



Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership

A Project of the Second Amendment Foundation

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Spoken Testimony—California Senate Public Safety Committee Hearing on SB 1006

Arthur Przebinda, MD DRGO Social Media Director—April 19, 2016

Thank you, Madam Chair and members of the Committee. My name is Arthur Przebinda. I am a Southern California physician and the Social Media Director for Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership.

A Violence Prevention Research Program is already in operation at UC Davis, under the leadership of Dr. Garen Wintemute. I want to cite specific examples of Dr. Wintemute's animus against gun owners tainting his publications as it is typical of his field.

In an October 2013 article from the journal *Pediatrics*, titled "Gunshot Injuries in Children Served by Emergency Services", Wintemute and coauthors, presented no new findings.

In the end, this article only says one thing: Of all the ways children can be injured, gunshot wounds are one of the worst. It's clear that this otherwise worthless article is designed only to shock readers into mentally associating guns with the death of children.

In every work he publishes, Dr. Wintemute fails to give a balanced consideration of the benefits of gun ownership – such as self defense. He never fails to end each article with yet another call for more restrictions on good people's right of self defense.

He goes so far as to equate the rights conferred by Californian's Castle Doctrine laws with murder – as he did in his December 2012 letter to the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

In his 2015 *Preventive Medicine* publication on "alcohol misuse and firearm violence" he employs a methodology which he admits is of limited use to offer a pretext for restricting who can own firearms. Disregarding the fact that problem drinkers range from normal functioning to highly dangerous, Dr. Wintemute proposes a broadly general policy prescription for "*addressing firearm access for persons who misuse alcohol ...*"

Such policies could revoke the Second Amendment rights of the 15.3 million people he identifies in his paper solely because they are binge drinkers.

In light of such deep seated anti gun bias fueling what is essentially advocacy research, it would be outrageous for California tax payers to subsidize efforts to strip them of their Second Amendment rights.

So I respectfully urge your opposition to SB 1006