

THE *BULLET*

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

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March 2017

Why They Fought: Today They Would Be Condemned As Extremists

Part X

By Larry Swickard

“The alarm spread into Connecticut, whose patriots were prepared to relieve their brethren in Boston. ‘It is said that the Governor [Gage] is determined not to risk any Troops in the Country, till he is reinforced, being apprehensive of their loss, from the amazing number and fury of our People, who are all provided with Arms and Ammunition, & c.” [Capitalization in the original]¹

I’ve been told I’m wrong, Missouri does have a winter. You just have to catch it on the right weekend. Indeed. Using Roman numerals for this series might prove problematic for younger readers. Along with writing in cursive, many are no longer taught this in school a deficiency they seem disinclined to remedy. Before becoming a recovering teacher, kids mocked my lack of mastery with respect to social media. This from an age group for whom telling time, tying shoes, and flushing toilets prove insurmountable burdens. I don’t peep, twitch, or attach smiley-faced *spongies* to electronic communications. Hearing males say they “tweet,” makes my skin crawl, naturally wondering if they have collections of *Tinky-Winky* dolls at home. My district’s Superintendent declared at an August (2014) faculty meeting it was no longer necessary nor desirable for students to memorize facts and figures. They have access to anything they need to know at their electronic fingertips. He mocked outmoded practices like “drill and kill” memorization [popular in Japan, France, China, etc.]. I was appalled. How could he not know learning, through memorization among other methods, is part of the brain’s growth process? How could he not know the brain is like a muscle needing to be pushed, stressed, and challenged to grow? There are various methods by which people learn and memorization is certainly part of those spurring development of intellectual capacity. I hated copying definitions from dictionaries in grade school along with memorizing equations as well as literature like William Blake’s poem; *Tyger, tyger burning bright, In the forests of the night...* and yet today, I am thankful because I still remember much of what I memorized. Ability to use knowledge, conceptualize, and think critically must first be built upon a factual basis acquired early in a student’s life. Results of the new-thinking are renowned. Each new generation is technologically more sophisticated than preceding generations yet seem to be more helpless and know less. Projecting an image of a gearshift on the smartboard in my classroom, I asked students what it was. Almost none knew. I answered; “anti-theft device.” Few young adults today can change a car’s oil let alone drive one with a manual transmission. How must the “*is-there-an-app-for-that?*” generation view notions of personal responsibility with respect to self-defense?

While researching this series, I asked why bother? Why rehash historical events leading to the Revolution? Why define militia, describe the prevalence of arms among colonial Americans, their connection to liberty, and the role played by Christianity leading to independence? Taught in public schools and universities, kids must be exposed to this information somewhere along the line, right? No. Americans by and large are no longer taught much if any of this. High school SocialIST studies departments are notoriously dominated by liberals. Conservatives, if one can be found, are so rare they ought to be covered by the endangered species act. They might as well have targets painted on their backs for liberal heat-seeking missiles. It is much worse at the university.² At the start of my eighth year (August 2000) I was exiled away from the SocialIST studies wing in the main building (B) to the ROTC trailer out by the tennis courts. Some SocialIST studies teachers referred to the Jr. ROTC program as “fascist” adding I belonged out there with them. I had to cross, rain, sleet, or snow, a parking lot back to Building B just to use a bathroom, eat lunch, and supervise after school detentions in a colleague’s room. Each day at the end of hour 7, I hotfooted it down to his class before my “charges” showed up. On one occasion most of my colleague’s students were still present when I arrived.

I dropped a book crossing the threshold to Mr. ‘C’s’ room.

“Hey Swickard, is that some kind of right-wing Nazi book?” Mr. ‘C’ said loud enough for everyone to hear.

Bending down retrieving the book, I smiled and replied; “Are you a vegetarian?”

The entire class erupted in laughter.

Nazi? How ironic. The book was David Horowitz’s *The Politics of Bad Faith*. Born a Jew, Horowitz was raised

a communist experiencing an epiphany later in life. Olive complected and possessing a smidgeon of Jewish blood myself, I would have faced the same fate as Horowitz in Hitler’s Germany yet liberals insist on smearing conservatives as Nazis. (If the Left is determined to fight real *Brown Shirts*, I suggest taking on the Missouri Department of Family Services). In his book, Horowitz addresses the educational malpractice occurring in today’s taxpayer financed centers of indoctrination known as public schools. “The radical attempt to turn schools into agencies for social change is a recent

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...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**
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

STAND YOUR GROUND EXPLAINED AWAY

The Missouri legislature passed Stand Your Ground. In the opinion of a law professor they really passed "Moderate" Stand Your Ground. From his explanation this "Moderate" version is a thin veil of a right.

