



Editorial Report

TRUTH NO OBSTACLE TO OBSESSIVE GUN GRABBERS

By John Michael Snyder
Editor, POINT BLANK

You've got to give the gun grabbers credit for one thing. They're really committed. Some of them so much so that perhaps they really ought to be formally committed.

When someone is so committed to an idea that facts which would cause a reasonable person to reject that idea do not, then that person is not a reasonable individual.

But doesn't that pretty much describe a lot of the gun grabbers?

The basis for much of the anti-gun owner activity in this country and throughout the world is the unwarranted assumption that guns cause crime and violence. The more guns, the more crime. Therefore, reduce the quantities of guns and you reduce the numbers of crimes.

Very logical.

If the premise were true, the conclusion would follow.

But the premise is not true.

Professor Dan Polsby's speech during the April Industry Summit sponsored in Washington, D. C. by the American Shooting Sports Council, reported at some length in the center section of this issue of POINT BLANK, demonstrates this.

So does an encyclopedic collection of studies, monographs, books and articles which have appeared in a number of places over the years.

But none of this stops the double-think of the gun grabbers.

They're so committed to the false premise upon which much gun control propaganda is based that they literally can't think straight.

When the truth undermines their argument, they'd don't accept that and admit it, they just go around the argument.

For years, for instance, the gun grabbers have been saying that liberalized or "lax" gun control laws correlate with high violent crime rates.

Currently, though, the evidence is showing that states which have liberalized laws relating to the carrying of concealed handguns by law-abiding citizens have lower rates of violent crime than do the states with more restrictive laws in this regard.

But has this caused the gun grabbers to revise their thinking, to drop their doublethink? To admit that more restrictive anti-gun laws do not correlate with a reduction in violent crime rates?

Of course not!

Now in effect they're arguing that the states with the more highly restrictive gun control laws have higher rates of violent crime because of the states with the more liberalized firearms laws and the lower rates of violent crimes.

Huh?

That's right. That's really how they're arguing.

They're saying that anti-gun, high violent crime rate states are that way because of

**STRAIGHT TALK
ABOUT WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO
PRESERVE YOUR
RIGHT TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**

June 1997
Volume XXVII, No. 6

**CITIZENS
COMMITTEE
FOR THE RIGHT
TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**

(a non-profit corporation)

**National Headquarters:
12500 N.E. Tenth Place
Bellevue, Washington 98005**

**Capitol Hill Office:
600 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E. #205
Washington, D.C. 20003**

(Continued on page 2)

GUN GRABBERS ARE COMMITTED

(Continued from page 1)

pro-gun, lower violent crime rate states.

They're saying that people get their guns from the pro-gun, lower violent crime rate states and then go to the anti-gun, higher violent crime rate states and do bad things. They're saying that if it wasn't for the pro-gun, lower violent crime rate states, this wouldn't happen.

But their logic is faulty. If their argument was valid, the pro-gun states would have higher violent crime rates than the anti-gun states, not lower rates.

So, it is not only their premise which lacks validity. Their argument in this case also lacks logical consistency.

It seems never to occur to them what is obvious to people with basic common sense, that guns in the hands of law-abiding citizens and, therefore, laws which facilitate rather than prevent this, correlate with lower violent crime rates. The criminally-inclined, the violence-prone are thwarted not by anti-gun laws, but by anti-crime laws and by laws which empower law-abiding citizens to defend themselves against violent criminal attack.

This faulty thinking would be bad enough in a high school student or even in a college freshman.

But in a U. S. Representative or Senator who allegedly is a not only a college graduate but also a law school graduate and member of the bar?

That's the reality, though.

The theory that pro-gun, lower violent crime rate states are behind the problems of the anti-gun, higher violent crime rate states underlies legislation introduced in the Unites States Senate by Sen. Robert Torricelli of New Jersey and in the United States House of Representatives by Rep. Charles Schumer of New York.

