

I am writing my thoughts about increased gun controls for ct residence. I believe there needs to be a national lead on this. When individual states pass Ad Hoc legislation on emotional level, this tends to lead to bad laws. CT already has strict gun control laws. To add more to the mix will only lead to satisfaction on a individual level as opposed to common sense supportive change. It is unclear why gun control is such a partisan issue. Why do democrats tend to want stricter gun control laws and republicans usually oppose this kind of legislation. This country continues to divide itself both politically and individually on more issues than this. Cooperation, bipartisan agreements seem to be dirty words with legislators. It appears each party wants to win their ideological points with a slash and burn mentality. We need to find more common ground.

When tragedies like these happen, action and change are warranted. However, because of the democratic set up in this states legislative and executive branch, it pretty clear where the laws will lean toward. The readers of this email will probably already assume I am a republican. They would be wrong in this assumption.

We all need to go back to the mindset of a seven year old first grader. They were the victims and let us look at society on their level. They for the most part are, innocent, trusting, positive, friendly, energetic and willing to learn. What happens to them after years of growing up in this society? They are as variety as the many adult members of this society. Is the issue the guns? Clearly it is not. What seems to be happening is there is a devaluation of human life. Individuals, who become antisocial, are a product of the society they live in. It takes a village to raise a child. They same village instills their mores and values into these children. What is wrong with our societal is the collective village. Gun legislation will not change these fundamental issues. I hope the 20 first graders in CT did not die in vein. I hope those who are anti gun, do not walk away licking their chops thinking they have "won." If they do, then they have really lost and add to the societal problem. They are the heart of the problem. These personal win at any cost compromises, are the core of the problem with our society.

Thinking gun legislation is the right narrative is a Band-Aid to the real core problem. You can legislate all you want and restrict all the guns you want. There still will be massive killings. We all know guns are not the issue. The problem with our society is the focus on the individuals. Until we focus and deal with this on a massive level, these patch work laws will not help. Do I think there needs to be stricter guns laws, yes. Do we need expand restricting those who have criminal histories above the few selective misdemeanor laws on the books? Yes we do. Should anyone who wants to purchase a weapon need to go through a back ground check, yes. Should active military, police officer, retired military and police officers be exempt, from gun laws, yes.

Israel has a model where they require their citizens to serve in the military. This way they gain experience. When they leave the military they rejoin civilian life, there is a triangle developing between the civilians, military and police. They become united together against terrorism. They work together as a society to protect each other. The US needs to start to teach out young about ethics, morals and societies mores.

We need to move away from violence which is celebrated in our media, videos, and literature. The media has a catch phrase which says, if it bleeds, it leads. We need to start to change this focus. The media needs to stop immortalizing, "Adam", or any other crazy emotionally disturbed individual. Do not give out their name. Just refer to them as the "crazed man," or "woman," who did this tragic event. While the media scrambles to idolize and immortalize these infamous events, those mentally narcissistic individuals only sit home and dream out more crazy events to top the last one. The federal government needs to focus the Department of Homeland Security toward these individuals. They are the cause of more deaths than all the terrorists events combined.

Thank you for your time.