

28 March 2023

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: Senate Bill 348

Dear Chair Senator Prozsanski, Vice-Chair Senator Thatcher, and members of the Committee;

These ever-infringing gun laws Oregon comes up with are all based on the same (il)logic; telling law abiding citizens that their rights and liberties depend not on their own behavior but on the conduct of the guilty and the lawless. What is it that those calling for more bans don't understand; Those who seek to inflict harm are not fazed by gun control laws. Period.

Where went logic? What has happened to reason? It's as if gun control zealots such as supporters of SB 348 would like to reduce drunk driving by taking cars away from sober drivers. But we don't blame cars for drunk drivers. Ideas such as SB 348 are equivalent to trying to reduce drunk driving by making it more onerous for sober people to own cars.

Speaking of illogical conclusions; If there is a bombing? Blame the bomber. Drunk driving? Blame the driver. School shooting? Blame the guns. What!

"The right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." That "shall not be infringed" is strong language and perfectly clear. To infringe is to trespass, to intrude, to encroach. "Shall not be infringed" in plain language means "No Trespassing." And it is the government that is told mitts off, not the citizenry.

Advocates for more so-called 'gun control' say they only seek compromise; In 1934 there was the National Firearms Act. In 1968 we had the Gun Control Act. In 1986 we had the Firearm Owners Protection Act. In 1993 we had the Brady Handgun Violence Act. In 1994 we had the Assault Weapons Ban. In In 1995 we had the Gun Free School Zones Act. Previous "compromise" has not made a difference.

It's not the guns. It's people. And the key fallacy of of so-called gun "control" laws is that such laws do not in fact control guns. They merely disarm law-abiding citizens, while people bent on violence find firearms readily available.

*"Though violence is not lawful, when it is offered in self-defense or for the defense of the defenseless, it is an act of bravery far better than cowardly submission. The latter benefits neither man nor woman. Under violence, there are many stages and varieties of bravery. Every man must judge this for himself. No other person can or has the right."* Mahatma Gandhi

So-called gun control consistently fails because it mistakenly assumes that the opposite of armed and dangerous is unarmed and safe. Ask any mother or father protecting their children how many rounds are "enough" and most likely they'll say something along the line of "as many as it takes."

Where is the empirical evidence that gun control laws actually work? If gun control laws did work Chicago would be the safest city in the country.

The definition of "shall not be infringed" is shall not be infringed.

Stop SB 348.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Wisner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Wisner