

**From:** [John R L Masarei](#)  
**To:** [Todd Buttsworth](#)  
**Subject:** The enquiry into Tasmania"s gun laws  
**Date:** Friday, 26 October 2018 2:35:06 PM

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Dear Mr Buttsworth,

I would be grateful if my plea to the Tasmanian government not to relax the laws relating to gun ownership could be noted.

While recognising that the USA and Australia have different cultural attitudes to gun ownership, we should learn from their experience that there are more deaths in the USA from the inappropriate use of firearms than can be justified as legitimate use for defence. Any increase in the availability of firearms will result in more deaths of innocent people. As a retired medical practitioner I reflect on a lifetime of reading in medical journals of the tragic deaths of innocent people, especially children, from the totally unnecessary ownership of guns. We did not need an ABC Four Corners program to make us aware of the pressures the gun lobby, backed by gun manufacturers, would apply to governments in this country to relax our gun laws. This pressure must be resisted. I believe that any government that succumbs to this pressure will suffer severely electorally and I urge Tasmania to reject the arguments of the self-interested arms industry decisively and totally.

Yours faithfully,

John Masarei MD FRCPA FHKCpath