

# THE *BULLY*

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

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October 2018

## On Sheep, Wolves, and Sheepdogs

By LTC (RET) Dave Grossman, author of "On Killing."

Honor never grows old, and honor rejoices the heart of age. It does so because honor is, finally, about defending those noble and worthy things that deserve defending, even if it comes at a high cost. In our time, that may mean social disapproval, public scorn, hardship, persecution, or as always, even death itself. The question remains: What is worth defending? What is worth dying for? What is worth living for? - William J. Bennett - in a lecture to the United States Naval Academy November 24, 1997

One Vietnam veteran, an old retired colonel, once said this to me:

"Most of the people in our society are sheep. They are kind, gentle, productive creatures who can only hurt one another by accident." This is true. Remember, the murder rate is six per 100,000 per year, and the aggravated assault rate is four per 1,000 per year. What this means is that the vast majority of Americans are not inclined to hurt one another. Some estimates say that two million Americans are victims of violent crimes every year, a tragic, staggering number, perhaps an all-time record rate of violent crime. But there are almost 300 million Americans, which means that the odds of being a victim of violent crime is considerably less than one in a hundred on any given year. Furthermore, since many violent crimes are committed by repeat offenders, the actual number of violent citizens is considerably less than two million.

Thus there is a paradox, and we must grasp both ends of the situation: We may well be in the most violent times in history, but violence is still remarkably rare. This is because most citizens are kind, decent people who are not capable of hurting each other, except by accident or under extreme provocation. They are sheep.

I mean nothing negative by calling them sheep. To me it is like the pretty, blue robin's egg. Inside it is soft and gooey but someday it will grow into something wonderful. But the egg cannot survive without its hard blue shell. Police officers, soldiers, and other warriors are like that shell, and someday the civilization they protect will grow into something wonderful. For now, though, they need warriors to protect them from the predators.

"Then there are the wolves," the old war veteran said, "and the wolves feed on the sheep without mercy." Do you believe there are wolves out there who will feed on the flock without mercy? You better believe it. There are evil men in this world and they are capable of evil deeds. The moment you forget that or pretend it is not so, you become a sheep. There is no safety in denial.

"Then there are sheepdogs," he went on, "and I'm a sheepdog. I live to protect the flock and confront the wolf."

If you have no capacity for violence then you are a healthy productive citizen, a sheep. If you have a capacity for violence and no empathy for your fellow citizens, then you have defined an aggressive sociopath, a wolf. But what if you have a capacity for violence, and a deep love for your fellow citizens? What do you have then? A sheepdog, a warrior, someone who is walking the hero's path. Someone who can walk into the heart of darkness, into the universal human phobia, and walk out unscathed

Let me expand on this old soldier's excellent model of the sheep, wolves, and sheepdogs. We know that the sheep live in denial, that is what makes them sheep. They do not want to believe that there is evil in the world. They can accept the fact that fires can happen, which is why they want fire extinguishers, fire sprinklers, fire alarms and fire exits throughout their kids' schools.

But many of them are outraged at the idea of putting an armed police officer in their kid's school. Our children are thousands of times more likely to be killed or seriously injured by school violence than fire, but the sheep's only response to the possibility of violence is denial. The idea of someone coming to kill or harm their child is just too hard, and so they chose the path of denial.

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The sheep generally do not like the sheepdog. He looks a lot like the wolf. He has fangs and the capacity for violence. The difference, though, is that the sheepdog must not, can not and will not ever harm the sheep. Any sheep dog who intentionally harms the lowliest little lamb will be punished and removed. The world cannot work any other way, at least not in a representative democracy or a republic such as ours.

**SHEEP** (Continued on page 3)



*...dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment*

**The Alliance is a regionally-based, grass-roots organization that seeks to:**

1. Counter the designs of malicious legislators.
2. Confront the media's twisted portrayals of gun rights issues.
3. Politicize and activate gun owners in defense of their rights.
4. Acquaint the public with the true nature of the Second Amendment.
5. Network with other pro-gun groups to coordinate local, state and national strategies.
6. Train people in basic firearm safety and handgun defense.
7. Sponsor and support pro-gun legislation
8. Make politicians aware that gun owners are awakening from their accustomed apathy and  
**WILL TOLERATE NO FURTHER EROSION OF THEIR FREEDOMS**

