

11th July 2014

Committee Secretary  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

To the Committee Secretariat,

My name is Jay Dean and I am a law-abiding licensed firearms owner. I would like to submit my views to this enquiry and hope you find them helpful and constructive.

I would like to address some of the points mentioned in your references below:

**b. The operation and consequences of the illicit firearms trade, including both outlawed and stolen guns within Australia;**

I would support a funding increase to our police on a national level to respond to this and ensure security is maintained. Lets support our police and give them whatever means necessary to help them track down illegal firearms in this country. Anyone caught in the act of promoting/dealing in the illicit firearms trade should be punished to the full extent of the law.

**c. The adequacy of current laws and resourcing to enable law enforcement authorities to respond to technological advances in gun technology, including firearms made from parts which have been imported separately or covertly to avoid detection, and firearms made with the use of 3D printers;**

Police need to be able to respond to all types of technological advancements that may infringe our security. However we need to be reasonable when looking into modern technology and think about the real use of these items (eg. 3D printers) Any body who uses a legal machine to make an illegal item needs to be the focus of law enforcement, not the machine itself.

**e. The effect banning semi-automatic handguns would have on the number of illegally held firearms in Australia;**

I love my sport and consider it a safe, responsible hobby of thousands of Australians. We are always maintaining safety as number one in our priorities, as also the positive reinforcement of our sport. If we banned semi-automatic handguns we would essentially eradicate all Australian pistol shooting up to an Olympic level.

Please consider those who abide by the law and do the right thing. Why should we be punished for those criminals who do the wrong thing? After all criminals are criminals because they do not abide by the law and do not care what affect their actions cause to others. 99% of laws are aimed at 0.1% of the population. Courts need to make sure that criminals found guilty of a gun related crime are punished more harshly.

[f. Stricter storage requirements and the use of electronic alarm systems for guns stored in homes;](#)

This has a good basis but how far do we go? Is an alarm system enough? Or does the firearm owner need cameras too? Or maybe an electronic alarm system connected directly to the safe? What is reasonable and what isn't? Above all, what is necessary to keep firearms safe? I believe our current safe storage requirements are enough.

Overall I know as a fact most firearm owners already go above and beyond what is required by law to keep them safe.

Above all, INFORMATION about licensed firearm owners should be kept safe, so as to not allow them to be targeted by criminals looking to steal firearms.

[g. The extent to which there exist anomalies in federal, state and territory laws regarding the ownership, sale, storage and transit across state boundaries of legal firearms, and how these laws relate to one another](#)

I support a review into our overly extreme firearm laws in this country. Law abiding citizens always seem to be punished whenever a criminal act has taken place. Please remember that we are not criminals and do not deserve to be treated as such.

Semi-automatic rifles were banned as a result of one medically insane individual's actions 18 years ago. On a hunting perspective, a quick follow up shot to be humane to the animal is sometimes needed. On a sporting aspect, there are many competitions that have been stopped due to the ban. Even now training, hunting and other professional organisations that have a reasonable reason for access to these rifles are allowed to own and use these firearms. Why not extend these to normal firearm license holders with similar reasons?

Regarding transit of our firearms across state borders lets ensure every state recognizes each states firearm licenses without the need of unnecessary paperwork.

[h. Any other related matter](#)

Whenever a gun related incident occurs, licensed firearm owners seem to be targeted. Why do we end up getting the blame for something we had nothing to do with? Why does the government sometimes make "knee-jerk" reactions to gun laws when we are already have some of the most restrictive gun laws in the world? Shouldn't the government be looking at punishing the criminals responsible?

We are fed up being targeted by the uneducated gun hating media and political parties (in particular the greens). Its time to realise punishing the law abiding firearm community does not solve or prevent crimes.

Punish the criminals and punish them harsher!