

Header  
Audrey Wilcox

7/5/14  
Jordan Johnson  
FOR

Thank you MR Ohio  
& the C  
for your close attention.

Attachment F

My name is Audrey Wilcox and I am a concerned resident and voter from Longmont. I am here to ask for a NO vote on HB 1036.

I am the mother of 3 young men, ~~and 3 daughter in laws~~ <sup>all married</sup> and have 3 beautiful little grandchildren. ~~And a former teacher but not a public speaker.~~ **I**

I am also the sister of a beautiful woman who will forever be 33.

My sister Leslie was shot and killed almost 10 years ago in the parking lot of a Kansas City mall as she sat in her car chatting on the phone before going inside to buy shoes. I'd rather be anywhere today talking ~~to~~ <sup>To</sup> Leslie about her shoes, her wacky stories, and our adventurous travel plans ~~to Thailand and beyond~~, but instead I'm here to ask you to help prevent such senseless grief and loss by saying NO to these dangerous gun laws.

Making guns easily accessible and more powerful are not consoling thoughts now, just as the day Leslie died when the news reporters, the police who came to the door, and the coroner's words all echoed her horrific last moments but blithely added the statement: 'At least she did not know what was coming.'

At least she did Not know her life had ended. At least she had not had children of her own.

At least she did Not know my future grandchildren. At least those grandchildren will never know Leslie's clever wit. They will never receive her silly gifts, and they will never hear her tell ~~of~~ her funny adventures **STORIES**.

~~At least she did Not know the pain her family and friends would endure through years of depression and grief.~~

The man who made sure she never felt her last breath was an unemployed security guard who had little or no access to mental health care to treat his anger, addictions, or his looming homelessness since he'd lost his job at the mall.

The last day anyone saw Leslie's smile was the day he stole a gun and shot his neighbor on the way to the mall. He then shot and killed Leslie and another young man in the parking lot before letting loose in the mall and finally being killed himself ~~after a 911 call~~ <sup>by</sup> the police.

Many lives were crushed in a senseless act committed by a man who knew where an unsecured gun was hidden, and plotted to use it.

\*  
Mary Sherlock

after 9/11:  
Business  
Continuity  
everybody was  
up in arms...  
the sky is falling

Lack of  
Mental Health Support  
Shooting is a perishable  
Skill.

Coincidentally 3 years later, less than a mile from the spot Leslie was killed, I was sitting outside a coffee shop and noticed a couple walking into the shop. They were a nice looking, clean-cut couple who appeared to be having coffee after church. I also noticed the man was carrying a small bag with his concealed gun.

20 minutes later as the couple was leaving, I realized the man did not have his gun. I said 'Sir, you have forgotten something.' This potentially deadly irresponsible oversight ~~that~~ could have easily made the news that day. Somebody else might have been lucky and not have known what was coming.

The only people on school property who should be tasked with keeping our children safe with guns are professionally and continuously trained public safety officers, whose sole responsibility is school safety. There have been too many stories of guns left in restrooms or other places where they are easily accessible.

~~And with a school full of curious students, this is a risk no one should be willing to take.~~

More guns in our schools is NOT the answer to keeping our children safe. I know far too well from personal experience that the possibility for irresponsible and unplanned oversight far outweighs any possible benefit.

~~In fact, as a toddler, Leslie found a handgun under my stepdad's pillow and toddled down the hall toward her father with the loaded weapon pointed at his head.~~

The fact is that the presence of more guns means more gun deaths. And the increased likelihood that more children are caught in the crossfire of a shootout in a chaotic situation like a school shooting is something I, as a parent and grandparent, am not willing to accept.

Believe me, there are no right words to use when telling a parent their child has been shot, and the last thing someone wants to hear is their loved one never knew what was coming.

I urge you to vote No on HB103

might have been...

ProLauderdale  
Background Checks  
unrealistic

- High School Buddy Hopping around with a gun accidentally shot his own brother.  
- loaded rifle found in Leslie's

Terrorized

Mental Health care + Preventative Gun Regulation