

My name is Eileen Kemp. I have been an Oregon resident since 1973. My niece's husband, Steve Forsyth, was murdered on December 11, 2012 at Clackamas Town Center as was Cindy Yuille. The shooter used an AR-15 style assault weapon which was taken from a friend whose home he had just spent the night on the day of the shooting. The weapon was unsecured and loaded. The lawful owner did not report the weapon stolen to any law enforcement agency upon discovering the theft. If the shooter's gun had not jammed, others might have been murdered as well. The shooter then took his own life with the loaded and unsecured firearm adding to Oregon's annual suicide death toll.

According to a US Secret Service study, 60% of school shooters get their firearms from home, the home of a relative or the home of a close friend, so it is important that firearms are stored unloaded, locked up and with the ammunition secured separately. There should be consequences for irresponsible gun owners who don't secure their firearms when it leads to the injury or death of others!

Unfortunately, sometimes there have to be consequences before people will change their behavior!