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**COMING EVENTS**

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**WMSA**

**General Membership Meeting**

**Nov. 27, 2018**

Bass Pro Conservation Room  
 Independence, MO

•••

**MVACA**

**Missouri Valley Arms Collectors Assn.**

**To Be Announced**

KCI Expo Center  
 Kansas City, MO

••

**R. K. Shows**

KCI Expo Center

**October 27-28, 2018**

December 15-16, 2018  
 Jan. 12-13, 2019

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**WANENMACHER'S**

**TULSA ARMS SHOW**  
 EXPO CENTER-EXPO SQUARE  
 (TULSA FAIRGROUNDS)  
 TULSA, OKLAHOMA

**Nov. 10-11, 2018**

•••

**American Legion Gun & Knife Show**

**To Be Announced**

16701 E. 40 Highway  
 Independence, MO

•••

WMSA Table @ Bass Pro

**Oct. 6, 2018**

Nov. 10, 2018  
 Dec. 8, 2018

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SHEEP (Continued from page 1)

Still, the sheepdog disturbs the sheep. He is a constant reminder that there are wolves in the land. They would prefer that he didn't tell them where to go, or give them traffic tickets, or stand at the ready in our airports in camouflage fatigues holding an M-16. The sheep would much rather have the sheepdog cash in his fangs, spray paint himself white, and go, "Baa."

Until the wolf shows up. Then the entire flock tries desperately to hide behind one lonely sheepdog.

The students, the victims, at Columbine High School were big, tough high school students, and under ordinary circumstances they would not have had the time of day for a police officer. They were not bad kids; they just had nothing to say to a cop. When the school was under attack, however, and SWAT teams were clearing the rooms and hallways, the officers had to physically peel those clinging, sobbing kids off of them. This is how the little lambs feel about their sheepdog when the wolf is at the door.

Look at what happened after September 11, 2001 when the wolf pounded hard on the door. Remember how America, more than ever before, felt differently about their law enforcement officers and military personnel? Remember how many times you heard the word hero?

Understand that there is nothing morally superior about being a sheepdog; it is just what you choose to be. Also understand that a sheepdog is a funny critter: He is always sniffing around out on the perimeter, checking the breeze, barking at things that go bump in the night, and yearning for a righteous battle. That is, the young sheepdogs yearn for a righteous battle. The old sheepdogs are a little older and wiser, but they move to the sound of the guns when needed right along with the young ones.

Here is how the sheep and the sheepdog think differently. The sheep pretend the wolf will never come, but the sheepdog lives for that day. After the attacks on September 11, 2001, most of the sheep, that is, most citizens in America said, "Thank God I wasn't on one of those planes." The sheepdogs, the warriors, said, "Dear God, I wish I could have been on one of those planes. Maybe I could have made a difference." When you are truly transformed into a warrior and have truly invested yourself into warriorhood, you want to be there. You want to be able to make a difference.

There is nothing morally superior about the sheepdog, the warrior, but he does have one real advantage. Only one. And that is that he is able to survive and thrive in an environment that destroys 98 percent of the population. There was research conducted a few years ago with individuals convicted of violent crimes. These cons were in prison for serious, predatory crimes of violence: assaults, murders and killing law enforcement officers. The vast majority said that they specifically targeted victims by body language: slumped walk, passive behavior and lack of awareness. They chose their victims like big cats do in Africa, when they select one out of the herd that is least able to protect itself.

Some people may be destined to be sheep and others might be genetically primed to be wolves or sheepdogs. But I believe that most people can choose which one they want to be, and I'm proud to say that more and more Americans are choosing to become sheepdogs.

Seven months after the attack on September 11, 2001, Todd Beamer was honored in his hometown of Cranbury, New Jersey. Todd, as you recall, was the man on Flight 93 over Pennsylvania who called on his cell phone to alert an operator from United Airlines about the hijacking. When he learned of the other three passenger planes that had been used as weapons, Todd dropped his phone and uttered the words, "Let's roll," which authorities believe was a signal to the other passengers to confront the terrorist hijackers. In one hour, a transformation occurred among the passengers - athletes, business people and parents. -- from sheep to sheepdogs and together they fought the wolves, ultimately saving an unknown number of lives on the ground.

There is no safety for honest men except by believing all possible evil of evil men. - Edmund Burke

Here is the point I like to emphasize, especially to the thousands of police officers and soldiers I speak to each year. In nature the sheep, real sheep, are born as sheep. Sheepdogs are born that way, and so are wolves. They didn't have a choice. But you are not a critter. As a human being, you can be whatever you want to be. It is a conscious, moral decision.

