

Consider the following statistics obtained from the Department of Justice:

- 2010 gun deaths = 30,470
- 2010 gun deaths by suicide = 19,392
- 2010 gun death homicides = 11,078
- 2010 gun deaths by RIFLES = **326**
- Estimated average of how many of the above were committed with illegal or illegally-obtained firearms based on several studies = 95-98%
- **2010 gun deaths by LEGAL rifles = 16.3**
- **CONCLUSION:** The vast majority of gun deaths involve the use of illegal guns, with only 1% of those involving assault rifles or rifles of any kind.

These data cry out for greater attention to enforcing existing laws and examining complex mental health issues. The latter especially do not lend themselves to a “quick fix” because confidentiality and doctor-patient privilege are not issues to be taken seriously. Debate and discussion are important but, in the end, CT cannot ride roughshod over second amendment rights or those pertaining to mental health treatment. Banning so-called assault weapons and 10+ magazines will have no impact on the statistics presented above.

Thank you,

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