Under the professor's view one does not have to retreat before acting in self-defense. However, the court is entitled to hear evidence on whether the defendant could have retreated and then use that evidence to determine if self-defense was justified. This would mean that the defendant would have to prove that retreat was not possible. This means that the moderate stand your ground is no change at all.

This would also require expert witnesses on self-defense tactics. Juries will be selected to exclude knowledge of self-defense tactics. What they think they know will be taken from television and therefore wrong. Getting an expert in tactics certified to testify has been tried. I have never been successful.

The professor justifies his claim with cases saying that the court is entitled to consider the possibility of retreat. These cases, of course, pre-date the new "stand your ground" law. It is hardly surprising that cases decided when the law required retreat to support the new law.

The professor's sole example of a "Moderate" version is a District of Columbia case *Gillis v U.S.* 400 A.2d 311 (DC. 1979). Mr. Gillis was on a Washington D.C. street when he was accused of sleeping with another man's wife or girlfriend. Mr. Gillis thought his accuser pulled a weapon so pulled his and fired. His jury was given an instruction that they could consider his failure to retreat in determining if it was self-defense. Mr. Gillis appealed the use of this instruction and was disappointed. The court stated that this was a standard, approved instruction and the law of the District required retreat. The court stated that there had been an attempt to reach a middle ground between stand your ground and retreat. The court found



LIBERTY NOTES

By Kevin L. Jamison

that this middle ground did not require retreat but allows the jury to determine if the defendant could have retreated. Of course the Districts law did require retreat so it was not offering a middle ground.

The decision did not discuss what chance Mr. Gillis had of actually retreating. He was on an open street and apparently at close range with the assailant. This evidence may not have been introduced at trial. I cannot envision a trial judge taking on the role of a fire team leader and judging tactical possibilities.

The professor cites a case for the proposition that simply standing one's ground could be a provocation. The case is *State v Henson* 552 S.W.2d 378 (Mo. App. S.D., 1977). The puzzle is that the defendant did not stand and be provocative. He triggered an argument, ran to his car, returned with a gun and killed his opponent. This is not standing. This is retreat, re-arming and provoking a new, very brief, confrontation.

The professor does not include any cases from the states which have adopted stand your ground years ago. This would not appear to be difficult.

The professor's article appears in the January-February 2017 *Journal of the Missouri Bar*. I began to question the reason for the article. It is my guess that the professor seeks to influence the committee which writes our jury instructions. If he convinces them that the law supports his "moderate" view they will write an instruction which instructs the jury to consider if the defendant could have retreated. Such an instruction would make useless the effort to pass Stand Your Ground.

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It is a good day for Liberty.

The local tabloid editorializes that concealed carry on college campuses is a bad idea. This is the same tabloid that predicted blood in the streets when concealed carry was passed and again when constitutional carry without a license passed. It was wrong both times. It cites opposition to concealed carry from students, administration and faculty. The right of self-defense is not up for referendum. It claims that the idea that mass killers target "gun free zones" is a myth. It is not a myth. The usual suspects re-define mass killing incidents to include ordinary crimes and then claim their manipulated statistics disprove a myth.

We are told to love our enemies. Sometimes I'm tempted to love them to death.

Hearing Protection Act seeks to change federal law and make suppressors legal. State law may still provide obstacles.

The usual suspects have done us a favor. They have created a manual on grassroots activism called "Indivisible: A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda." It is available for download (free) at www.IndivisibleGuide.com. For one thing it is wise to know what the opposition intends to do. For another, it is good tactical grassroots advice we can use towards our own ends.

Massad Ayoob has written a column on Open Carry in which he advises "Don't carry at people" (or don't get in people faces with open carry). This is great advice. He also writes that he has never heard of a person being converted to our side by open carry. Existing supporters may have made approving comments, but not new ones. The snowflakes out there respond by calling 911 with imaginative embellishments about threats. They demand restrictions on us based on what they "feel" we are going to do. If a person is afraid of clowns it does not cure the syndrome by having a clown jump in front of him. Starting out with T-shirts or caps with appropriate images might. For God's sake do not wear images of skulls alongside guns. That is not the image we are trying to promote.

