

I live in Newtown, Connecticut. I have lived in Sandy Hook and Newtown for the past 16 1/2 years. It is ESSENTIAL that there be change in the current gun rules/laws. This stems not just because of the tragedy in Sandy Hook, which certainly has become a pivotal turning point because of the age and innocence of the victims, but for the ever increasing number of senseless massacres of large numbers of people. The solution is not to ban all guns as we are granted a right to bear arms under the second amendment. That is not what we are looking for. But there does need to be a ban on assault rifles and automatic weapons with large capacity clips. Will this stop all the murdering? No, but it is a step in the right direction. I have yet to hear one valid, good reason why someone would need to own a weapon such as that...."Because I want one is not an acceptable answer". I want a rocket launcher or hand grenades - does it mean I should be allowed to have one - NO!! People have got to stop thinking about themselves and think about what is good for the country, for the people, for the children who are our future!! I keep hearing about "it's my right to bear arms", but what about the right of people, teachers, children to go to school, the movies, the mall without living in fear that they will get slain by someone looking to kill complete strangers. I/we HAVE A RIGHT to live without constant fear.

There are other facets, such as mental health that need to be addressed but it will take the cooperation and willingness of all parties to work together to make our society a safer place to live.

PLEASE PASS LEGISLATION TO REQUIRE COMPLETE BACKGROUND CHECKS ON PEOPLE
LOOKING TO ACQUIRE GUNS AND RESTRICT GUN PURCHASES TO HANDGUNS, SHOTGUNS
AND HUNTING RIFLES. ASSAULT WEAPONS AND WEAPONS WITH LARGE QUANTITY
MAGAZINES SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO MILITARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL.