

Richard V. Carlson
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January 30, 2013

Subject: Gun Violence & Mental Health Issues

My name is Richard V. Carlson, I live on 28 Birch Hill Road in Newtown, CT for the past 43 years. I spent over a quarter of a decade in law enforcement and retired as a police sergeant. In my years of law enforcement I have never had encounters with lawful gun owners, just criminals and mentally disturbed people. My beliefs here that trampling on certain types of weapons because they look bad and portrayed in the media and movies as evil is not a logical reason to ban them or trample on the 2nd amendment. To use that they have not purpose in hunting was not the reason our forefathers put the 2nd amendment in our constitution. All one needs to do is read the FBI annual report on crime statistics and gun violence to see that they are isolated to large cities where criminal activity controls certain areas and police are hindered as to what they can and cannot do.

Being a resident of Newtown I think it is irresponsible for our politicians and some special interest groups to use this knee jerk reaction to be portrayed as safety for our children and my grandchildren to enhance their adjendas. To make more needless laws that we already have so many of to address the real problem criminal activity and mental issues and again one would only have to see that not just in CT but nationwide since many of the mental institutions have been closed and political correctness has been enhanced (mainstreaming) these problems have started to surface.

Thank you for your attention, hopefully this will not fall on deaf ears as many of my law enforcement contemporaries feel the same way until you get up to the political level of police work.

Sincerely,

Richard V. Carlson