

March 23, 2019
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Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned about guns. Thirty years ago guns, AIDS and cars each killed about the same number of Americans. Cars are useful but good regulation has greatly reduced deaths without decreasing driving. AIDS is communicable but focused science, health care and political action have reduced deaths to the point that eradication is on the horizon. Guns are much the easiest of these to fix, yet gun deaths continue to rise. Most gun deaths are individual but mass terrorist attacks such as recently in New Zealand and more frequently here remind us that we are failing to respond. Prime Minister Ardern is here a good role model of effective national leadership. She not only immediately condemned the white nationalist anti-immigrant ideology driving the slaughter and called for better regulation of social media, but she rapidly moved to change the law and reduce access to guns. Most other countries have smarter gun laws and fewer gun deaths. Stricter regulation is popular with American voters and opposed largely by gun manufacturers and those in the pay of their lobbying group: the NRA.

Please assure me that you will work to regulate guns.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our safe society.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson