

If you don't regularly receive my reports, request a free subscription at [steve\\_bakke@comcast.net](mailto:steve_bakke@comcast.net) !  
Follow me on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@BakkeSteve> and receive links to my posts and more!  
Visit my website at <http://www.myslantonthings.com> !

## **GUNS AND VIOLENCE: MORE THAN A “RULES AND REGULATIONS” PROBLEM!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  November 14, 2017

*Here's what provoked me:*

*This is an abbreviated version of a full article which was published in two newspapers, and which I previously posted and distributed to you via a link to my website. This short version was submitted to several other papers as letters to their editors because they are not interested the longer version.*

*Here's my response:*

### **Guns and Violence: More Than a “Rules and Regulations” Problem!**

America struggles with finding solutions to problems of violence – in particular fatal mass shootings. Before we can solve anything, however, we must understand existing regulations and determine whether or not they can be effective. If not, toss them out. Then let's settle on reasonable and predictably effective controls and enforce them. But that's not all.

There are other controversial questions that we shy away from to avoid accusations of being politically incorrect. Consider:

- Has the concept of moral absolutes been rejected in favor of unlimited tolerance?
- Has morality has been redefined in our society, resulting in incremental disregard for the lives of others?
- Have changes in moral absolutes led to an expansion of acceptable activities, and ultimately, is violent behavior more easily forgiven, or rationalized, by society?
- Is individual accountability disappearing, replaced by the concept of victimization?
- Have government programs institutionalized “urban poverty plantations” as breeding grounds for hatred, racism, class warfare and ultimately, violence?
- Has a reduced emphasis on the traditional family structure had an impact on attitudes about violence?
- Has there been a change in the definition of life and the sanctity thereof, and if so, has this cheapened how life is valued.

These deserve serious consideration.