

Dear Legislators,

Your entire focus on "Gun Control" at the beck and call of lunatic politician Bloomberg is ridiculous and a complete waste of my Tax Dollar.

Below is one of the best explanations that highlights to absurdity of Oregon's endless parade of legislation introduced and defeated to infringe on my Second Amendment Rights – Oh, you might or might not recall that the Second Amendment states that my Right to keep and bear arms SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED!

Consider the following compilation of "gun violence" and consider how ridiculous any current or past legislation is to prevent these events:

There are 30,000 gun related deaths per year by firearms, and this number is not disputed. U.S. population 324,059,091 as of Wednesday, June 22, 2016. Do the math: 0.00000925% of the population dies from gun related actions each year. Statistically speaking, this is insignificant! What is never told, however, is a breakdown of those 30,000 deaths, to put them in perspective as compared to other causes of death:

- 65% of those deaths are by suicide which would never be prevented by gun laws
- 15% are by law enforcement in the line of duty and justified
- 17% are through criminal activity, gang and drug related or mentally ill persons – gun violence
- 3% are accidental discharge deaths

So technically, "gun violence" is not 30,000 annually, but drops to 5,100. Still too many? Well, first, how are those deaths spanned across the nation?

- 480 homicides (9.4%) were in Chicago
- 344 homicides (6.7%) were in Baltimore
- 333 homicides (6.5%) were in Detroit
- 119 homicides (2.3%) were in Washington D.C. (a 54% increase over prior years)

So basically, 25% of all gun crime happens in just 4 cities. All 4 of those cities have strict gun laws, so it is not the lack of law that is the root cause.

This basically leaves 3,825 for the entire rest of the nation, or about 75 deaths per state. That is an average because some States have much higher rates than others. For example, California had 1,169 and Alabama had 1.

Now, who has the strictest gun laws by far? California, of course, but understand, so it is not guns causing this. It is a crime rate spawned by the number of criminal persons residing in those cities and states. So if all cities and states are not created equally, then there must be something other than the tool causing the gun deaths.

Are 5,100 deaths per year horrific? How about in comparison to other deaths? All death is sad and especially so when it is in the commission of a crime but that is the nature of crime. Robbery, death, rape, assault all is done by criminals and thinking that criminals will obey laws is ludicrous That's why they are criminals

REALLY? 480 homicides in CHICAGO???? But guns are already outlawed there. Are you getting how ridiculous Oregon's legislative efforts are?

Just get off the Bloomberg bandwagon and work of some beneficial legislation for Oregon – like road repair and other mundane real benefits.

Earl Huff  
Joseph, OR