

I am a retired police officer and current security officer at Hall High school in West Hartford. I am curious to know how banning certain guns, or any guns for that matter, from the law abiding citizens of our state or country, will make our schools any safer. Do you really think the criminals and/or mentally unstable in our midst will not find guns if they want them. While the shooting in Newtown was horrific, were any of the others in the past twenty years any less so. And please remember that every school shooting up to Newtown was committed by a student of that school. So again how does disarming the general public help protect our schools. Some people apparently do not want to hear the argument that having armed security personnel is in all likely-hood the best response possible to MINIMIZE the damage from an armed party in our schools. Ask most any member of a police swat team and they'll say the same thing, the damage is done long before they can get there. And I say minimize because you will never be able to prevent a school shooting completely (again because in all probability the shooter will be a student there). More mental health services would probably help as would better parenting, but that is another serious matter I'll leave alone at this point. In closing I'd say that you can not magically make all the guns in the country disappear, that's a rose colored fantasy. So take the realistic, practical and doable approach to trying to make our schools as safe as humanly possible. Think and act with rational thought and not just the emotion of the day. Sincerely Robert S. Womer

Newington Police Dept
Retired