

Dear Gun Violence Prevention Working Group Members,

I heard you met today to discuss this issue, and maybe this comes a little late, but maybe not. I just wish to add my voice to those who have already sent similar letters to you.

As a friend of Dawn and George Hochsprung, as the mother of two young girls and the wife of a public school teacher, I am deeply concerned about the issue of gun violence in CT and in this country and wish to make known my strong advocacy for responsible, common sense gun violence policies. I join with many other citizens in saying "NO MORE!", and would like to urge the task force to

- 1 Strengthen the assault weapons ban by requiring that all weapons having military features be banned and that existing weapons defined as assault weapons be destroyed, turned in to law enforcement or removed from the state.
- 2 Ban large capacity ammunition magazines of more than 7 rounds and that existing magazines of more than 7 rounds be destroyed, turned in to law enforcement, or removed from the state. New York State has just adopted law that established the 7-round limit.
- 3 Require permits and universal background checks on ALL sales and transfers of guns, including long guns.
- 4 Require registration of handguns with annual renewal. Require: annual fee and annual background check for all handguns owned; require that the owner stipulate that the guns are still in their possession or explain how the gun was transferred to another person; require safety inspection every three years.
- 5 Make gun owners liable for negligent storage if any person gains access to firearms and injures himself or another person or causes damage to property. The violation would be a Class D felony.
- 6 Ban the right of way for transportation of firearms and ammunition bought over the Internet.
- 7 Tax ammunition sales and require a license/permit to purchase any gun or ammunition.
- 8 Restrict handgun sales to one gun/person.

It seems utterly absurd to me that it is easier to buy a gun than a car. That drugs that ultimately hurt the user are illegal, but a weapon with the potential to kill so many people in a moment- now those are not only legal but quite available to anyone wishing to obtain one. What kind of a world are we creating around us? I hope this time, all those innocent, beautiful people who died, will not have died in vain. That their death will inspire a change to bring more light and love to the families they left behind- a better world for all of us.

Respectfully Submitted,

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