

Senator Looney, Representative Miner and Members of the Task Force Committee:

My name is Ken Swain, I live in Sandy Hook. Three of the slain children shared the same bus stop that once was my children's bus stop. I believe this tragedy was entirely preventable under the 1994 assault weapons ban that was deplorably allowed to expire in 2004.

I am urging you to pass the legislative proposals as submitted by Connecticut Against Gun Violence. We need to protect our children, our populace. Some weapons should only be in the hands of the trained military, or law enforcement, not the general public.

AR15 platform weapons as used in the Sandy Hook Massacre are indeed military weapons. "Its ammo," described by Four Star General McChrystal, "is designed to be particularly devastating to the human body, and should not be in civilian hands." Asked what can be done, the General replied. "We need to take a very mature look at that." "We have to look at legislation..."

Mayors and police chiefs across America agree, they don't need to be out-gunned.

The nation is being bullied by the NRA / NSSF pathetic (*sic*) insistence that our Founding Fathers actually wanted us *all* to be armed with "military-style" weapons so that we could be prepared to defend ourselves at home, at the theatre and at school.

The NRA's ridiculous stance is that we have no choice *but* to arm ourselves against the "bad guys" "The police aren't doing it." When I was 12, I might have agreed to go after the "bad guys" with my Daisy BB gun. But I have grown up. Twenty children; 6 and 7 year-olds from *my* town will never have that chance to grow up, because that AR15 "military-style" weapon was again deemed legal!

Current pro-gun dialog is absurdly disrespectful of *all* of those families who lives have been devastated by our nation's inability to grasp what is right. The national gun dialog has been pathetically sophomoric. The NRA — handing out report cards; — politicians paying heed to their "NRA grades" The call to arm teachers! Its time for responsible Americans, politicians, gun owners to GROW UP and STAND UP for realistic, meaningful, legislated protection from this crazed proliferation of guns.

Our Founding Fathers are surely appalled at our modern ability to *confound* the simple statement of the Second Amendment.

The words; WELL REGULATED militia are lost in the gun frenzy!

The NRA makes a mockery of the Second Amendment.

Poorly regulated firearms have become a major THREAT in everyday American life. There is no other way to say it: guns ARE out of control! It certainly is not what the Founding Fathers wanted.

Strong, sensible gun safety legislation is way overdue and Connecticut families, American families are counting on YOU to take responsible action! This is the PUBLIC SAFETY you are entrusted with.

I support a ban on military-style assault weapons and eliminating high-capacity ammunition magazines of more than seven rounds. Remove them from the state. It is time to protect our children, not gun manufacturers!

Thank for your attention in this extremely important matter.