

2nd July 2014

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

To the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee re enquiry to the ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gun-related violence in the community.

I wish to make submissions re, ' f ' & ' g '

(f) stricter storage requirements and the use of electronic alarm systems for guns stored in homes.

(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 am a 70yr old South Australian having lived and worked in that State all my life. I was brought up as a child with firearms in the house and have always owned and used firearms.

Re ' f ' I consider that alarms in homes are not necessary, but the present laws for storage of firearms are laughable, a hardwood locker or box and metal lockers with no specifications to thickness of the steel are all legal (they can be a very thin metal locker or box, if these hardwood and thin sheet metal boxes are fixed to a floor or wall they are legal, a hit from a axe or a strong screwdriver/tyre type lever would open most of them.

In South Australia steel boxes/safes weighing 150kg + do not have to be floor/wall secured, this type may be satisfactory but there are no regulations about locks and metal thickness of the steel boxes/safes.

Re ' g ' Firearms in Australia should be covered by Federal legislation, having different State and Territory laws and regulations about such an important matter in a modern country does not make sense.

Having a central database and strong enforceable laws re ownership, licensing and storage may help prevent tragedies in the future.

For your consideration,
Thomas Milne RAYBOULD