

Greetings:

As parents, most of us think elementary school is probably one of the safest places for our children outside of the home. It is a place to nurture their young minds, instill a sense of community, and cultivate a love of learning and of life. The horrific and unimaginable shootings in Newtown dispelled those thoughts and that sense of security in a few violent and tragic moments that left us all feeling more vulnerable and afraid for our children and their future.

America's historic obsession with guns and our permissive gun laws have given unstable people the opportunity to take out their anger on society's most innocent victims. If the killing of 5 year old children is not enough to open our eyes to the high cost of this obsession, then nothing will.

Please turn this tragedy into an opportunity to right the wrongs of gun laws allowing access to assault rifles with high capacity magazines - the sole purpose of which is to kill as many people as possible as quickly as possible. These are the tools of war and should not be allowed in people's home or on the streets. An armed society is NOT a polite society. An armed society is a violent society in which our most treasured possessions – our children – are the ones who pay the price.

Please support stronger legislation to ban high capacity assault rifles, enforce existing regulations, and enact stricter gun laws. This should be the pivotal moment in our nation's history when the tide of societal sentiment turns against accepting these heart-breaking losses as inevitable.

Sincerely,
Tracy Hinson

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