

I am Sandy Lefkowitz from Westport Connecticut. Thank you for allowing me to speak to you today.

"Selling a New Generation on Guns: Industry Recruits Children, Using contests, Games and Semiautomatics", was the Sunday morning greeting on the front page of the New York Times. It seems billions of dollars is pouring into a broad campaign by the gun industry, to ensure its future by getting guns into the hands of more, and younger children; It is focused on children 8 to 17. My reaction was -this makes absolutely no sense. It is ludicrous! The people in the gun business must have some understanding of the momentary lack of judgment of which even normal pre-adolescents and adolescents are capable. Do we really want them to have easier access to serious weaponry with out clear laws in place?

There seem to be better ways to use money to entertain and educate kids. As an educator for fifty two years I would be happy to suggest some ideas.

We are a land ruled by laws created by the people. We, the people have elected you to provide a framework that makes sense for the whole of our society. Through these laws we have created law enforcement agencies and a military whose job it is to protect us from threats and dangers as individuals and as a society. Assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines are not guns for recreation and sport.

I plead with you to take seriously the will of the people whose voices you are hearing throughout the state of Connecticut. The Proposed Gun Legislation is not trying to stop the ownership of guns by those who would choose to procure them through legal means.

Is there something wrong with not wanting to give a gun to a felon, or someone who has a history of mental illness? I am asking you to take measures to ensure that we are a more peaceful society by supporting the proposed gun legislation.

The eyes of the country are upon us!