I have observed that the more an advocate yells, the less people listen.

People ask, "What can I do?" Sometimes they ask in resignation, sometimes they ask in real inquiry. The answer is always "something." Inability to do everything is not an excuse to do nothing. We have a member who puts a quarter in a coffee can every time he hears an anti-gun comment. It adds up quickly. He donates the money to the organization.

Public speaking is feared more than death. Private conversations may be a superior substitute. Pick up on what other people say. If they talk about a forward pass, mention it is the same principle as a rifle. A "Jason" horror movie is the reason for 30 round magazines. There are real horrors who absorb large amounts of ammunition and keep coming. Know your audience. One speaker spoke to gun group, rambling on for 30 minutes about the evils of socialism, mentioned the Second Amendment in passing and continued to ramble. The audience was already opposed to socialism; they were present to hear about gun rights. If he had spoken about gun rights and dropped in the occasional comment about his pet issue he might have had some success. Dropping a pro-gun comment into a conversation is a successful tactic but it is wisely said that "Brevity is the soul of wit." Belaboring a point a length becomes boring. It is not possible to present the entire Second Amendment case in one conversation. A comment, perhaps two, can plant the necessary seeds and they do add up.

The local tabloid editorializes that liberals should not fight the appointment of Judge Neil Gorsuch to replace Justice Scalia. They reason that it is a conservative replacing a conservative. It recommends saving the fight for the replacement of a liberal judge. It stresses the need to keep a "balance" on the court. If the election had gone the other way I doubt the tabloid would find a need to preserve this "balance."

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LIBERTY (Continued from page 3)

I received a call from the new editor of the letters to the editor page. He wanted me to fact check part of a letter. This is significant in that they want to be accurate and ask us for fact checking. It would seem that we have a real chance of getting our own letters in now.

An autistic teenager was tased seven (7) times. He is suing of course but the interesting part is that the teenager was not incapacitated. This shows that tasers cannot be relied upon.

A man in Columbia shot a fleeing felon under the delusion that the “stand your ground law” allowed him to do so. He is massively wrong. He may be a victim of the hysterical reporting that the law allows anything anytime. This emphasizes the need for checking facts, regardless of the source.

CNN reported that the US House of Representatives repealed the background check system. This is not remotely true. What the House did was vote to block a Social Security rule which placed an enormous number of persons in what I call the “crazy computer.” Under the proposed rule anyone receiving Social Security Disability benefits for mental reasons would automatically be a prohibited person for NICS purposes if another party handled their money. This violates their right to due process of law. Prior law required an individual evaluation. The next time CNN reports on “fake news” verify.

The full Congress has now passed a law preventing the Social Security Administration from adding thousands of people to the NICS “crazy computer” without a hearing. The proposed rule said that anyone getting disability for mental reasons was barred from owning guns if someone else administered their money. This is presented by the usual suspects as allowing crazy people to have guns. It does not. Many of these people receive benefits because they cannot work. Sometimes the money is administered by another to prevent them from being cheated. These people are rarely dangerous and when they are there is an existing system for identifying them and putting them in the crazy computer. The proposed rule denies due process of law for these persons by treating them all the same without an individual hearing.

Kansas has defeated a measure to prevent people from carrying guns in hospitals. The local tabloid complains that there are a host of helpless people in hospitals and they should not have to worry about someone with a gun. Being helpless makes me want to have a gun. KU Medical Center is the focus of this angst. I remember an incident in which someone walked into the emergency room and opened fire with a shotgun. The facility has an

excellent police force with an enviable response time but it is nowhere near “point and shoot.”

The local tabloid featured a story about ex-Black Panther Pete O’Neal. Mr. O’Neal fled to Tanzania some fifty years ago after being charged in federal court with being a felon in possession of a firearm. He purchased a shotgun at Sam’s Loan in Kansas City Kansas and brought it to Missouri in those pre-NICS days. The paper glosses over Mr. O’Neal’s criminal record, tries to raise questions over whether the gun moved in interstate commerce, justifies him fleeing prosecution and argues that he is a fine man now and must be forgiven for things done in his youth. This is the same paper that wants to punish gun owners for possessing guns because of things we might do. Of course, Mr. O’Neal is a cousin of Congressman Cleaver.

We shall overcome.

