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Forgetting someone?

Every day I read the paper to learn about someone's "right to bear arms."

I don't get it! It's a one-sided debate. There are no opponents. No one disagrees.

A National Rifle Association advocate recently said, "We have no problem with the current proposals; it's a matter of letting the camel's nose inside the tent."

The camel's nose? What about the noses of all the children who have lost their lives via gunfire? The Children's Defense Fund reported for 2008-09 that more than 5,700 kids died from gunshots in the United States — that's one kid every three hours, eight per day! What about their rights?!

Proponents say, "We are different from the rest of the world." Data from the 23 high-income countries reveals that 87 percent of the children under the age of 15 killed by guns live in the United States. That makes it 42 times more likely that your child or grandchild will be killed by gunshot in the U.S. than the other 22 countries. We're different, all right!

Deaths by firearms are measured in 75 countries. Of these, the U.S. ranks as the 10th most violent nation in the world. More of the same as proposed by the NRA won't make it better. We need to take steps that will bring us more in line with those rated as the safest countries.

The NRA's membership represents less than 2 percent of the adult population. I'm tired of their bullying tactics. We need to focus on the future of our youth.

What about kids' rights?