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The First Amendment protects the right to free speech. But that right is not a pass to say anything you want or wherever you want to say it. The 2nd Amendment allows the states to form a militia and therefore grants the right to bear arms but it is not a free-for-all on what types of guns or where you can own them.

A citizen of the US cannot shout "Fire!" in a crowded theater. My right to free speech does not supercede the right to others' safety.

A citizen of the US should not be allowed to own a high powered, high capacity rifle that is manufactured for one purpose-- to kill. The right to own a gun should not supercede the right to others' safety.

I've heard the arguments that so many other things besides guns can kill. Like hammers. Yes, hammers can be used to kill someone; but they can only kill one person at a time with effort. And their initial purpose is for building something, not killing something or someone. A knife can kill, but again, only one person at one time and its purpose can be many-- cutting rope, cutting wood, cutting food. Guns were made for killing. There was no other purpose in its making.

Cars though not often used for murder, are an instrument in many people's death. But cars were not created to kill. They are transportation. The government of the people enacted stricter rules to reduce deaths in car accidents. The government has protected more citizens through common sense regulations like seat belt laws and drunk driving laws.

I am not utopian in my thinking, as I know we will never get rid of murder or gun violence or crime for that matter. But we can make it more difficult for those with murdering intent to do mass harm. We can make it more difficult for criminals to get their hands on guns.

By limiting the types of guns one can buy and how often they can buy them.

By registering all guns and tracking the sale or theft, so that the more common crimes can be traced and justice brought to those breaking the law.

By enacting safe storage laws which can reduce the number of children killed by accidents in the home.

By giving law enforcement and govt agencies the ability to communicate with one another and lifting some of their restrictions like inspecting or searching gun stores more than once per year.