

Hello,

If none of the current gun laws stopped this tragedy, How would any new ones help? This kid murdered his mother, stole her guns, her car, took them to the school illegally, broke into the school and then repeatedly killed innocents. Laws did not stop him. The arrival of the police, an intervening force did not stop him. He ended his life on his terms. Before arriving at the school he had committed multiple felonies. Arriving at the school he committed several more, then ruthlessly committed 26 more. Where the gun laws did work is that they kept him from purchasing his own firearm the days before the attack.

Arguably this could have been averted if we had a better mental health structure and commitment system in this state. Where as no new gun laws would have stopped it. Some are saying that magazine bans would have averted this. He did not empty his mags, He shot only a few rounds from each and changed mags often. So clearly it is not the size of the mags that was an issue. Some say a ban on ar-15s would have done it. The ar15 uses a round that is not even allowed for deer hunting here in ct, or in my old home states of Montana, Oregon, and Washington. It is a general purpose sporting round used for control of small rodents, active shooting sports and target shooting sports. Yes the 5.56 round is used by our military. Mainly because our soldiers can carry more ammo than the larger nato round of 7.62 x 51 (308 win). The 5.56 was designed to wound. Like the 45acp pistol round. If a person is killed in battle he is left, If a person is wounded it takes two to move him. 223 is not used for hunting unless the animals are smaller than a coyotes.

This tragedy is that a horrible sickening tragedy. This kid knew how and where defenseless targets were. He chose not to assault a police station, or any place where he knew guns were allowed. He chose a place with no defenses. He targeted people who would immediately lock everyone in place. He targeted a place where he knew there would be no resistance, that police response would be slower. He targeted these kids because he knew there was a law banning firearms on school premises. A place he knew that no legal gun owner would take a firearm to. A place where he knew most of the people who would defend the kids were untrained at defending kids from an active attacker. He targeted these people and kids because it was easy.

The law banning firearms from schools allowed for a mentally deranged kid to take 26 lives. Not an AR15, Not a standard capacity mag. Not a mother slain by her son. I know teachers in other states who are allowed to carry a firearm for such instances of these. They take classes to deal with active shooters. The other option is to pay for and have officers inside the schools specifically trained to deal with active shooters.

Certainly mental health issues and policies need to be revisited. To me this seems to be the clearest and most provable way of preventing this. Had this kid been given treatment or committed he would not have been as likely to attack. It is rumored that the mother sought to have her child committed because she knew his danger. It is also rumored that the state has such a long and lengthy process that we now have 27 dead people because of it. How many disturbed kids, homeless, vagrants, malcontents have mental health issues? We wash them back out into society instead of remanding them to the care they need and deserve. They continue to commit crimes large and small. It is time for that to change.

To deny people the fundamental right to defend themselves will only feed the criminal class with more lucrative and easier targets. I am a former small town LEO in southern Oregon. Since i have left law enforcement i have had two instances in my life that have required a pistol. I would be dead 15 years ago had it not been for the presence of a pistol. My children would not be here, my wife would not be here. There are two point five million used of a firearm for self defense every year. There are 32 thousand deaths, 60% of those deaths are suicides, the remaining are murders and accidents. Placing new laws,

restrictions on our rights will only hamper those that need the protection the most. The poor, the single mothers, the abused spouses and the elderly.

~Aaron Kimpton
Cell [425-301-0790](tel:425-301-0790)

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A human being should be able to
change a diaper, plan an invasion,
butcher a hog, design a building,
conn a ship, write a sonnet, balance
accounts, build a wall, set a bone,
comfort the dying, take orders, give
orders, cooperate, act alone, solve
an equation, analyze a new
problem, pitch manure, program a
computer, cook a tasty meal, fight
efficiently, die gallantly.
Specialization is for insects.

~Robert Heinlein
Aaron Kimpton
[425-301-0790](tel:425-301-0790)