If you want to be a sheep, then you can be a sheep and that is okay, but you must understand the price you pay. When the wolf comes, you and your loved ones are going to die if there is not a sheepdog there to protect you. If you want to be a wolf, you can be one, but the sheepdogs are going to hunt you down and you will never have rest, safety, trust or love. But if you want to be a sheepdog and walk the warrior's path, then you must make a conscious and moral decision every day to dedicate, equip and prepare yourself to thrive in that toxic, corrosive moment when the wolf comes knocking at the door.

For example, many officers carry their weapons in church. They are well concealed in ankle holsters, shoulder holsters or inside-the-belt holsters tucked into the small of their backs. Anytime you go to some form of religious ser-

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**SHEEP** (Continued from page 3)

vice, there is a very good chance that a police officer in your congregation is carrying. You will never know if there is such an individual in your place of worship, until the wolf appears to massacre you and your loved ones.

I was training a group of police officers in Texas, and during the break, one officer asked his friend if he carried his weapon in church. The other cop replied, "I will never be caught without my gun in church." I asked why he felt so strongly about this, and he told me about a cop he knew who was at a church massacre in Ft. Worth, Texas in 1999. In that incident, a mentally deranged individual came into the church and opened fire, gunning down fourteen people. He said that officer believed he could have saved every life that day if he had been carrying his gun. His own son was shot, and all he could do was throw himself on the boy's body and wait to die. That cop looked me in the eye and said, "Do you have any idea how hard it would be to live with yourself after that?"

Some individuals would be horrified if they knew this police officer was carrying a weapon in church. They might call him paranoid and would probably scorn him. Yet these same individuals would be enraged and would call for "heads to roll" if they found out that the airbags in their cars were defective, or that the fire extinguisher and fire sprinklers in their kids' school did not work. They can accept the fact that fires and traffic accidents can happen and that there must be safeguards against them.

Their only response to the wolf, though, is denial, and all too often their response to the sheepdog is scorn and disdain. But the sheepdog quietly asks himself, "Do you have any idea how hard it would be to live with yourself if your loved ones attacked and killed, and you had to stand there helplessly because you were unprepared for that day?"

It is denial that turns people into sheep. Sheep are psychologically destroyed by combat because their only defense is denial, which is counterproductive and destructive, resulting in fear, helplessness and horror when the wolf shows up.

Denial kills you twice. It kills you once, at your moment of truth when you are not physically prepared: you didn't bring your gun, you didn't train. Your only defense was wishful thinking. Hope is not a strategy. Denial kills you a second time because even if you do physically survive, you are psychologically shattered by your fear helplessness and horror at your moment of truth.

Gavin de Becker puts it like this in *Fear Less*, his superb post-9/11 book, which should be required reading for anyone trying to come to terms with our current world situation: "...denial can be seductive, but it has an insidious side effect. For all the peace of mind deniers think they get by saying it isn't so, the fall they take when faced with new violence is all the more unsettling."

Denial is a save-now-pay-later scheme, a contract written entirely in small print, for in the long run, the denying person knows the truth on some level.

And so the warrior must strive to confront denial in all aspects of his life, and prepare himself for the day when evil comes. If you are warrior who is legally authorized to carry a weapon and you step outside without that weapon, then you become a sheep, pretending that the bad man will not come today. No one can be "on" 24/7, for a lifetime. Everyone needs down time. But if you are authorized to carry a weapon, and you walk outside without it, just take a deep breath, and say this to yourself... "Baa."

This business of being a sheep or a sheep dog is not a yes-no dichotomy. It is not an all-or-nothing, either-or choice. It is a matter of degrees, a continuum. On one end is an abject, head-in-the-sand-sheep and on the other end is the ultimate warrior. Few people exist completely on one end or the other. Most of us live somewhere in between. Since 9-11 almost everyone in America took a step up that continuum, away from denial. The sheep took a few steps toward accepting and appreciating their warriors, and the warriors started taking their job more seriously. The degree to which you move up that continuum, away from sheephood and denial, is the degree to which you and your loved ones will survive, physically and psychologically at your moment of truth.

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## LIBERTY NOTES

By Kevin L. Jamison

It is a good day for Liberty.

