

an answer as to how a waiting period would really be harmful to the people who do want to have guns for a variety of purposes. At least to my satisfaction, they have not been able to do that and my response to them as to whether I would support this or not has been that, yes, even if it is not extremely effective, even if it only works in some cases, I think it is worth a try. Last summer I sent a survey into my district along with a newsletter and it was a survey on a variety of topics. But one of the topics was gun control and there was an overall question that said, should some form of gun control legislation be enacted by the Legislature? In my district they said, 447 people said yes; 106 people said no. When we got more specific about particular kinds of handgun control legislation they said by 382 to 60, that the possession of Uzis and machine guns should not be allowed for the ordinary citizen. They said, and this was one they were a little ambivalent about because it was a new idea. Somebody down, some legislator down in Florida was considering legislation to this effect, should there be a penalty for adults when a child dies because a gun was not under lock and key? Two hundred and eighty-three said yes, and 156 said no. But the two that I think really apply to the legislation we're speaking of here are, one, should there be a waiting period before buying a handgun? Four hundred and eighty-eight of my constituents said yes, 35 of my constituents said no, overwhelming support for a waiting period. When I asked, should hand guns be registered, 466 of them responded yes and 64 of them said no. To me, although it was not a scientific survey, it was highly indicative that the people in my district at least believe that there should be some efforts to control the kinds of situations that seem to have grown by leaps and bounds, at least in the metropolitan area, but you read about many homicides, suicides in the rural areas as well. I'd like to direct the remainder of my remarks to Senator Johnson and any others, if there are any others on this floor, who might still be undecided about this issue. I, too, have had a personal experience with a death in the family. My young sister took her life with a gun. It was not a handgun, and a waiting period in this case would not have affected anything because the gun was readily available to her. But I often thought if the gun had not been there at the moment that the desire was there, that my sister might still be alive today.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And I realize that there are many situations