“Why is it that many, if not all, of us think twice before we say what we really think or believe? Have we been silenced by the popular hecklers? Are we afraid? Is there a cultural inquisitor who stalks us all? Then, why is it that so many of us who know better about so much that we see around us cower and speak in hushed, mousy voices?” —Justice Clarence Thomas

“If we want our grandchildren to be able to give thanks for being Americans, we’ll need to... start steering a course away from government control of our lives—and start moving back toward greater personal responsibility.” —Ed Feulner

“The most tyrannical of governments are those which make crimes of opinions, for everyone has an inalienable right to his thoughts.” —Baruch Spinoza

“Freedom was given to humanity by God. But, governments, if they can help it, never give freedom. They just hand out slavery with slogans.” —Taylor Caldwell

“Liberals are always at their best chuckling at the ways of those they regard as hicks. That’s because liberals place far more importance on sophistication than on character, decency and values.” —Burt Prelutsky

“The principle of government control over information is inseparable from the principle of government control over people’s lives.” —James Bovard

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Nov. 28, 2017

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• • •

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Oct. 21-22, 2017

Dec. 2-3, 2017

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FOUGHT (Continued from page 1)

development that coincides with the emergence of 'political correctness' as the signature feature of a radicalized academic culture. 'Political correctness' is a term that describes an orthodoxy or party line, in this case reflecting the agendas of the left." Ideas and people who oppose this agenda, an "orthodoxy" which includes what is taught and tested in schools, "are regarded as morally unacceptable" and even "deviant." Those holding these deviant and unacceptable views are to be "marginalized and shunned."³ Horowitz's study reveals few professors teach the Founding Fathers let alone an accurate history of the Revolution.⁴ High schools indoctrinate into the heads of young people today Leftist orthodoxy on everything from evolution, global warming, religion, the proper role of government in their lives, to self-defense. The result? A generation of Leftwing *Henny Penny* Millennials.

How many Americans believe the Revolution began when the British invaded North America, marching on New York and New Jersey, Congress hastily drew up a declaration of independence, an American "national" government acquiring guns, and then called up the "national" army putting a guy with wooden teeth in charge who then sallied forth fighting the British to the death over taxes? Along with accurate chronologies, also missing from what is taught is the pervasiveness and importance of gun ownership in the colonies. What kids learn is; colonists had guns but only because they needed them to put food on the table and fend off bear attacks. Since those conditions no longer exist, the need for guns no longer exists. But this is wrong. By the Revolution most Americans didn't need guns for hunting. Except for the poor and those living on the frontier, Americans were not dependent on hunting for food and Indians no longer threatened Boston in 1774. To Americans firearms represented liberty and independence.

Arms were accessible to anyone. Possession by the "common man" was symbolic renunciation of the notion, extant in England, because of station in life men had fewer rights than their betters. Arms were egalitarian and protection against monarchical tyrannies bedeviling mankind throughout human history. By the 1770s, Parliament's laws for the colonies led to suppression of rights in America. Opposition was considered rebellion. Unlike Americans today, colonials refused to accept the notion bad law was "settled-law." They were unwilling to tolerate laws violating God's law and the law of natural rights. They fought instead.

British officials knew firearms ownership among Americans was common long before the outbreak of war. Hence they and royal governors moved first to seize stores of gunpowder and later, firearms, before Concord and Lexington in 1775, and then in Southern colonies having nothing to do with the rebellion in Massachusetts. British General Gage, occupying Boston, demanded the Country Committee representing Boston tell him why people went about armed (September, 1774). John Andrew, covering events in Boston, wrote he was unaware of people going about armed but knew they were taking many firearms out of the city into the countryside.⁵ What the British failed to comprehend was that military occupation of an American city, at war with no one, was an affront to colonials who believed if left unchallenged, would usher in military rule as the norm. Fear of what might come next, based on knowledge of how the British subjugated and controlled the conquered peoples of Ireland and Scotland, motivated Americans to acquire as many firearms, powder, and ball as they could find. Waiting too long might render resistance impossible.⁶

Delegates from various colonies, especially those bordering Massachusetts, met and discussed British actions, military occupation, and abolition of colonial assemblies. They drafted protests and submitted petitions to royal governors and King George III. After their petitions were met with contempt in Britain, and fearing the worst, colonial assemblies asked people to acquire weapons and train for military duty. This was voluntary. There was no national government and even though men were expected to

FOUGHT (Continued on page 6)



