

I am Linda Seidel.

I have never given birth to a child, however I have loved, nurtured, encouraged hundreds of children & teens in my adult 50 years.

As a Sister of Mercy:

- * I taught second-grade, and how I loved my children.

- * I was also a live-in-house-mother, & supervisor of dayafternoon/evening staff.

We loved & cared for 12 children.

The Sisters of St. Joseph in Spokane, WA, had replaced the 1800's brick Orphanage with (5) 3 story houses which 12 children occupied in each home.

Post Convent, I put myself thru Graduate School to work with children.

- * I worked teen parents and their children & babies.

- * I ended my service of children after working with Child Protective Services. I worked 60 hrs. Per week, (20 hrs. without pay) because I felt my children & teens were my priority to see monthly, if not more than once a month.

I come before you today, to urge you to pass SB 797.

SB 797 will ensure Oregon's commitment to gun violence prevention by

Prohibiting abusive dating partners and convicted stalkers from having guns, closing the Charleston loophole that lets people get guns without a completed background check, and give law enforcement more tools to go after criminals who try to buy guns illegally.

The time long overdue, is now!

Now is the time to further protect our children.

Now is the time to prevent mothers and fathers from experiencing unspeakable grief from Newtown, all school shootings, and those in a child's home.

Sincerely,

Linda L. Seidel, M.S.

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Salem

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense