

Mr./Ms. Chairperson, Members Of The Committee, etc. et. al.,

When I was 16 years old, I walked into a gun store and - completely legally - purchased a handgun. At that time, school shootings were completely unheard of.

Since then, our Legislatures have in their infinite wisdom piled one gun law upon another, to the accompaniment of more and more vicious mass murders. One is compelled to repeat the old aphorism, "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, and expecting a different result".

Are you ever going to ask the simple question, why did we not have these murders prior to the 1960's?

When is it going to occur to our Legislators that perhaps more and more gun legislation is simply useless, and that what you're calling "Gun Violence" is no such thing at all but rather a fundamental sickness in society - one that you're apparently unwilling to address, and perhaps even to admit exists?

Or do you simply not care, and are willing to tolerate a certain level of violence in order to justify progressively disarming us for other reasons?

I'm sorry, but I find such apparently mindless obsessive implementation of non-solutions to a nonexistent problem to be simply incomprehensible.

Are we supposed to just blithely accept that "society has changed", and "we need to adapt" - that we must now accept as normal, living in a society where people somehow feel compelled to murder each other at random? And are we then further expected to believe that that the solution is to pile on more and more laws attempting to somehow restrict anyone from finding the means to commit such crimes? All of this, taken together, seems to be exactly what our Legislators are asking.

I must admit, though, that times it really seems as though a certain segment of the population really have collectively taken leave of their senses, and are literally living in fantasy land. In the aftermath of a recent workplace shooting, a friend who works for a local company was at lunch with his co-workers, who were discussing the incident. One of them opined that "that kind of thing could never happen here". When asked why he thought that was so, this person responded, "Because we have a rule against bringing guns to work". Apparently, the notion that criminals don't obey laws was just too abstruse for him to comprehend, despite (and, one may hope, not because of) an advanced engineering degree.

Can we expect no better than this from our Legislators? In the present instance of HB 4145, are you somehow unable to realize that criminals don't obey restraining orders or prohibitions against owning "dangerous weapons" either?

Thank You.

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