

Guns

I support the Second Amendment. However, there needs to be common sense laws to protect us from criminals and the mentally ill.

- I was a Combat Medic in Vietnam. I wasn't a Conscientious Objector (i.e. not believing in carrying a weapon). Anytime I went off base, I carried my M-16 and a 45.
- I do not own a gun for safety reasons (check out the statistics below). Many of you do. The second amendment guarantees your right to bear arms. I have no interest in taking legal guns away from anyone. Nor, as a District 20 House member, would I vote for a total ban on guns. If you choose to have a hand gun to protect your family, that is your choice. If you enjoy hunting, that's a decision for you to make. It is not the government's right to make those choices for you.
- How does the US rate with other major countries in number of gun murders as compared to number of guns per person? **In other words, do more guns mean more safety? Do less guns mean fewer deaths?**

	Gun Deaths per 100K	Guns per 100K
US	10.5	1.0
France	2.8	0.3
Canada	2.0	0.3
Germany	1.0	0.3
Australia	0.9	0.2
UK	0.2	.07
Japan	0.1	.006

Statistically, more guns does NOT mean more safety.

- Guns in the home for self-defense: For every time a gun in the home is used for self-defense, it is used for suicide 11 times, assaults and homicide against family or friends 7 times and results in unintended killing 4 times. **Is a gun at home worth the risk?**

- On June 26, 1934, Congress passed a law that effectively outlawed machine guns. This was a reaction to mobsters killing each other and law enforcement officers using these weapons. This obviously made sense then - ***and now.***

When there is a law, there will always be someone trying to find a way around it. **The AR-15 is essentially a Military M-16.** The difference is that the AR-15 is semi-automatic (shoots one bullet every time you pull the trigger) and the M-16 can either be semi-automatic or automatic (i.e., a machine gun). You can kill a lot of people in a very short period of time with a semi-automatic weapon. You can kill a lot more with a fully automatic weapon.

- **The Bump Stock:** The only purpose of this AR-15 (and other similar rifles) accessory is to convert a semi-automatic weapon into a fully automatic machine gun. In other words, it skirts the 1934 law. The Bump stock isn't a machine gun, it just makes an AR-15 into one – and therefore currently legal. This isn't a second amendment rights issue. It's a saving life issue. ***Another way to look at it, if you need a machine gun to go hunting, you need to find a new hobby.*** I would outlaw the Bump Stock now!
- **AR-15s** and similar weapons: I have never fired an AR-15 but based upon my experience firing the M-16, most people can kill a person that is 300 yards away. It's definitely the weapon of choice if you want to commit mass murder. This is not a hunting rifle. I would support passing a law prohibiting the sale of AR-15s and similar semi-automatic rifles in Colorado.
- Hand guns? Hunting rifles? Shot guns? I support your right to own these.



Kent is endorsed by Colorado Ceasefire and was awarded Candidate Distinction by Moms Demand Action Gun Sense