A police officer returned to her apartment complex after a 15 hour shift. She parked on the wrong floor of the attached garage, entered the wrong floor of her building and walked to what she thought was her apartment door, but was not. Putting her key in the lock she was alarmed to find the door ajar. Entering she saw a figure in the darkness. Thinking the figure was a burglar she drew her gun and commanded him to kiss the carpet. The figure, the real owner of the apartment, did not obey her command. He may have thought that he was the victim of a home invasion. Home invaders often claim to be police to gain the upper hand. He did nothing wrong. Now he's dead. Facts are not complete. The officer did not set out to do anything wrong, yet she killed an innocent man. A flashlight may have prevented the worst.

At [www.LawofSelfDefense.com](http://www.LawofSelfDefense.com) Andrew Branca plays the video of a confrontation. These videos never show what started the problem. Despite that it is worth looking at. It begins with a white guy abusing, cursing and threatening a Black pregnant woman. This never turns into money. A Black man steps in to defend the pregnant woman. He also begins cursing and insulting and threatening. He draws a gun but does not aim or brandish it. This never turns into money. Eventually the White guy slugs the Black man in the stomach; a man he knows is holding a gun. The Black man hits him with his fist. The White guy is outraged that he has been hit and threatens to call the police. He also denies hitting the Black man first. The video does not show the outcome, but I think I know what happens. Whenever there is a dispute, and there will be, screaming at the other person will do no good. When coming to the rescue, do so like John Wayne. No shouting, no insults, no cursing. Like the Duke said, "Talk low, talk slow and don't talk too much." Once the monkey dance starts it ends with police and charges and bail bondsmen and court and probation with all its indignities. Sometimes there are personal injuries. The guy with the gun gets extra attention because that is a sexier charge than disturbing the peace.

A gun in the hand is worth two in the bush. Two guns in the hand are worth a gang at the door.

Plastic guns have the usual suspects in a tizzy. This time it is the code for a 3-d printer to print out a single shot .380 pistol. Sometimes these guns blow up when fired. It is legal for a person to make a gun for personal use. It is already illegal, however, to make or possess a plastic pistol. It is not illegal to possess the computer code to make such a pistol. It is not illegal to possess the machinery and blueprints to make steel guns.

Plastic pistols are insignificant. Bump stocks are insignificant. So why fight to preserve them? If we give them up what do we get? We get opponents who are encouraged to take things that are not insignificant.

Dicks Sporting Goods refuses to sell AR's and will not sell guns to anyone under the age of 21. Dicks hired lobbyists to work against the gun community. Dicks is losing money hand over fist. Could anyone have seen that coming?

As I write this Hurricane Florence is destroying North Carolina. There are already reports of looters. We will see if anyone had to protect themselves against looters.

WMSA vice president Carl Smart and I attended a project by Time Magazine. The October, 2018 edition will have a cover composed of hundreds of people who find guns important. Some of these people find guns important because they hate guns and gun owners. Time wisely had the gun owners and gun haters in on separate days. Carl brought a .22 rifle he uses in 4H youth gun training. He trains them so well that little girls beat him. I brought an antique flintlock pocket pistol. I had read some propaganda to the effect that pocket pistols did not exist until recently (the writer seems to have never heard the word 'Deringer'). I saw my gun at a gunshow and thought, "Aha, this is evidence." The gun went over well, perhaps because it is unusual. We were videoed and had an opportunity to make statements as to why guns were important. The concept of the operation is that we will all be on the cover of Time. The cover will be an exhibit which will tour the country. People can go to the Time website and click on each photo and hear what we had to say. I hope that it works out.

Then there was the panel "discussion." The group "American Public Square" put on a panel discussion on guns. There was a representative from Moms Demand Action, a psychiatrist from Children's Mercy Hospital, and two gun nuts. The group puts on panel discussions on subjects of public interest. Their goal is polite discussion. It did not work out that way. They tried to keep order with little bells. The Liberty Bell would have been more appropriate. I work with hostile crowds for a living. I have seen worse. The Moms Demand representative and psychiatrist began by demanding that Missouri pass a law prohibiting people convicted of adult abuse from having guns. Of course there has been a federal law to that effect for over 25 years. They then explained that such a law must include misdemeanor convictions. Of course the federal law specifically includes misdemeanors. They then said that the federal law does not include dating relationships. Of course, a dating relationship can be the basis for a conviction in Missouri. The interesting thing is that in the space of less than five minutes they went from knowing nothing about the federal law to knowing this very specific and somewhat obscure fact. The use of guns by bad guys obviously came up. The psychiatrist complained that she was hearing too much about bad guys; she was worried about good guys. I can go for years without worrying about good guys. They want to stress children getting an unattended gun, sometimes from good guys, and causing a tragedy. They want a law requiring guns to be unloaded and locked up separate from the ammunition. This was the Washington D.C. law found to be unconstitutional in the Heller case. It was pointed out that the gun community has been teaching safe storage since 1871. They might require guns to be locked up; we can teach people how to

