

Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard. My name is Stephanie Daly and I am a Sandy Hook resident. My family has lived here for 6 1/2 years. We moved here for the same reason as many have; so our children could attend school in Newtown especially Sandy Hook Elementary. I have two daughters who have gone through Sandy Hook and my third child, my eight year old daughter, was in school on the morning of 12/14. For us, those few hours of not knowing whether she was safe were the most agonizingly horrifying hours of my life. I ran to that firehouse from down the road and did not realize until later on that I was one of the lucky ones who found their child/children that day. I will NEVER forget seeing my neighbor Mark Barden's face as he was looking for his son Daniel. His son who never made it out of our school. A SCHOOL. I could see the profound fear and pain on his face and it is something I think of everyday. And every day since 12/14 I ask myself not WHY this horrific tragedy occurred, but HOW? We know there are gun laws and we know there are doctors to help the mentally ill so how did this happen? It happened because the way things are is not working. We need CHANGE. We need to reevaluate our laws and make the necessary changes so a person with mental illness is not living in a house with access to ANY firearms let alone the ones that young man had access to which is just inexcusable. We need to have a stricter definition of weapons that are banned including the type which was used on 12/14. Assault weapons/ military weapons have no place in someone's home. We need to ban high capacity magazines period. We also need universal background checks. These are not absurd or unrealistic demands. We must change our laws in order to attempt to prevent these massacres in the future. We need to reevaluate the ways in which we deal with mental health and we need to help those that need intervention. This must be done not when they are 20 something. Our children deserve better than that.

Thank you for your time,

Stephanie Daly

Concerned Newtown resident

Sent from my iPhone