

Dear Sir or Ma'am:

I am unable to attend the public hearing on gun violence prevention, so I am providing a written account of my opposition to the proposed gun control measures in this state. The Sandy Hook tragedy was one of the greatest atrocities my adult life has seen. I sat in horror from the safe confines of my living room while I watched the events unfold on my television. In the following days my feelings of horror yielded to feelings of violation and betrayal as various elected officials sought to destroy my cherished right to bear arms on both the state and federal levels. Adam Lanza violated numerous felony statutes on December 14, 2012. I violated none. Nor did thousands of peaceful law abiding gun owners across the state. But yet many elected public officials took the stand and promised to strip us of our rights.

I have extensive training and experience with firearms and self defense, both as a private citizen and as a sworn police officer. It should not be up to the government to decide for the masses which type of firearms they can own, and how many rounds they can hold. This is a personal decision that each citizen is empowered to make through our federal and state constitution. A citizen may need a semi automatic firearm with a high capacity magazine to ward off an attack consisting of multiple assailants.

Furthermore, the need for such equipment would arise if one of the rounds does not fire during a self-defense scenario causing the user of the firearm to have even less ammunition to protect himself. Certain countries and political subdivisions around the world have outlawed the possession of firearms in hopes of lowering violent crime.

However, violent crime has increased in these areas.

I am strongly opposed to outlawing the possession of high capacity magazines and semi automatic rifles with a pistol grip such as the popular AR-15 rifle. I am opposed to creating a mandatory registry of firearms. I am opposed to any law that would force me to buy liability insurance for my firearms and raise the taxes on ammunition. I am opposed to making my pistol permit information public. .

Outlawing and confiscating certain firearms and high capacity magazines is not the answer to reduce gun violence. It is only a misguided approach in a quest for unobtainable safety. More gun control laws will only make the citizens of Connecticut less free and less secure.

Sincerely,

Owen Davidson
14 Lincoln Street
North Haven, CT 06473