

I do not think that it is a wise move to disarm campus police. If a mass shooter attacks an Oregon campus, these armed police are the first responders. Student lives could easily be lost due to the disarming of campus police. When lives are at risk, one has to ask, why would anyone vote to put students in jeopardy? If it is in response to the campus police shooting at the Cheerful Tortoise recently, it strikes me that even if the campus police had been disarmed, and then armed police had arrived to deal with the fight, that the Portland Police would have been faced with the same situation, an armed citizen refusing to put their gun down on command of the police, and the result would have been the same.

On the other hand, perhaps wanting to disarm campus police is a matter of aesthetics, a matter of creating a campus that is truly a gun free zone, a place of peace and free expression, sort of a modern day Greek gathering of philosophers. While this is a charming picture, almost reminiscent of images of harp playing long gowned residents of Heaven, the reality of our modern world is that most mass shootings occur in gun free zones where the murderer knows that they have a certain amount of delay before armed police arrive on the scene. Even if the shooter doesn't avail himself of rapid firing, modern day semi automatic weapons, the rate and volume of fire of several revolvers would be more than sufficient to achieve scores of deaths in a few minutes.

I would rather we leave an aspiration for a Heavenly aesthetic of a gun free zone as a goal for the afterlife rather than a pathway for a murderer to send more college students to their deaths.

Please do not disarm our campus police, if anything, the campus police should be more heavily armed and there should be more of them in order to stop mass murder on Oregon's campuses. And we should allow concealed carry on campus to add to those who can stop a murderer. Because if the punishment for the crime of murder is not enough to stop someone from a campus shooting, the slight additional penalty for violating a gun free ordinance will certainly not stop a mass shooting, but it will put the victims in far greater danger.

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