Schumer's bill, H. R. 1264, and Torricelli's bill, S. 658, which he introduced

with Sen. Richard Durbin of Illinois as original cosponsor, both are short-titled the "Gun Kingpin Penalty Act."

The measure, would create a new federal so-called "gunrunning" offense for any non-licensed person who, within a 12 month period, transports more than five guns to another state with the intent of transferring all of the firearms to another non-licensed person.

It would establish mandatory minimum penalties for "gunrunning" as follows:

- A mandatory three year minimum sentence for the first offense involving five to 50 guns;
- A mandatory five year minimum sentence for second offense involving five to 50 guns; and
- A mandatory 15 year minimum sentence for any offense involving more than 50 guns.

In addition, there would be a mandatory 10 year minimum sentence if one of the so-called "smuggled" guns is used within three years to kill or seriously injure another person. A mandatory 25 year minimum sentence would be mandatory if one of the "smuggled" guns is used within three years to kill or seriously injure another person and more than 50 guns were "smuggled."

The bill would provide for an additional 200 Treasury officials.

It would also authorize as prosecutable under RICO or racketeering predicates violations of federal law relating to unlicensed importation, manufacture or dealing in firearms; interstate transportation or receipt of firearm; transfer of firearm to person from another state; false statements made in acquisition of firearm or ammunition from licensee; disposition of firearm or ammunition to a prohibited person; receipt of firearm or ammunition by a prohibited person; possession of firearm or ammunition on behalf of a prohibited person; transportation of stolen firearm or ammunition; receipt of stolen firearm or ammunition; transportation or receipt of firearm with altered serial number; "gunrunning;" and shipment or receipt of firearm for use in a crime.

S. 658 has been referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

H. R. 1264 has been referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in each case for the consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

POINT BLANK readers could write their own Senators and Representative and let them know what they think of this measure. The address for U. S. Senators



POINT BLANK

"Straight talk about what you can do to preserve your right to keep and bear arms."

Editor John M. Snyder
Publisher Alan M. Gottlieb
Managing Editor J. H. Versnel
Associate Editors Mike Connely
 Ken Jacobson
 Jeff Kane
 Bob Kukla
 Jim Schneider

Advertising Information
 Call (206)454-4911

POINT BLANK is published monthly by Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, Liberty Park, 12500 N.E. Tenth Place, Bellevue, Washington 98005.

Copyright © 1997 CCRKBA

Correspondence and manuscripts should be sent to POINT BLANK, CCRKBA, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., Suite 205, Washington, D.C. 20003.

Address Change: Write new address, city, state, and zip code on a plain piece of paper. Attach mailing label from an issue of POINT BLANK and send to CCRKBA, 12500 N.E. Tenth Place, Bellevue, Washington 98005. Please allow four to six weeks for change to become effective.

GOTTLIEB RAPS CLINTON CHOICE FOR HEALTH POSTS

Alan M. Gottlieb, CCRKBA Chairman, last month expressed alarm over plans of the Clinton Administration to nominate Dr. David Satcher to the dual post of Surgeon General of the United States and Assistant Health Secretary, reported Joyce Price of THE WASHINGTON TIMES.

"We oppose David Satcher," stated Gottlieb. "He's totally anti-gun... This is another slap at gun owners by Bill Clinton, who is the most anti-gun President in history."

Echoing Gottlieb, T. J. Johnston, President of the Gun Owners Action Committee, said "we're very much concerned... We'll lobby against Satcher."

Satcher, currently Director of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has characterized so-called "handgun violence" as a "public health problem."

Chip Walker of the National Rifle Association of America, said "we would be concerned if he were to be nominated... based on the fact that he has allowed the CDC to practice what we and Congress have deemed to be politicized science on the gun issue."

At the time of this writing, the White House had not yet formally announced that Satcher is the top candidate to be Surgeon General and Assistant Health Secretary.

However, a White House spokeswoman in late April confirmed published reports that he is. "They are trying to

figure out how to structure this dual position," she said. "That's what's caused the delay" in making a formal announcement.

