

To All Concerned,

I live here in Oregon now. But a year and a half ago, I was a resident of Parkland, Florida. On February 14, 2018, while I was adjusting to my new home, texts were suddenly coming through on my phone from friends back in Florida. There had been a shooting.

My hopes that it was something minor were demolished within the hour. Word was coming through, details were revealing themselves. Scenes of my neighbors and friends sobbing and screaming and recounting horrific details of the event that day were replaying over and over again on my TV screen.

The Parkland shooter had a history of discipline violations and over 30 reports or accounts that had been called into Law enforcement. He had many guns and lots of ammunition, and he was a *teenager*. There were many opportunities for intervention and many opportunities to deny this unstable individual access to semi-automatic weapons. But unfortunately, the state government in Florida is owned by the NRA, and so there was no hope of ever denying this highly disturbed, unstable individual access to deadly weapons.

After the mass murder of children and their teachers at Sandy Hook, I tried to bring some awareness to the schools in Parkland. No one wanted to talk about it. It had happened somewhere else, and couldn't possibly happen in Parkland. But alas, Parkland was not immune to this country's unhealthy and unaccountable relationship with weapons and the NRA.

No right in this country is without regulation. Individual's' rights are always weighed against the good of the public. It is time for sensible gun legislation. SB 978 is a reasonable approach to preventing guns from falling into the wrong hands. Please don't make the same mistake that Florida made. The writing is on the wall...in blood. Please help stop the carnage and suffering. Sensible. Gun. Legislation.

Sincerely,  
Gennifer Goldstein