Liberty (Continued on page 6)



*Liberty (Continued from page 5)*

do it. They demand biometric safes be used on penalty of law. They demand that teachers not be allowed to have guns because children will get hold of them. So, safes work at home but not in school. I did not expect the event to be fair. We cannot avoid them waiting for fairness; that only abandons the field to the usual suspects. They had fact checkers in the audience. The opposition demanded background checks. I explained that background checks by gunshops had been required for over 25 years; even at gunshows. Sales between individuals do not require background checks. Individuals do not have access to the background check system. A fact checker complained that I was not correct, then said exactly what I had just told them. I said that I had just said that. The fact checker and opposition said that I had not. Fortunately, the entire event was recorded. It is available at the Kansas City Star's facebook page.

I've listened to the audiobook of *Lincoln's Last Trial*. It was a murder trial and the defense was self-defense. There was local animosity against the defendant and in favor of the dead man. Defendants were not allowed to testify in those days. It was thought that they would be prejudiced. Victory relied on careful cross-examination. The dead man and friends entered a store to collect some money. They encountered the defendant. Examination showed they were not there to collect money. It showed that they knew the defendant would be there. There were much larger than the defendant. One small lie broke another and then another. A good book.

We shall overcome.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### ELECTION ISSUE

*K. L. Jamison*

Unless my next column comes in on time (and what are the chances of that) this will be my last column before the election. I live for the day when our rights do not hang on the outcome of an election.

There are Missouri democrats who are pro-gun. The national party, however, hates us with a passion. If they win control of congress every day will be like the Kavanaugh hearing. There will be investigations and investigations of the investigations. Impeachment, there will be impeachment proceedings. Various democrats are emphatic on this point. They are vague about what "high crimes or misdemeanors" that President Trump may have committed. They do not like his policies and for them that is enough.

I question some of the President's policies. However, it is said that if two men agree on all things, one of them is not thinking. President Trump has been helpful to our people. A hostile congress will stop that. At best it will distract him from accomplishing anything.

There is still time. Contribute money, small amounts add up. Put up a sign. Post a bumpersticker. Take a handful of literature and drop it in your neighborhood. Talk to a few people. Little things add up.

In the fullness of time your grandchildren will accompany you to the range and ask what you did to preserve their rights. On the other hand they may listen to your interminable shooting stories and ask why they cannot go shooting.

Spend thirty minutes on your grandchildren's rights.

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"America's abundance was created not by public sacrifices to 'the common good,' but by the productive genius of free men who pursued their own personal interests and the making of their own private fortunes. They did not starve the people to pay for America's industrialization. They gave the people better jobs, higher wages and cheaper goods with every new machine they invented, with every scientific discovery or technological advance—and thus the whole country was moving forward and profiting, not suffering, every step of the way."

—Ayn Rand

"Before a standing army can rule, the people must be disarmed; as they are in almost every kingdom of Europe. The supreme power in America cannot enforce unjust laws by the sword; because the whole body of the people are armed, and constitute a force superior to any band of regular troops that can be, on any pretense, raised in the United States."

—Noah Webster, 1787

"After a shooting spree, they always want to take the guns away from the people who didn't do it. I sure as hell wouldn't want to live in a society where the only people allowed guns are the police and the military."

—William S. Burroughs

"The danger is not, that the judges will be too firm in resisting public opinion, and in defense of private rights or public liberties; but, that they will be ready to yield themselves to the passions, and politics, and prejudices of the day."

—Joseph Story

"Unless a man is honest, we have no right to keep him in public life; it matters not how brilliant his capacity."

-- President Theodore Roosevelt



### The Anti-gun Left is Apoplectic Over the Brett Kavanaugh Nomination

The anti-gun Left has come totally unglued.

President Donald Trump nominated Brett Kavanaugh for the Supreme Court, and the liberal Left is in full mourning right now.

Democrat Senator Chris Murphy of Connecticut is symptomatic of the wailing and gnashing of teeth that is occurring today. Murphy tweeted last night:

Brett Kavanaugh is a true Second Amendment radical. He believes assault weapon bans are unconstitutional, a position way out of the judicial mainstream, far to the right of even late Justice Scalia.

