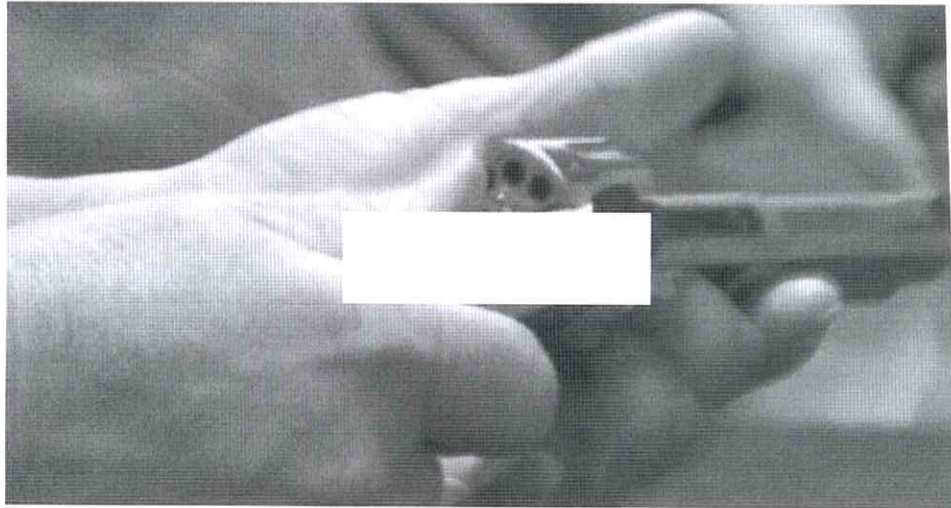


NRA clear on gun debate stance: arm schools

By **Mariano Castillo**, CNN

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NRA calls for armed guards at schools

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

NEW: NRA Executive VP Wayne LaPierre speaks one week after the Connecticut shooting

He wants armed personnel at schools, says policies banning weapons there create risks

The Obama administration has started a debate on gun control



(CNN) -- The National Rifle Association responded Friday to a chorus of voices calling for gun control in the wake of last week's horrific mass shooting in Connecticut by doubling down on its own position: more guns, not fewer, provide true security.

After one of the worst mass shootings in U.S. history -- 20 children and seven adults killed, not including the gunman -- polls show that a slight majority of Americans favor restrictions on guns. Conservative Democrats and even some Republicans who have supported gun rights have said they are open to discussing gun control.

But the NRA made its position clear: The prominent gun rights organization will not budge an inch toward discussion of gun control. To the contrary, the group announced it will fund a team that will design a program to get armed security personnel on school grounds across the country.

"You know, five years ago, after the Virginia Tech tragedy, when I said we should put armed security in every school, the media called

<http://www.cnn.com/2012/12/21/us/connecticut-school-shooting/>