The dual post would make Satcher the Nation's top physician and public health administrator.

The position of Surgeon General has been vacant since the notorious Dr. Jocelyn Elders was fired from the post in December of 1994 amid a swirl of controversy over her comments on a number of subjects, reported THE WASHINGTON TIMES.

Johnston charged that the CDC, under Satcher's leadership, has been "using biased studies" on handgun violence "to promote an agenda" designed to make gun ownership look dangerous so that it becomes socially unacceptable.

Satcher and other CDC officials defended their research on firearms injuries at a House of Representatives hearing in May of last year, where their motives were questioned by several Republican Representatives.

Later, in November, Congressman Jay Dickey of Arkansas was designated CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month "for his successful leadership of the effort to curtail the anti-gun activities of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) of the CDC."

Dickey had initiated an appropriations move to take \$2.6 million, the exact amount spent by NCIPC on so-called "firearm injury research," and reprogram

it within the CDC budget. The moneys in question subsequently were earmarked specifically for traumatic brain injury research.

During the congressional debate on the issue, Dickey stated "this is an issue of federally funded public advocacy. We have here an attempt by the CDC through the NCIPC, a disease control agency of the federal government, to bring about gun control advocacy all over the United States through seminars, through the staff members and through the funding of different efforts all over the country on this one issue, to raise emotional sympathy for these people who are for gun control.

"It is a blatant attempt on the part of government to federally fund lobbying and political advocacy.

"Rather than calling violence a disease and guns as a germ, these people should be looking at the other root causes of crime: poverty, drug trade, gangs, and children growing up without parental support, and the cruel trap of welfare dependency. Those things have more to do with crime control than coming at it from a disease definition.

"Ownership of guns by itself is what this particular amount of money is going to. It is not a public health threat. In fact, the violence relating to guns has been found to be going down to the extent of two-thirds, where we actually have a 173 percent increase in the number of guns in the United States. So it is obviously

LOCAL BSA OFFICIAL NOTES CCRKBA SHOOTING MATCH ASSISTANCE

A local official of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) recently thanked John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, for CCRKBA's support of the first scout shooting activity over and above the organization's merit badges program.

Dan Arico, Assistant Scoutmaster of BSA's George Washington District in Northern Virginia, wrote Snyder and expressed the group's thanks "for your help in our recent BSA shooting tournament."

The Rifle Match at the Northern Virginia Gun Club attracted 40 youngsters

ages 11 through 17.

Arico, who served as Match Chairman, said nine trophies were awarded as well as a number of ribbons.

"This was more than just a shooting match," stated Arico. "We are already getting inquiries about another match in the fall so it appears we have gotten a continuing shooting program started which will include boys from all over the area, including Washington, D. C.

"It is my hope that this program will help to dispel some of the anti-gun propaganda that these kids are getting in the schools and from the media. It

certainly has helped in teaching them that the shooting sports can be fun!"

In an official announcement for the George Washington BSA District newsletter, the group offered "special thanks" to John Snyder and CCRKBA "for helping to provide trophies for this event.

"Federal Cartridge Company was also a major supporter and source of the ammunition for the match.

"Last but not least, we could not have staged this event without the support of our gracious hosts from the Northern Virginia Gun Club, and the efforts of our range master, Jim Morgan, who ran the

SNYDER REPRESENTS CCRKBA AT ASSC PRAISES LAW PROFESSOR DANIEL I

John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, represented CCRKBA in late April during the 1997 Industry Summit sponsored by the American Shooting Sports Council (ASSC).

Snyder praised Daniel D. Polsby, Kirkland and Ellis Professor of Law at Northwestern University, for "his incisive, scholarly and comprehensive luncheon address in the historic United States Senate Caucus Room to leaders of the firearms industry."