Actually, Sen. Murphy is right about one thing. Early analysis (using a liberal-conservative scale) indicates that Kavanaugh is to the right of Scalia -- and even to the right of Justice Neil Gorsuch.

There is no doubt that Kavanaugh is pro-gun and will be a HUGE improvement over Anthony Kennedy, whom he is replacing. This is not to say that he is the most pro-gun of the finalists.

That would have been Third Circuit Judge Thomas Hardiman, who seemed prepared to rule that the only legitimate limits on the Second Amendment are laws that existed at the time of the Founders.

Nevertheless, Kavanaugh, in his most important gun-related decision (*Heller II*) filed a dissent arguing that D.C.'s ban on semi-automatic firearms was arbitrary and unlawful.

In fact, his dissent was so well argued that GOA's subsequent legal briefs have repeatedly held up his dissent as the model to follow.

In another case, Kavanaugh correctly interpreted the Firearm Owners Protection Act to find that a defendant could not be sentenced to 30 years in prison for use of a fully-automatic firearm if he was unaware that the gun fired automatically.

Kavanaugh also supported the prevailing opinion in the *Citizens United* case, which affirmed GOA's voice in the political arena.

No doubt, constitutionalists are bound to find some opinion that they will disagree with. No justice is perfect. Consider: There is near unanimous agreement that Clarence Thomas is the most conservative justice on the Supreme Court, and yet, even Justice Antonin Scalia -- as good as he was -- was to the left of Justice Clarence Thomas.

All said, given Kavanaugh's pro-gun vote in *Heller II*, we need to look at his record carefully and shouldn't nitpick on issues which doesn't directly relate to guns.

So I'll say it again. Judge Brett Kavanaugh is a HUGE improvement over Kennedy.

Remember page 54 of the *Heller* decision -- where there was *dicta* stating that certain gun control laws could be consistent with the Second Amendment?

Legal scholars have uncovered that this page was the price for "buying" Anthony Kennedy's vote -- and getting a 5-4 majority on *Heller*.

Now he's gone. And his exit is not lamented by any of us.

Thankfully, it looks as though we have a real chance for the Court to revisit the Second Amendment -- and actually hand down future decisions that will begin to dismantle the unconstitutional laws which are on the books.

So please urge your Senators to support the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh for the U.S. Supreme Court.

In Liberty,  
Erich Pratt  
Executive Director - GOA

"I wholeheartedly believe that the media is politicizing this tragedy. It seems that gun control laws is the major topic of conversation rather than focusing on the bigger issue of 17 innocent lives being taken at the hands of another human. ... I know many people who are pro-gun and others who support gun control but it seems that the media is specifically targeting those in support of gun control to make it seem as if they are the majority, and the liberal news outlets are the ones that seem to make the bigger effort to speak to these people."

—Brandon Minoff, a student of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School

"Perhaps the president should reissue his executive order and say that all immigrants and refugees coming into the country must undergo more severe background checks just in case they want to purchase a firearm. The Left would really be in a bind then!"

—Gary Bauer

"Since when have we Americans been expected to bow submissively to authority and speak with awe and reverence to those who represent us?"

—Justice William O. Douglas



## The Bump Stock Slippery Slope

By Thomas Gallatin

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) was asked last week if she viewed Democrats' opportunistic gun control legislative push as a slippery slope toward total gun control. She replied, "I certainly hope so." Well, she may get her wish.

The National Rifle Association has announced its opposition to bipartisan bill from Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Rep. Carlos Luis Curbelo (R-FL) that bans bump stocks and other gun parts. Jennifer Baker, the director of the NRA's public affairs Institute for Legislative Action, said, "These bills are intentionally overreaching and would ban owned firearm accessories."

First, since the Las Vegas massacre, the NRA has been calling for the ATF to review the regulations on bump stock devices; they have not called for new laws. Thus the NRA's opposition to these bills is consistent with their expressed stance; there is no flip-flopping here.

Second, it's entirely appropriate to call on the ATF to review its regulations as it was Barack Obama's gun-running ATF that gave approval to these devices in the first place. There should be no hiding behind Congress on this issue.