FOUGHT (Continued from page 5)

answer the call to arm themselves and form militias, no colonial legislature could compel anyone to go to war against England. They did so because of their passion for freedom. Militias were, in most cases, independent of colonial governments, voluntary, and they elected their leaders and debated strategy and goals. In Virginia, Governor Dunmore recognized local committees had become the de facto government of the colony by 1774. Therefore he refused to call the House of Burgesses into session hoping to block new laws challenging or limiting his authority and tax powers. But he could do nothing to stop the burgeoning formation of militias and their acquisition of arms.⁷ In Fairfax County Virginia, friends George Washington and George Mason “organized the militia” and were responsible for developing a tax levy to support the militia. Although they had no authority to levy and collect a tax, they were able to raise money for military supplies. Regrettably, the committee demanded names of those refusing to pay the tax. Most county committees in Virginia did not support this move. It was done because there were so many Tories who, in time of war, were essentially fighting with and or supporting the enemy.⁸

Washington and Colonel Mason met at Mount Vernon on Sunday, 17 July 1774, to draft a list of resolutions which they submitted to the Fairfax County Committee. Contained in the resolves was a denunciation of the “corruption of Britain’s constitution by venal politicians during Robert Walpole’s ministry earlier in the century.”⁹ The point is, Americans recognized the threat to their way of life was not simply tax and trade policies but, rather, disregard for the rule of law and corruption of Britain’s constitution (a set of codified laws, common law, and judicial rulings) leading to rationalization for likewise abuses in the colonies hence destroying the reason for coming to the New World in the first place.

Washington, Mason, and members of the Fairfax County Committee contended the people were obligated to obey only those “laws enacted by their representatives” otherwise government would “degenerate either into an absolute and despotic monarchy or tyrannical aristocracy.” Among the resolves was an assertion no one should be taxed without representation, taxation should occur only within the colony, and suspension of the importation of slaves which Washington called a “wicked, cruel, and unnatural trade.”¹⁰ Revolt against England was not based only on tax and trade policy nor was it an improvised emotional reaction. Rather, it was a long well-thought out process grounded in legal and historical precedent and Judeo-Christian principles.

Washington was already a well-known spokesman for liberty even outside Virginia. There was nothing middle of the road about him. He learned in the summer of 1774 the Colonial Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, planned to submit more petitions to King George III pleading for relief from British economic measures considered detrimental to the colonies. Washington denounced these petitions and resolves as doomed to fail; “Shall we, after this, whine and cry for

relief?” During that summer Washington wrote George William Fairfax, a wealthy planter for which the county was later named, accusing the Crown of failing to protect Virginia from “cruel and bloodthirsty Indians” on the frontier “while simultaneously ‘endeavoring by every piece of art and despotism, to fix the shackles of slavery on us.’” Washington declared Boston’s cause to be their cause as well. He warned against colonies unconcerned with Massachusetts to allow “ourselves to be sacrificed piecemeal.” Washington supported boycotting British goods even though it hurt his own financial interests as a planter. He believed a clash of arms with England was all but inevitable.¹¹

By the fall of 1774, Parliament concluded its North American colonies were in rebellion. There would be no more olive branches or indulgence of American tantrums. Military force would shut down rebellion by taking control of colonies, abolishing local government, and seizing the arms of Americans.¹² By that time British General Gage recognized a door-to-door attempt to find and confiscate arms was unwieldy. Instead, halting importation of arms, munition (ball ammo), and powder followed later by the confiscation of the arms of each and every colonial militia, was the best strategy for decapitating the rebellion.¹³ With respect to cutting off the head of the rebellion, historian David Hackett Fischer observes “Gage did not reckon well. The people of New England were jealous of their liberties, including their liberty to keep and bear arms.” Like their compatriots in Virginia, people in Suffolk County, Massachusetts passed their own set of resolves denouncing Britain’s violation of their right to possess and bear arms.¹⁴

Americans had been loyal to the Crown and considered themselves patriotic Englishmen. It took much more than onerous taxes and deleterious tax policies to push them to armed rebellion. It was a cultural as well as political assault on North American colonists, who had come to the New World to escape the poisonous corruption of the Old World, which pushed them to war. And they knew, absent to ability to resist, they would be crushed.

Today, American presidents in both parties, Ronald Reagan (Mulford Act, Brady Bill, and import bans),¹⁵ George H. and W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama have to a greater or lesser degree supported import and domestic bans as well as regulations making ammunition purchase and or production more difficult. These laws are aimed at law-abiding patriotic

FOUGHT (Continued on page 7)

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FOUGHT (Continued from page 6)

Americans, like those targeted by British conquerors. Why?