Each year, during its "Fly-In," members of ASSC, comprised primarily of officials of various firearms and ammunition manufacturing companies in the United States, meet in Washington, D. C. They contact U. S. Senators and Representatives and their staffs in order to explain their positions on firearms related matters to elected officials.

The Industry Summit includes an Annual Wild Game Dinner, the entree of which this year was Texas free-range venison.

Following the dinner, Richard Feldman, ASSC Executive Director, presented a special Thomas Jefferson Award for Lifetime Achievement to Joseph P. Tartaro, President of the Second Amendment Foundation.

Feldman also made presentations to Roy Innis, National Chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality, and to Rep. Bob Barr of Georgia, Chairman of the House Speaker's Task Force on Firearms, who received ASSC's Congressional Leader of the Year Award.

Barr, Feldman, Innis and Tartaro all have been named CCRKBA Gun Rights Defenders Awardees at previous times.

During the April 26-30 Summit, ASSC also honored Reps. John Linder of Georgia and Lee Hamilton of Indiana, who received the group's Connecticut Valley Firearms Freedom Award.

In his April 29 luncheon speech, Professor Dan Polsby noted the intellectual argument in favor of restrictive gun control is collapsing, but warned listeners "there are dozens of people in office in this building and the ones adjacent who not only want to put you out of business, but would be very happy to send you to prison. They think that you are the root cause of our country's exceptionally high

violent crime statistics...and it's not just that they disagree with you about some policy or another: they hate you. You may think that making friends down here will help you, and it will, but you are never going to have a network of friends like the tobacco industry because you aren't a principal industry in any state: look at their situation and ponder. The rules of the game around here are: if you are a bad guy, if you are a merchant of death, then you are fair game. No untruth, so long as it is told about you, will ever cost the person who tells it a smidgen of credibility among the press in this town. No piece of phony, trumped-up, result oriented social science research will ever be closely examined or criticized, so long as it makes you the bull's eye of reproach. The supposed purity of motives will absolve every sin and redeem every sinner. Whenever hate is the motive force, the ends always justify the means.

"There is a good bit of irony in this fate, because the rap against the firearms industry is bogus. For all the harm that firearms do (and as we all know, they do plenty), they also do a great deal of good as well. They are the principal tools of home security for tens of millions of American families, as well as a recreational object of millions more. They are the tools of criminals also, as we all appreciate, but the tools of police officers and peaceable citizens as well. When Bill Clinton promised us 100,000 new cops on the streets in the 1994 crime bill, he was promising us 100,000 new guns on the street as well, 100,000 over and above the ones that are there already (unless he thought that the new officers would be armed with cans of Reddi-Whip). So even the President, of all people, has tacitly conceded that it isn't the guns, but the people who are using them, their purposes and intentions, that we have to be concerned about."

Professor Polsby said "the burden of most gun control laws has been, not to make guns disappear, but to make them scarce, scarcer than they were before. Supposing these laws work at all, what effects should we expect them to have in the real world. The Futility Theorem is based on the economic theory of prices

and so gives a pretty dependable answer to this question. If any commodity becomes scarcer than it was before in relation to demand, its price should be higher than it was before, and so overall demand should be less. Fewer gun sales result, and this is the objective of most gun control laws. But how should we expect this change in prices to affect the distribution of guns? Not everyone is affected equally by the change in prices. Higher prices, which result from increased scarcity, should bite harder on some people than on others. And the difference in that bite, comparing home security buyers and intending criminals, is at the heart of the Futility Theorem, because there is very good reason to say that criminals care less about higher prices than people who want weapons for home security.

"Let's look at this reason. The usefulness of a firearm can be broken down into two value functions. One of them is the value that a person places on dominating a hostile transaction with another person. If you have business with someone that has to be settled at gunpoint, that is definitely a 'hostile transaction,' and if you get the drop on somebody with a gun, you will, as a rule, 'dominate' that hostile transaction. So we have to ask: do we know of any systematic differences between the class of criminals and the class of homeowners concerning the value they place on their lives? The answer is: not much difference. Both place a high value on not getting shot, on getting out of a hostile encounter with their lives.

