

Letter to “Doctors for protection from guns”, April 1, 2019

We are all in favor of reducing firearm deaths in this country. Canada already has some of the most strict firearm laws in the world. However, calling for a ban on handguns and assault weapons will do nothing to reduce crime in this country. By the way, there are no assault weapons in this country. According to Webster’s Dictionary, an assault weapon must have a selective fire switch from semi-automatic to full automatic fire. They must have large capacity (25 rounds or more) magazines. These firearms have **always been prohibited and are not for sale in Canada**. What we have in this country are center fire hunting rifles that are limited to 5 round magazines. So how can you ban something that does not exist? We do not have a Gun Control problem in Canada. What we do have is gang crime, gun smuggling and mental health issues. Normal people do not shoot other people. In Canada zero people die at gun ranges that over 2.2 million licensed owners use, 2,800 people die in vehicle accidents and 30,000 die by medical errors and hospital acquired infections (Huffpost Oct 2015). Where should the government focus its efforts to protect Canadians? I would suggest that you doctors clean up your own house (and hospitals).

Regards;

David H. Greene