Third, the NRA is right to be opposed to these proposed bills that are so broadly worded as to create the slippery slope Pelosi hoped for. For example, the House's Curbelo/Moulton bill states, "It shall be unlawful for any person — in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, to manufacture, possess, or transfer any part or combination of parts that is designed and functions to increase the rate of fire of a semi-automatic rifle but does not convert the semi-automatic rifle into a machine gun." This essentially could allow for the banning of semi-automatic rifles as there is no mention as to what firing rate qualifies as "machine gun."

As The Federalist's Sean Davis explains: The design of semi-automatic weapons uses the recoil of the weapon generated by the gas explosion in the chamber when a round is fired to automatically chamber a new round, and prepare the weapon to be fired again. Because of this, any parts used in that process would likely be subject to the federal ban proposed in the Curbelo/Moulton bill, since they serve to increase the rate of fire of a semi-automatic weapon. Gas tubes, gas blocks, buffer springs and main springs, magazines, charging handles, ejectors and extractors, and even triggers themselves could potentially be banned under the bipartisan bump stock ban language proposed by Curbelo and Moulton.

Once again, under the guise of acting to prevent crime, Democrats (and complicit Republicans) seek to further limit the freedoms and rights of law-abiding Americans. If the passing of laws actually stopped criminal behavior, then murder, theft and rape would be nonexistent. The problem is not the availability of the tool, rather it's the intent of the user.

## C O R P O R A T E A M E R I C A C O N T I N U E S P U S H F O R G U N C O N T R O L

In the latest example of corporate America pushing hard for new gun control laws, the President and CEO of San Francisco-based company Levi Strauss, Chip Bergh, wrote and published an oped entitled "Why Business Leaders Need To Take A Stand On Gun Violence" where he argued for stronger gun control laws and pledged one million dollars in grant money to activists and non-profit organizations working to further increase gun control laws and end gun violence, such as Everytown For Gun Safety.

In the essay, Bergh further called on other corporate leaders to make similar pushes for gun control and even stated that employees of Levi Strauss could use paid volunteer time for political activism.

Bergh's oped and public stance simply makes the latest instance in which corporate leaders in America had waded into the political realm, and specifically taken a stance supporting more restrictive gun control measures.

"You may wonder why a company that doesn't manufacture or sell guns is wading into this issue," Berg wrote. "But for us, it's simple: Americans shouldn't have to live in fear of gun violence. It's an issue that affects all of us — all generations and all walks of life."

There's no denying that the momentum to further restrict gun laws has seen a major upswing in 2018 following a series of tragic shootings, even if several of the more prominent activists argue that they don't want to repeal the 2nd Amendment.

Even Bergh clarified that his statement was not arguing in favor of repealing the 2nd Amendment, and furthermore he was careful not to label law-abiding American gun owners as being irresponsible.

Levi Strauss that announced a three pronged initiative to show their support for ending gun violence:

Donating one million dollars over the course of four years to youth activities and nonprofit organizations working to end gun violence

Partnering with Everytown For Gun Safety to form Everytown Business Leaders For Gun Safety

Doubling all donations made by employees to the Safer Tomorrow Fund

"While taking a stand can be unpopular with some, doing

CORPORATE (Continued on page 9)



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**CORPORATE** (Continued from page 8)

nothing is no longer an option,” Bergh argued in his essay to justify bringing Levi Strauss into the gun debate fray. Gun safety has certainly become a major topic of discussion in America, and Levi Strauss is hardly the first major American corporation to wade into the discussion.

Most prominently, earlier this year Dick’s Sporting Goods ended the sale of semi-automatic rifles such as the AR-15 and also banned all gun sales to anyone under the age of 21.

“This is an issue that’s not going away,” Edward Stack, the Chief Executive of Dick’s Sporting Goods, said at the time. “We needed to take a stand.”

Kroger, Walmart, Bank of America, and Citigroup are three other examples of major corporations that took actions to curb gun sales.

Walmart and Kroger ended all gun sales to customers under the age of 21 and also ended the sale of semi-automatic rifles, while Citigroup announced that it would place restrictions on all firearm sales for retail business clients, making it a rule that the clients must sell guns only to those age 21 and above and only to those who have passed a Federal background check.

Meanwhile, Bank America stopped lending money to manufacturers of so-called ‘military style weapons’ to civilians.

One can’t help but wonder which more corporations will seek to push for gun control, or if any other corporations will step out in favor of gun rights.

### ALL THINGS (LAWS) BEING CONSIDERED ...

As a gun owner/enthusiast, do you know current laws in place for your state, and more importantly, laws being proposed by your state legislature?