"The second value function is: how likely is it that one will be involved in that kind of situation in the first place? If you only want the gun to dominate the hostile transaction, but such a transaction is very unlikely to occur, you should place a relatively lower value on the weapon. If it is very likely to occur, you will place a higher value on it...What really are the chances of somebody breaking into your house and confronting you? Well, they are not trifling, unfortunately, but they are pretty remote, so a price increase, depending on how much it is - or on how much scarcity a gun control law produces - should price quite a few home

ASSC INDUSTRY SUMMIT IN CAPITAL: L. D. POLSBY FOR INCISIVE ADDRESS

security seekers out of the market. That's the objective of most gun control laws and probably the usual result.

"How for criminals? Well, remember, here we have a class of people who intend to confront someone with a gun. When someone intends to do something, we can expect the something that he intends to do to result pretty often. That's one reason why criminal law punishes intentional harms more severely than accidental harms - because intending a bad consequence is more socially dangerous, is more likely to lead to harm, than merely being careless. People who intend to use a gun to intimidate or kill another person should therefore place a systematically higher value on that weapon than people who use it if and only if some remote contingency makes it necessary to do so. Criminals are more price insensitive than householders. If gun control laws work as they are intended, they should ultimately result in increasing the disparity of arms between criminals and householders, in favor of the criminals. Even if you wind up with fewer guns in society, you're going to have more trouble.

"There is a great intellectual competitor of the Futility Theorem, called the Instrumentality Theory, a fancy way of saying that guns cause violent crime. This is the official theory around here, the one believed by THE WASHINGTON POST and most of the nomenclatura and journalists so long, mind you, as it is other people's interests rather than their own interests that are at issue. The Instrumentality Theory blames guns - instrumentalities - for our country's high rates of lethal violence. This theory makes a number of different predictions from the Futility Theorem. It predicts that whenever there are more guns, there will be more killing. It is repeated endlessly, in every medium of mass communication. Everything that happens is taken to prove it. Let some nut blow up a federal office building and next day in the newspaper one reads: you see, we need more gun control. Let some criminal murder a famous man's son or premeditate the robbery of banks and the same knowing nods - you see, we need more gun control. Reading THE

NEW YORK TIMES or TIME or NEWSWEEK or even THE ECONOMIST on this subject, is like attending the bad comedians' convention: however many jokes, all have the same punch line. You see? You see?

"Well, actually, I don't see. The Instrumentality Theory is a flop, a failure of a theory, the product of a tendentious if not downright dishonest public relations campaign run by power-junkies with very little allegiance to fact, civil dialogue or, for that matter, anything but the degraded norms of interest group politics. Anyone who cares to look can see what is wrong with the Instrumentality Theory. It predicts that when guns increase, domestic homicides should increase. Well, they haven't, just the opposite. Between 1980 and 1992, the national handgun stock in this country increased by 40 percent, but domestic homicides went down. A failure for the instrumentality theory.

"If the instrumentality theory were correct, one should expect to see impulsive killings, usually prosecuted as manslaughters, increase as a percentage of homicides as the handgun stock has increased. Well, that hasn't happened. Killings provoked in the course of arguments represented 40 percent of reported homicides in 1980 and 32 percent in 1991, which is a decline of 20 percent. A failure for the Instrumentality Theory.

"We saw the same thing in local statistics in Chicago. It appears from Chicago's 1992 numbers, in fact, that intrafamilial homicides, with and without firearms, represented only 69 of the city's 940 murders - about seven percent. Friends, neighbors and the friends of friends and relatives, added 73 more. We have fewer acquaintance homicides in Chicago nowadays than we had 30 years ago, despite a tripling in the city's murder rate; and that's a fact that has never, ever, been printed in the local newspapers. Twenty-five years ago, family, friends and neighbors accounted for nearly half of Chicago murders. If you want to find out what's killing the majority of Chicago's homicide victims, you can forget the Instrumentality Theory, it offers no explanation at all. Gangbangers - whose

demand for guns is driven by business considerations - have accounted for every single bit of the increase in the tripling of Chicago's homicide rate, a rather startling illustration of how you can't solve a demand side problem on the supply side. Handguns are banned in Chicago, have been for 15 years. Nobody but a few grandfathered-in old-timers, cops and politicians and their cronies are allowed to have handguns in Chicago.

