

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Mass Violence Prevention and Community Safety.  
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My name is Teri Horne and I reside in Quitman, Tx. I'm a Mom ,Grandma, I'm a gun owner, and an every day carrier , as well I'm and an admin if Open Carry Texas, and run our Women's page OCT:Women . Thank y'all for your time

I feel mental health workers, doctors, should put more emphasis on actually talking and listening to those in need of help. Instead of taking the easier road of prescribing umpteen medications, that often enhance the feeling of, and the outlook of depression, feeling alone, and the heinous thoughts of , and sadly with some, carrying out heinous acts on others. And sorry to say, but a mental health worker at schools,are Not going to stop someone intent on committing Evil, heinous acts on others. A good person with immediate access to a firearm , could be the equalizer to stop the threat. We should encourage those teachers, And school staff, all the way to the janitor, who are LTC, and those who would like to get their LTC, and go through the process, to be able to Carry on their person under the Gaurdian Program( though they shouldn't have to go through that to do so). As we know, in every school shooting, it took a Good Person with a gun, agonizing precious MINUTES to be on scene, and stop the bad guy. Imagine if you will, had there been a Good Person, with Immediate access to a tool, a firearm, to stop the bad guy, think of how many lives could have been saved. As well, Parents should be allowed to carry on school property as well, for, God forbid something happened, they would be Immediate responders as well. A firearm is an equalizer, much more so than a appointed mental health worker, more so than throwing books, cans, ect. Much more so than kids hiding, Praying that SOMEONE with a gun gets there in time to save them.

As for Red flag laws, they have already caused the lives of people, they have been abused by disgruntled people toward innocent people, which in turn leaves the innocent unarmed and barred from defending themselves and or family, until they are deemed Not a threat. Red flag laws circumvent one's Rights, 1st, 2nd,4th , denying them the Right to due process. We should FINALLY pass Constitutional/Permitless carry in Texas, allowing people their God given Right to defend themselves and quite possibly others. By having to pay for the Right to carry, it's a hindrance to a majority of Texans. Had more people been "allowed " their Right to Bear Arms, there might not have been as many lives lost in the El Paso Wal mart shooting, as many folks simply can't afford the cost of exercising their Right, even with the lowered cost of the State app, there is still the cost of overpriced LTC classes, fingerprints, ammo, the cost to get to classes, especially in rural areas. We have the Right to Bear Arms, and NOWHERE in the 2A does it say The Right to Keep and Bear Arms contingent on the purchase of a permit/ license, and training. I know many people who can't carrying order to defend themselves or their family, because the hindrance of acquiring a LTC is simply unaffordable for them, my daughter, a single Mom, who was sexually assaulted was one of them. Just the other day, a Lady I came across, a single Mom moving back to Houston, the not so nice part of Houston, she desperately wants to Arm and carry, especially in these times we are witnessing now, with riots, looting and people being pulled from their cars and beaten half to death, but being a single Mom she can't even afford to take a basic firearm class to learn safety ect. I posted about her in Open Carry Texas and OCT: Women to see if anyone could help her with basic firearm teachings, as I'm in East ,Tx I would have helped her, but some awesome Houston area folks stepped up, one guy who is a LTC instructor has offered and is going to help her, he is even giving her a free LTC class, now she just has to finagle her

finances for the state app. Why do we make it so hard for Texans to exercise their Rights? Pass Constitutional/Permitless Carry and enable Texans to carry, to defend themselves and quite possibly others, God forbid the need arises. And end Gun Free Zones, more acts of violence occur in GFZ's than in places where One's Right to Keep and Bear Arms is welcomed.

One other thing, we should be teaching firearm class in schools, as we use to, kids learned gun safety and respect of firearms.

Thank you for your time, Teri Horne.