

I could not attend the hearing as I am already taking off a work day to attend the rally in February. This is what I would have said if I was at the hearing.

This issue is of such huge importance that we must act decisively and we must act now. Legislation in this area is always blocked by NRA or gun manufacturers and this simply MUST stop. If we fail to act now we will have lost an irretrievable chance.

1--In Newtown 20 of our children were splattered apart with automatic weapons to the point where they were not recognizable. Some of their parents chose not to see the bodies or have a wake for this reason.

NOTHING ELSE MATTERS OR TRUMPS THIS.

2--I want you to propose and pass the most stringent gun control you possible can. Hunters have rifles--- those who wish to protect themselves unfortunately have hand guns which more often hurt them or someone else. Military style type weapons and high volume clips are not in any possible way necessary. They serve only to make killing easy and put our cops at increased risk. I not only want these banned but I want you to support the stricter proposals of not grandfathering the guns people own now. The anti - gun group holding the rally has proposed having both the guns and ammunition turned in. In fact they have a three choice plan for both the guns and clips. SUPPORT THIS PLEASE.

3--I could not believe that the gun folks had the heartlessness to have a gun rally at the capitol so soon after the New town killings and even brought their guns along at that.

4--As a society we have totally lost the concept of any kind of social responsibility or sacrifice. Right now, in Connecticut, every single person should be thinking only of those poor families and their feelings. I read of one gun owner who responded by getting rid of his gun. Would there were more like him. Instead we all react selfishly. I want, I need, I have a right to have a gun. How about saying instead "what a horrible thing has occurred, what can I do to help. Gee, I enjoy having guns, but I'll gladly give that up if it means some other child does not have to have his body splashed around his first grade classroom.

5--The second amendment was written over 200 years ago by men who were concerned that they be able to arm themselves with a militia against tyrannical government. They did not intend to give license to citizens to murder each other as is currently happening. Nor did they envision the weapons we now have.

6--Lastly, please do not be persuaded by the gun manufacturers in the state. Again, even economic issues just do not matter here. Both manufactureres and workers need to take a look at their conscience. Is it really ok to make a living producing products that result in slaughter. I have been unemployed. I know that horror, but I would never and could never take a job producing automatic weapons. In 2011 a proposed law to limit clips to less rounds was blocked by the gun factories. Had that law been in place some children in newtown might be with us today.

Please get legislated any and all legislation you can that will put an end to the carnage.
Thank you,

Ruth O'Keefe
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