"How does the Instrumentality Theory fare with suicides? Poorly. Rates of suicide in this country have been pretty stable in this country over many years, as they are in most societies. But it is true that firearms are much more commonly the means of suicide in this country than was true 20 years ago, from which one could draw one of two inferences. The first inference is: people who want to die would rather shoot themselves than take their chances with pills, slow strangulation or any of the other uncertain and unpleasant means of self-destruction. Instrumentality theorists don't credit that - too obvious - and claim that with fewer handguns about, the suicide rate would be lower. Very unlikely. But - instrumentality theorists love international comparisons - one might be interested in knowing whether the suicide rate is lower in Japan (where there are no private handguns at all) or Germany (where there are very few). In fact, it is much higher in both places than it is in this country - half higher again in Japan than in the United States and only a bit less than that high in Germany. If we think that handguns are responsible for the high suicide rate in the United States, why not reason that not having handguns is driving the Japanese and Germans to hang themselves. Another failure of the Instrumentality Theory.

"Since we are talking about flunking a theory out of school, I guess you are surprised I haven't even mentioned Lott and Mustard yet, their famous study that shows how liberalizing carry concealed laws drives down the rate of confrontational crime.

"One thing about the Lott-Mustard study is controversial with no one without an ax to grind: the study establishes that large increases in the carrying of handguns, and large decreases in homicide rates, are compatible conditions and not

GEORGIA NICHOLS THE CCRKBA AWARDEE

Georgia L. Nichols of North Haven, Connecticut is the designated recipient of the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award for June.

In nominating Mrs. Nichols for the Award, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said "I have known Georgia for some time now and have heard her speak several times at the annual Gun Rights Policy Conference, cosponsored by CCRKBA and the Second Amendment Foundation.

"She is without doubt one of the most effective spokespersons in the American gun rights movement. Always a lady, Georgia also always is articulate, forthright and absolutely solid in asserting and defending the individual right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms. Georgia is most deserving of this Award."

Nichols, born in New Haven, Connecticut, is President of the American Shooting Sports Council, Inc. She also is a member of the Council's Board of Directors.

She is Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Mossberg Corporation and its subsidiaries. She has been with O. F. Mossberg & Sons since 1974 where she has held various positions, including Director of Personnel. In 1984, she established the company's Legal Department.

She is Treasurer and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Firearms Council, Inc.

Georgia is a Member of the Board and Case Selection Committee of the Product Liability Advisory Council, a Member of the Product Liability Client Advisory Board of the American Law Firm Association, a Member of the Board of Directors of Sporting Activities Insurance Limited, and a Member of Sports Litigators of the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association.

Georgia is a graduate of Quinnipiac School of Law in Hamden, Connecticut and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce from Rider College in Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

An accomplished equestrian and shooter, Mrs. Nichols has given numerous speeches and written articles on issues affecting the firearms industry.

She has been a frequent speaker at the Gun Rights Policy Conference and the annual SHOT Show, as well as at other meetings concerning the manufacturing, sale and ownership of firearms. In the area of product liability and the firearms industry, Mrs. Nichols is considered one of the leading authorities in the country.

Georgia and her husband, Spencer, have two sons and two grandsons.

In one of her many writings, Nichols stated she had just "attended an annual American Shooting Sports Coalition 'fly-in' in Washington, D. C. The purpose of ASSC is to promote shooting sports; to achieve that end, ASSC attempts to spread 'our' word, that is that we are honest, deeply patriotic and concerned citizens/business people and a substantial part of our country's economic, social and political structure. Our views are not radical or dangerous. The fly-in is purposely held in the District so that ASSC representatives can meet with their elected political representatives.

