

Connecticut already has severely oppressive gun control laws. Which of these laws stopped Adam Lanza from murdering those children? Regardless of any mental health issues he may or may not have had, he was ineligible to legally own a gun based merely on his age. Which one of these laws already on the books prevented him from obtaining a weapon? The answer is none.

Everyone has a right to defend themselves. When you take away that means, then the responsibility for defense of the people is transferred to the authorities. Law enforcement officers cannot be everywhere and defend everyone at all times. Therefore, those authorities are responsible for the deaths of those who may have otherwise been able to defend themselves had they been permitted to own a firearm. Our Founding Fathers enshrined the right to own firearms in the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Studies have shown that if criminals knew or at least feared that their intended victims were armed, they would move on to easier victims. Furthermore, if they were determined enough, they could obtain a firearm regardless of any laws. Banning guns in CT or anywhere else will not make a difference in reducing gun violence. It will only serve to make tragedies like Newtown, CT more frequent. It will also embolden the criminals who will be nearly certain their victims will be unable to defend themselves.

Cities and states that have oppressive gun control laws have some of the worst crime rates in the country, such as Chicago. Last year, Chicago had over 500 murders, despite their handgun ban. A determined criminal or mentally disturbed person will find a way to obtain a weapon regardless of the law. Common sense dictates that banning weapons will not decrease gun violence.

There are no crime statistics that have ever demonstrated that there has been any decrease in gun violence when guns have been banned.

Banning weapons based on appearance, features, and ammunition capacity will do nothing to reduce violence. What we need is a common sense approach to reducing mass shootings, like the one in Newtown. I propose that school employees with a valid state of CT pistol permit be allowed to carry their firearms in the school. This has been demonstrated as an effective strategy in Israel for reducing terror attacks in their schools. Any person intent on bringing violence to a school will be stopped in short order.

Before taking any action in restricting our Constitutional rights, please look for more effective common sense approaches.

Regards,
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