

To: Whom it may concern,

I would like to express my point of view on “**The ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gun-related violence in the community**”. I would only response to the following point in this submission though. I disagree on banning semi automatic handguns from Australia.

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

Semi automatic pistols play a big role in sport shooting including in the Commonwealth game. Majority of the pistols that we are using on IPSC, Rapid Fire and Service Matches are semi-automatic. Banning the semi automatic pistol places a very large impact on our sport, and also prevents our talented shooters entering the Commonwealth game.

But why we **should not** ban these pistols,

- a. Banning the semi automatic pistols will only destroy our sport. Outlaws and criminal organizations still have their way to access those illegal semi automatic pistols from black market or other illegal sources. The banning system is ineffective because illegal semi automatic pistols will be still circulating in the black market and criminal organizations.
- b. Banning semi automatic pistols mean the government needs to budget million of dollars for a “Buy back scheme”. I suggest this fund should go to the police force as a supported fund for targeting illegal firearm trade, black market and gangs, instead of buying back all these pistols from legal shooters. Also after all these pistols have been bought back, there is a potential on these firearms fall onto the wrong hand.
- c. Every legal firearm was registered under a shooter’s license. It is easy for police to track where the firearms come from. If all semi automatic pistols have been banned and taken away, the police forces will no longer hold the records and unable to track where the firearms come from.

Let’s us conclude here. Our shooting community in Australia has put in a lot of effort, ensuring our sport is conducting safely. We love the sport, we do it safely and we have complied with lots of strict regulation already. We do not need another piece of regulation to disadvantage our sport and place no impact on minimizing gun-related violence. The whole idea here is minimizing gun-related violence. First of all, if the pistols are on the hands of the right people, let’s not change it. Secondly, illegal firearm traders, gangs and criminal organizations do not follow legislation. More legislation does not work. Finally, majority gun-related violence cases come from gangs and triads, robbery and revenges. The only way to minimize gun-related violence is to target these people and place in heavier penalties on illegal firearm trades, uses and possessions.

I hope these points assist our government on making the correct decision, creating legislation that is **FAIR** and **SUPPORTIVE** for our community.

Kind Regards,

Ying K Lui

12/07/2014