"In an exercise apparently designed to educate the Congress, (New York) Congressperson (Charles) Schumer's committee was interviewing children. As a parent, I certainly do not denigrate the validity of the old 'out of the mouths of babes' saw; however, I feel that businesses, governments, education systems and any other endeavor that hopes to be successful may need more mature advice. Before that august assembly of adolescent intellects (you betcha, congresspersons included), Congressperson Schumer ranted: 'For the last three days, these adult gun pushers have been twisting arms in their silk suits and Gucci shoes! I invite those lobbyists to look these children in the eye!' Well now, Congressperson Schumer, I can not only look into the eyes of those children, but yours also. Children need be taught, adolescent congresspersons need be chastised at the polls; considering your taxpayer funded, voted by you for you, best in the universe retirement pension scam, an early return to the real world may not be so painful..."

"Does Congressperson Schumer really think that the American Firearms Industry has a concerted and dedicated plan to market firearms to adolescents?

Does he believe that General Motors has an aggressive marketing campaign to sell automobiles to teen-aged drunken drivers? Does he believe that McCulloch surreptitiously markets chain saws to young mass murderers? Does he believe that knife, hammer, axe, blunt, sharp and all other device manufacturers have joined in a secret cabal to provide our children weapons of mutual and self-destruction at reduced prices? Does he believe that guns kill people rather than people using guns kill people? Schumer is a Congressperson; his yes answer to all the above wouldn't surprise me...

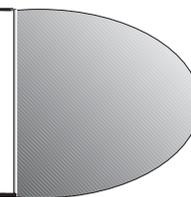
"For the record, Congressperson Schumer, I didn't see a silk suit or Gucci shoe in the lot of us. We are working people producing a product much more substantial than hot air. As a consequence, we frequent environments where silk and Italian leather don't fare well. You must learn to differentiate us from your D.C. West associates. I learned about luxurious hotels, port and truffles by observing junketing Congresspersons expanding the national debt while studying 'urgent issues.'

"Nothing disturbs me more than arrogant ignorance (or ignorant arrogance) wherever it occurs - in myself, my family or the Nation's hallowed institutions. There are many congressional Representatives whose brains govern their mouths. To them we are all indebted for their thoughtful insights into the Nation's problems and their tireless efforts in attempting to solve them. As my law-abiding, noncriminal, taxpaying and legally gun-toting children would say, 'Get a life and a real job, Schumer!'"

Mrs. Nichols holds memberships in the American Bar Association, the American Business Women's Associa-



QUICK SHOTS



safety locks on the triggers of all handguns, according to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL/NBC NEWS Poll reported in the JOURNAL on May 2.

A lawsuit seeing to hold a firearm maker responsible for the 1993 shooting spree in a San Francisco law firm was dismissed May 6 by a California Superior Court Judge.

The judge ruled that Navegar, the maker of one of the guns used by Gian Luigi Ferri at the Petit and Martin law firm, was not liable for Ferri's criminal acts.

Judge James Warren's ruling dismissed the civil suit against Navegar which was filed against the gun company by the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence on behalf of the relatives of Ferri's victims.

Richard J. Feldman, Executive Director of the American Shooting Sports Council and a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardee, expressed concern for the losses suffered by the families, but noted that "their grief should not be used to blame and victimize innocent, third parties."

"We are all saddened by such tragic events as occurred at 101 California Street, but Navegar could not foresee, predict nor prevent the criminal acts of a madman.

"These lawsuits are examples of

CCRKBA announced its opposition to S. 707, the proposed "Concealed Weapons Prohibition Act of 1997," by Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg of New Jersey, to outlaw generally the carrying of concealed firearms.

