

In this day and age of smaller police budgets, the inability of police departments such as the Portland Police Department to even fill available positions, it is more important than ever for citizens to have the legal means to protect themselves. For instance, if every woman were allowed to carry a gun, I guarantee there would be less crime against women. I once worked in Casper, Wyoming for a while. This was back in the age of bumper stickers. One said, An Armed Society, is a Polite Society. And it was absolutely true -- after the sun went down, Casper was the quietest city I had ever experienced. Nearly everyone in Wyoming was packing.

The notion that restricting guns from the hands of lawful citizens is useful in preventing crime is not just wrong, it is insane. It is the thinking of someone envisioning a fairyland, where its all milk and honey, puppy dogs and teddy bears. A news agency once interviewed convicted armed robbers, asking what they thought the effects of stricter control of gun sales would be on such gun crime. The criminals all said, no effect. Because they never bought guns from dealers anyway, but always stole them or got em on the black market.

Guns dont kill people, crazy people with guns, do. So put money into mental health care. Probably a lot of the homeless problem stems from lack of mental health facilities and care.

Gun crime is a heavily reported news item. What is seldom if ever reported, are the times where possession of a gun SAVED someone from crime. I bet its often that the situation of impending crime just melts away, given the obvious ability of one to defend themselves, by having a gun. All through the animal kingdom, predators look for, and prey on, the weakest victims.

The United States is not the most armed society, but has a homicide rate 10x the next contender. Switzerland, for instance, requires militia training for all males when they come of age, and after that they are required to take their assault rifle home and keep it ready to use. An assault rifle in every home. So it isnt the presence of guns that makes for a high homicide rate, but rather it is the mentality of the citizens. You should address the actual problem not some anti gun fairy tale.

OPPOSE Senate Bill 978 and House Bills 2013, 2505, and 3329!

Steve Knutson, Corbett, OR