

To Whom it May Concern:

I am against further restrictions on firearms and ammunition. I'm a lifelong resident of this great state and what happened at Sandy Hook Elem is certainly a tragedy, but my problem is that legislators appear to be chasing the easy solution, and doing so when the emotions of the tragedy still run hot.

The real problem isn't the guns or the ammo as these are tools just like a hammer or a car. The real problem is a cultural issue that has many faces.

The first, is that we treat people with mental disorders as though they are weak. Mental illness is a collection of diseases just like diabetes or RA. The legislation recently passed in NY will only succeed in chasing away people that really need medical attention.

Secondly, where is the focus on good parenting. Plain and simple expectations for children and being in tune with your children to know enough to keep drugs, alcohol, or guns away if necessary.

Lastly, I believe video games desensitize the youth today. It is interesting that the youth responsible for Sandy Hook was dropping clips without them being empty. This is a military or law enforcement tactic that I suspect this person learned from video games.

The problem is a tough one, how to change culture and move the dial toward better parenting and mental health while collectively reducing the amount children spend becoming desensitized by video games. It has nothing whatsoever to do with guns. The model 1911 (a semi-automatic handgun) just celebrated its 100th anniversary. The rampages in vulnerable places didn't start until recently. Let's focus on the facts and avoid the hysteria and the emotion.

Respectfully,
Richard Anziano
Concerned citizen