught that it is a great responsibility to hold and operate a firearm, as all life is precious, then we have that healthy respect for our self and our fellow citizens. Life is so precious in fact it is worth defending. It is not a place of higher moral ground to be a victim and dependent, but rather it is of a higher moral ground to be self-sufficient and to defend one's life and those around them. In proposing to take away any Liberty you do not make the citizens safer but weaker.

“Passivism is only a choice for the Strong”. Those without the means or ability to defend themselves will be found helpless at the mercy of those who do not value life as a precious gift, and subject to their enforcement.

There are instead factors which should be addressed, instead of a simple tool of which right to bear exists in both the Constitution of the United States and in the Connecticut State Constitution, these factors include: psychotropic drugs which lead to aggressiveness and other negative side effects, the desensitization of people to acts of violence and of the “rock star destiny” promised to all children the generation above mine and below.

The brain grows from the back to the front. The frontal lobes being the part of the brain responsible for interactions with society and decision making, this part of the brain does not completely develop until the mid to late 20's. SSRI, (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, (Prozac/Zoloft) drugs inhibit the brains ability to make what we would call civilized decisions; in fact they aggravate aggressive behavior in some people. This we all know far too well when you hear the 30 second commercial and 20 seconds is the legal department making sure you know “thoughts or urges of suicide” may occur. Many if not all of the mass shootings of recent memory were by troubled people on these kinds of medications. It is either their rampant prescription rate for many who don't need it, or perhaps that it is

something that may be treated by other means. But this does lead me to my next point.

In WWI the military used a simple box of black with which to train soldier going to war how to fire their rifles. They noticed that many people, even when being fired upon by their enemy, were reluctant to fire back and many did not. This is because we are taught not to take the life of another human being. So in WWII, the military added a simple head silhouette which did the trick of desensitizing the soldier to fire upon another human being. Flash ahead to today's average American. Not only is violence glorified in TV and Movies, now someone can put in a video game. These video games are so realistic in fact you can pretty much maim, kill or destroy anyone you want with any kind of weapon or tactic you want, all in a lifelike hi-def interactive environment. Much more than the training our soldiers had in WWII. And if you die in the game? You simple "re-spawn" and try again. Nowhere is the precious understanding of life held in these actions.

And then there is the Rock Star Promise. The generation "X"-er and "Y"-er where all told that we were special, unique snowflakes, our very existence on this earth was something beyond the others around us. That we were all going to grow up to be movie stars, sports athletes, millionaires and rock stars. We were never really given the chance to fail, having things like sports activities where we all get trophies, no losers. We all get decent scores because tests are dumbed down. Everyone achieves false heights, not knowing either true accomplishment or true defeat. It is the unrelenting child worship all too prevalent in our teaching and parenting community which can lead to the obsession that is it better to die a monster known by all then a nobody known by none.

Anyone of these situations could cause one to take pause. But if we look into the histories of these monsters who commit these acts, and we find that they were on psychotropic drugs, all where entrenched in video games and violent movies, and that they saw a way to be not only act on their violent urges caused by their prescription drugs and troubled natures, combined with a sense that infamy is better than obscurity, we are left with the tragedies we face. The problem is society, not a tool, that has caused these horrific attacks.

Let us not forget: The largest mass school killing was in Bath, Michigan. 44 people were killed, 38 of those were children. 58 were injured. This man, 55 years old, used

explosives to blow up the school building, and he would have done more except he blew himself up before he could finish his insanity. This occurred on May 18, 1927. I am not sure what video games, movies, or SSRI's this person was on.

ANTI-LIBERTY laws will only make those of us who are not criminals, crazies or a danger inherently to others less safe in all cases. Every study, including the FBI study on the first Gun Assault Ban, tells of its ineffectiveness. Chicago has a Zero Gun Policy yet 513 homicides were reported in 2012. The numbers and logic do not support any anti-liberty legislation when it comes to firearms, as we have heard over and over that they would not have stopped this shooting. Banning magazines that hold standard sized amounts of ammunition, the style of weapon or the place of storage will do nothing to stop the determined law breaking criminal from imposing force on another.

I would like to add I am not here to advocate against the first amendment or the right of those to play, create or distribute these movie and video games. But that with this point that SOCIETY and PARENTS need to be involved in the nurturing concept of LIFE and that all should be respected, that these are fantasies, and that reality is much less forgiving and permanent then digital acts.

Anti-Liberty laws do not serve "We The People", they only serve to remove by erosion our natural rights little by little till we have been created undistinguishable from socialist and communistic governments.

WE THE PEOPLE will not stand for that.