Lautenberg said "Americans should be able to travel across state lines for business, to visit their families, or for any other purpose, without having to worry about concealed weapons."

John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said the introduction of S. 707 "comes in obvious frightened response to the support in Congress gathering for H.R. 339, by Rep. Cliff Stearns of Florida, a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardee. H. R. 339 would allow one who holds a permit to carry a concealed firearm in any state to carry that gun in any state.

"POINT BLANK readers should contact their own U.S. Representative and ask him or her to become a cosponsor of H.R. 339, the proposed 'Right to Safety and Personal Protection Act.'"

In New York, Congressman Charles E. Schumer, the most actively outspoken gun grabber in Congress, announced that next year he would run for the United States Senate seat held now by Sen. Al D'Amato.

Over 80 percent of the public favors legislation which would require child

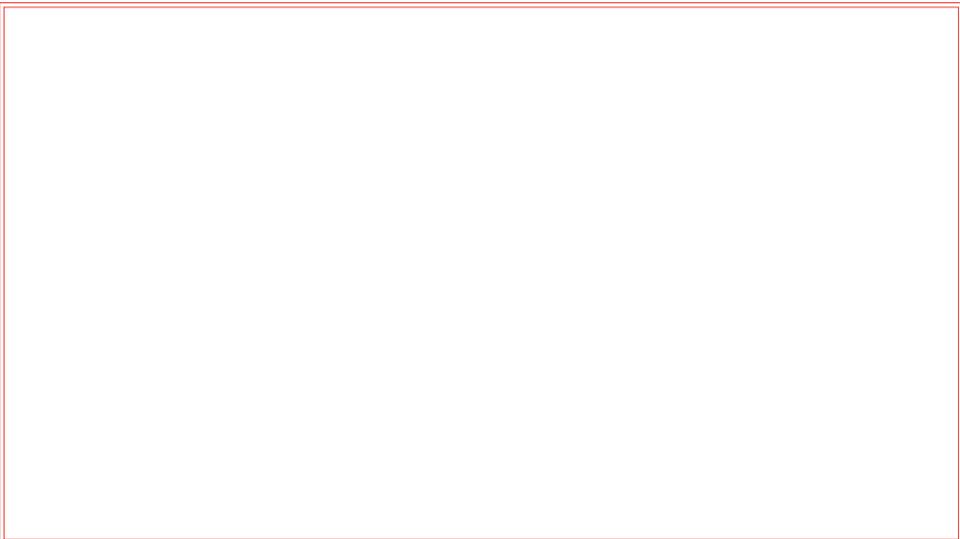
misdirected efforts that refuse to hold the individual responsible for his or her misdeeds. Instead, they further the goals of those who cast about looking for someone else to blame. The inevitable result is that society becomes twice victimized."

The ruling was a "shock to supporters of the lawsuit," reported THE NEW YORK TIMES. Dennis A. Henigan, a lawyer for the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, said his organization would repeal the court ruling.

Kenneth V. Blanchard of the District of Columbia Defense League, writes in THE WASHINGTON TIMES that Washington, D. C. "needs to change its bad gun laws. The law that is just over 20 years old has failed, and put ordinary people at risk. The law prevents good people from being able to own the proper firearms to protect themselves. The increase of crime in Capitol Hill neighborhoods is evidence that we are under attack. Capitol Hill has more police protection than most of the city, with three police departments sharing jurisdiction in one community.

"We need to repeal the poor gun laws of the city, so that honest, hard-working, ordinary people can have the chance to protect themselves and their children. The District needs new legislation to permit the carrying of concealed firearms. This simple change will make it safer for the residents of this great city. Changing this law will cause criminals to think twice before hurting you or coming into your home. This will encourage businesses and families to return to the city. That will encourage and help law enforcement.

"We have tried everything else to save our families. Let's try using education and truth instead of more restrictions. We need to repeal the bad gun laws of the District, educate our children and our neighbors and make this city the leading city of the Nation."



Old ad from _____