On 12 January 2017, three black males, invited or not, entered a Kansas City apartment shooting all five people residing there. Two were minors and miraculously survived. Tragically, the three adults perished. One was Victoria Cherie Brown, 28, attractive, and a teacher. I didn't know Victoria but I know her dad, Mark Brown. He is my pastor and my friend. He did what no father should ever have to do; presided over the funeral of his own murdered daughter. Words fail me at this point but profound sadness and anger are part of the mix. These horrific crimes should never happen but will continue as long as Americans refuse to face the truth as to what needs to be done. People of faith and cops already know the answer.

¹ Stephen P. Halbrook, The Founders' Second Amendment: Origins of the Right to Bear Arms (Chicago, Illinois, Ivan R. Dee, Publisher, 2008), 40.

² I don't claim to be an expert but, after graduating from three universities and teaching in a public high school for 23 years, I have some insight as to how bad the problem is. For the most part tolerance and diversity are reserved by the Left, including SocialIST studies teachers, only for those who agree with them.

³ David Horowitz, Indoctrination U.: The Left's War Against Academic Freedom (New York, N.Y., Encounter Books, 2007), xii. This quote describes my experiences as a conservative teacher in a public high school to a 'T.' In addition, some school administrators view any criticism of public education, deserved or not, as outright treason. Public criticism by teachers results in retribution.

⁴ David Horowitz, The Professors (Washington, D.C., Regnery Publishing, Inc., 2006), 1, 45, 210, 343, 358, 360.

⁵ Halbrook, 41.

⁶ IBID. 43.

⁷ Robert Middlekauff, The Glorious Cause: The American Revolution, 1763-1789 (New York, N.Y., Oxford University Press, 2005), 265.

⁸ IBID. 265.

⁹ Ron Chernow, Washington, A Life (New York, N.Y., The Penguin Press, 2010), 167-168.

¹⁰ IBID. 167-168.

¹¹ Chernow 169-170.

¹² Middlekauff, 270-271.

¹³ Halbrook, 42.

¹⁴ Halbrook, 43.

¹⁵ David Codrea, "Views & News Reviews Right Watch: The People Have Spoken," Guns Magazine 3 (March 2017), 66-67.

Gun Ranges Now Legal in Chicago!

Despite racking up a record number of shootings and gun homicides over the previous year, the city of Chicago is well-known for having some of the strictest gun control laws in the entire country.

However, at least one set of restrictive rules that infringed upon the Second Amendment-protected natural right of Chicago residents to keep and bear arms was just struck down by the federal 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, according to the Associated Press.

A three-judge panel of the court ruled unconstitutional a city ordinance that essentially banned the operation of gun ranges within city limits, first by mandating that they only be constructed in areas zoned for "manufacturing" and then requiring that they be a certain distance away from other gun ranges, residential areas, schools, parks and houses of worship.

The ordinance was seen for exactly what it was by Judge Diane Sykes, author of the majority opinion, who wrote that the ordinance was little more than a clever way for Chicago to get around prior rulings that had separately struck down as unconstitutional the city's blanket bans on gun ownership and gun ranges.

The panel also struck down a prohibition on any individual under the age of 18 from even entering a gun range, which prevented children from learning important gun safety lessons or receiving training.

As Powerline pointed out, Sykes was one of the judges on President Donald Trump's list of potential Supreme Court nominees, a fact that should warm the hearts of Second Amendment supporters and inspire confidence that America is moving in the right direction when it comes to respecting and protecting gun rights.

This is yet another victory for lawful gun owners, particularly in Chicago, as the gun-hating city officials have seen yet another of their unconstitutional laws struck down.



"Trump seems a revolutionary, but that is only because he is loudly undoing a revolution." —Victor Davis Hanson

Fake News: Vilifying Good Guy With Gun

The editors at USA Today were caught disseminating a pejorative headline that readers, assuming they actually clicked through for the story, could determine almost immediately was fake news. The story was about a weekend shooting at a Texas mall, including the actions of a good guy with a gun. But that's not the impression USA Today gave. Nor was it accidental.