Many questions arise when it comes to specific laws by state. Adherence to the letter of the law is in everyone’s best interest, yet there are those who would change laws “on the books” to further their ideologies, or bend to public pressure. The debate continues now more than ever, as we see rights in general, hanging in the balance.

Currently there is a new law being proposed in Washington D.C. Calling it the “Center for Firearm Violence Prevention Research Establishment Act of 2018 (B22-0843). Perhaps a more fitting title could be: “Gun Control Research Act of 2018”, and will be taxpayer funded if ratified. Most likely this proposal is in response to D.C.’s change to a “Shall Issue” law in October 2017 after bans on open carry, and concealed carry were struck down by federal courts as being unconstitutional.

So, local and state legislators are going to work to upend D.C.’s progress towards freedom for the individual, law-abiding gun owner. There are still plenty of restrictions (magazine size, procession of ammunition), but the new law for the state is more in line with many state trends.

State gun regulations can be quite specific, while at the same time incomprehensive. For example, there are blocks of states that prohibit firearms where alcohol is served, but will allow firearms if a certain percentage of the business is not related to alcohol. All should research specifics for their state. Laws can be ambiguous, and are ever-changing. D.C. is a good example of the tide turning either way. In October, a public hearing will be held concerning the D.C. proposal, so it remains to be seen if citizens there will take part, urging law makers to retain “Shall Issue” for their state.

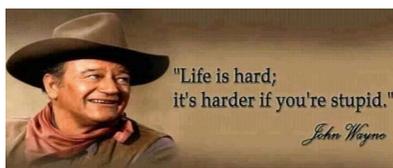
Last year, the NRA lent a hand to secure gun owner’s rights throughout Nebraska. Citizens there could have inadvertently violated the law as they traveled through their state, due to local gun regulations. Legislative Bill 68 eliminated the confusion by ensuring the state gun law preempted local ordinances.

Of course, the open carry debates go on, as some citizens are squeamish at the sight of a gun legally carried. A news item worth noting: “East Texas State Fair Bans Open Carry, Concealed Carry Still Allowed.” The Texas legislature passed open carry laws January 1, 2016, (and campus carry August 1, 2016.) Fair President, John Sykes states only concealed carry will be allowed and that “security and police will be there if an incident should happen”. Mr. Sykes also stated, “the fair “trusts” those with concealed carry licenses should anything happen.”

A 2004 review of the National Academy of Sciences concluded that there was no evidence that concealed carry either increases or reduces violent crime. Does an open, public venue reserve the right to restrict open carry? Private businesses have the right to ban guns if they post a 30.06, or 30.07 sign. However, you can openly carry in Texas, for example in public parks, buildings, and other areas open to the general public. It’s unlikely this is an isolated incident, as some citizens quietly assume power over other’s rights.

Currently there are no new gun cases being proposed to the Supreme Court, however Trump will have potentially even more appointments to the court during his tenure, especially if he achieves that sought-after 2nd term. So, look for more impact to the types of gun cases being considered by SCOTUS.

We all should be acutely aware of proposals made by state legislatures, and as we see in the case in Texas, attentive to news about those averse to the law.



*“The ballot box is one of the mightiest platforms we have. Use it or lose it.” —Michelle Malkin*



## We're having a raffle!

### We're raffling off a Ruger 10-22 Rifle with Mannlicher Stock

We've limited the number of raffle tickets to only 750. We will not mail tickets to members to sell. Tickets will be available at all General meetings and at events where WMSA has a table. Additionally to building our treasury for the coming year, this year's raffle is aimed towards gaining more WMSA members.

The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. If you buy one ticket, you have one chance in 750 of winning. If you buy five tickets, your chances rise to five chances in 750. As an added incentive, bring in a new member at a General Membership Meeting and get a free raffle ticket. Any current member who brings in a new WMSA member gets a free raffle ticket for each new member added to our rolls.

Bring your prospective new member to a General membership meeting and when the new member completes the membership application and pays their dues, you are handed a ticket, no charge! The drawing for the rifle will be at the January 2019 RK Gun Show at the KCI Expo Center.

Go recruit new members, get a free ticket for every member and exhaust our limited number of tickets.

Tickets can also be obtained via mail by sending a check to the WMSA, P.O. Box 11144, Kansas City, MO 64119.



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**\*REMINDER\*** *Next General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM  
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The Second Amendment Foundation  
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