

From: [Pippa Stanford](#)
To: [Todd Buttsworth](#)
Subject: Firearm legislation and policy
Date: Thursday, 25 October 2018 10:46:20 PM

Dear Sir,

I wish to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed changes to the use and control of firearms in Tasmania.

I am a retired teacher who has experienced several episodes of violence at school including one occasion where a disgruntled ex pupil returned with some associates and their violent behaviour necessitated the school to be placed in lockdown. A teacher was badly assaulted but the police took forty-five minutes to arrive. As a result the staff and students were traumatised and the culture and organisation of the school changed permanently. Had these people had access to firearms the consequences would have been horrific.

I am also closely involved with people who were caught up in the events at Port Arthur. Some were forced to flee shots and another friend arrived to find wounded people on the road and supported them till help arrived. Those events had a profound effect on all Tasmanians and we must ensure that they are not repeated.

I am also concerned for the safety of paramedic, police and emergency department staff. The incidences of violence towards them are increasing and they need to be protected, not exposed to greater danger.

I do not believe that the interests and safety of Tasmanians are served by changing the legislation around firearms and their use. It is pandering to a small sector of the community who are pursuing their own agenda at the expense of all of us.

Yours sincerely,
Philippa Stanford