The front-page headline incredulously declared, "Shopper who shot suspect did not have carry permit." Once you clicked through for the details, the editors offered a slightly different, albeit still misleading, version: "Texas mall: Shopper who shot suspect not allowed to carry." All but a few "constitutional carry" states require gun owners to obtain a license to pack heat outside the home. And the USA Today headline gives the impression that said shopper was not legally sanctioned by the state to carry a firearm in public. Except that's not true at all.

The very first paragraph states, "The shopper at a Texas mall *who had a concealed carry license* and shot a robbery suspect should not have been carrying a gun *inside the mall*, according to the mall's policy [emphasis added]." Suddenly, the narrative is flipped on its head. The story goes on to explain, "On Sunday, a man was shot and killed while trying to stop a jewelry store robber at Rolling Oaks Mall in San Antonio. Another man, with a concealed permit, shot one of the suspected robbers who police said stole from a Kay Jeweler's store. Four others were injured. The San Antonio Police Department said the same robbery suspect fatally shot 42-year-old Jonathan Murphy. Police describe the man who shot the robbery suspect and Murphy as 'Good Samaritans.'"

What's really at issue here isn't the lack of a concealed carry permit but the mall, which proudly markets itself as a gun-free zone. According to mall manager Dustin Christensen, "Although we respect the laws of the state and individual rights, we do, however, maintain a separate code of conduct that we visibly post at our entrances that includes the prohibition of any weapons on the property. Our top priority continues to be the safety of our shoppers as we strive to provide the best possible shopping experience for all." First of all, the sign didn't stop armed robbers from entering the complex. Secondly, the only thing providing safety to the shoppers was a good guy with a gun. No wonder the police call him a Good Samaritan.

With an intentionally distorted headline, the ignoramuses at USA Today gave thousands of people

the impression that an armed citizen was just as felonious as the thugs he stopped. To say that he "did not have [a] carry permit," as stated in the headline, which is the only thing many people see, is an outright lie. It's true that he acted against the local mall's policies, but that's a constitutionally dubious thing to argue. Hopefully this will motivate Texas to stop allowing malls to pre-empt the carry law. Even San Antonio police spokesman Officer Doug Greene said, "We just ask people to use their best judgment when they get into situations like this." Thanks to good judgement from a guy with a gun, lives may have been saved.

The Leftmedia has criticized the Trump administration for its ridiculous use of the term "alternative facts." Yet earlier this week journalists were all over an erroneous report suggesting Trump, after returning Winston Churchill's bust to the Oval Office, ousted MLK's. That was fake news. So is USA Today's misleading headline regarding a concealed carry permit holder. Those claiming to occupy the moral high ground in the press are clearly not interested in leading by example.

New Hampshire: Governor Sununu Signs Constitutional/Permitless Carry Bill Into Law!

Today, in a private signing ceremony, Governor Chris Sununu signed Senate Bill 12 into law. Similar legislation had been vetoed by former Governor Maggie Hassan for two years in a row, but thanks to your active involvement, law-abiding gun owners will now be able to carry their firearms without a required permit in the state of New Hampshire! This law goes into effect immediately.

Sponsored by Senator Jeb Bradley (R-3), SB 12 will repeal the license requirement to carry a concealed pistol or revolver, unless a person is otherwise prohibited. For those who choose to obtain licenses, SB 12 will also increase the length of time in which a license is valid from four years to five years.

In New Hampshire, existing state law recognizes the right of any citizen who can legally own and possess a firearm to carry it openly, either loaded or unloaded, anywhere in the state not prohibited by law. However, if a firearm becomes covered by a coat or if a woman prefers to carry a firearm for protection in her purse, he or she would need a concealed carry handgun license. The new law will extend permitless open carry to permitless concealed carry, allowing law-abiding gun owners to protect themselves and their loved ones in the manner that best suits their needs.

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The tickets are \$10 each, 3 for \$25 or 7 for \$50 dollars. Only 500 are being printed. If you buy one ticket, you have one chance in five hundred of winning. If you buy two tickets, your chances rise to two chances in five hundred. 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 pistol will be at the July 2017 Missouri Valley Arms Collector Show at 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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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.
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<p>Mail to: Western Missouri Shooters Alliance P.O. Box 11144 Kansas City, MO 64119</p> <p>Hotline (877) 333-WMSA www.wmsa.net County: _____</p>
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Dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment



Western Missouri Shooters Alliance
P O Box 11144
Kansas City, MO 64119

*...dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to
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 Meeting located at Bass Pro Conservation Room, Independence, MO*

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