

It was a brightly beautiful day in a large room with big windows and lots of dark hardwood. I remember the dust motes sparkling in the air, limned by the sunlight. I was playing cops and robbers with my sister and two cousins. Except there were only three guns and I said I wasn't going to play without a gun. My cousin said "I know another gun" and he went and got it and gave it to me. My sister and I were cops, our cousins the robbers. The robbers robbed, the cops pursued. I said "Stop or I'll shoot!" I aimed for his heart and pulled the trigger.

It was a 38 special, and the recoil knocked me on my a\$\$\$. I'll never forget my cousin falling down, laying screaming on the floor, the adults rushing around in a panic. I was 4 years old.

That loaded gun was under my uncle's pillow. Like so many guns are *still* carelessly left in purses, nightstand drawers, shoeboxes in the closet, glove compartments in cars...

Support HB 2510. If the people who own guns want to have them instantly available in the *statistically improbable* case of an intruder, they should wear them. If they don't want to do that? They need to lock them up.

Support HB 2510. There is gun violence Every Day because gun owners are Demonstrably Irresponsible. Want to own a gun, then own one, I don't care; I do care that there is nothing motivating them to take the necessary precautions to prevent another person suffering lifelong trauma. Or premature death.

Support HB 2510. I have friends who own guns and they have a gun safe. One of them also has a separate safe for ammunition. None of my friends whine about practicing common sense, or babble about protection from non-existent intruders. They have kids and they're protecting them, and they're in the minority as we see in the news.

Support HB 2510. I'm 62 and this memory is as terrifyingly vivid right now as the day it happened. Please support ending gun violence against innocent people.