

**Adam Justice:** Welcome Melanie and Thank you for appearing on the JUSTICE League NewsHour! Your cartoon is certainly gaining a tremendous amount of popularity. Can you provide us with a quick background of the events and/or issue you are depicting in your cartoon?

**Melanie Robertson:** My cartoon is about how gun violence happens and influential politicians will give their condolences and prayers to all the victims but won't change the gun laws because of the second amendment. On the left, there are the legislators on capitol hill saying they hate gun violence and there is a cemetery in las vegas with many many gravestones on the right to represent all the people that died in the Las Vegas mass shooting. Above all this mess in America, in the middle of the cartoon, the second amendment is in a safe with angel wings and a halo. The constitution is locked up to represent how because of the current legislators' more popular ideology, the second amendment will never change. The angelic features are to represent how in my opinion, the legislators see the second amendment as an crucial founding principle of our country; a patriotic angel looking over us.

**Adam Justice:** What inspired you to create this important image?

**Melanie Robertson:** When the las vegas mass shooting happened, it really shook me up that something like this could in this day in age. I wanted to do something but I'm not really in a position to do that. The people that are in a position of power like the legislators aren't doing anything but sending their prayers and that is what inspired me to make this. My current views are dissenting of the popular politicians in the sense that I want them to change the gun laws. When the second amendment was created, it was crucial to have a gun for safety but now that gun technology has evolved and the country is more urbanized, this amendment is hurting more people than it is protecting. Of course I have a bias on this because I have never lived in a situation where it is necessary for my family and me to have a firearm but I also live in Chicago which has some of the highest crime rates in the entire country and much of that is violent crimes involving guns.

**Adam Justice:** What impact and reaction are you hoping this cartoon will trigger?

**Melanie Robertson:** I hope that this cartoon will reach people and open them up to changing the gun laws in america. I want people talk to there local mayors and congressmen about this issue and vote for a legislator in the next election that might try and change the gun laws. Obviously this solution isn't going to work for everyone in America but 80% of americans live in urban areas and not everyone needs a gun in the

cities. I also don't expect this cartoon to have the most positive reaction in society but people that have different ideologies than my own will at least be aware of the other point of view.

**Adam Justice:** Why did you think it was important to share information on this?

**Melanie Robertson:** People keep dying in america from gun violence. I feel like every week there is a new shooting or terrorist attack and instead of doing anything about it, we just forget it happens. There is no perfect solution to this issue but there are definitely things that can be done to help so let's stop letting these terrible things happen in our country.

**Adam Justice:** *Thank you for being on our show! Viewers, please stay tuned for more information on this important topic!*