

My name is Wendy Leon-Gambetta and I have been a Newtown resident for 20 years. I am writing in support of the proposals submitted by the CAGV.

For years, I have felt great sadness whenever I heard about gun violence elsewhere in our country, especially when children were involved. When visiting a mall, a movie theater or a sporting event, it would cross my mind that if it could happen somewhere else, it could happen in Newtown. I would then reassure myself that the chances of someone in Newtown pulling out a gun and shooting people was minuscule. Until December 14th. Now we know it can happen anywhere. Of course the people of Tucson, Littleton, Blacksburg and Aurora have known this for some time. The chances are not remote. Just look at how many people have been shot and killed since that horrific day in our beautiful town.

People speak of the second amendment and the right to bear arms. What about the right to grow up? And the right to go to a shopping mall without worrying about getting shot? I am deeply concerned about the people who have stockpiles of weapons--the people who actually believe they may have to someday take up arms against the government. These people appear to be mentally unstable at best and mentally ill at worst. They are angry and paranoid and a danger to the rest of us. I am in favor of a law prohibiting the possession of the most dangerous guns--those created to kill many people as quickly as possible.

Please work to protect our most basic rights. I have the right to be in a public arena and not be anxious and afraid that someone a couple seats away from me is carrying a gun. Be courageous and do the right thing. It should not be easier to buy a gun than it is to get good mental health care.

Thank you for your consideration,

Wendy Leon-Gambetta
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