



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

Timothy Wheeler, MD DRGO Director—April 19, 2016

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, thank you. I am Timothy Wheeler, MD, the Director of Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership. And I respectfully speak in opposition to Senate Bill 1006.

“We’re going to systematically build a case that owning firearms causes deaths. We’re doing the most we can do, given the political realities.” That was Dr. P.W. O’Carroll, a top official at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, quoted in February 1989 in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Here is another quotation from a prominent firearm researcher in Sen. Wolk’s district, this quote is from the April 2001 UC Davis medical school’s newsletter, the *Matrix*: “there was a huge, amply funded political organization that basically said, ‘Guns are a good thing and we don’t care how many people die.’” That was the UC Davis’s own Dr. Garen Wintemute, insulting several million Americans who are the National Rifle Association.

If I had 120 minutes to speak today instead of 120 seconds, I still wouldn’t have enough time to describe all the times Dr. Garen Wintemute has cleverly used the medical literature to slander gun owners. Instead, I will leave you with an observation from the *Matrix* article by Patsy Kurokawa, a former chief consultant to the Assembly Speaker: “As far as California is concerned, it’s safe to say that every bill related to gun control has originated with Garen.”

If SB 1006 passes we will witness the spectacle of Californians forced to pay for Dr. Garen Wintemute’s brand of calculated assault on their own civil rights. To prevent this injustice, I ask you to oppose SB 1006. Thank you.