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ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

GUN CONTROL

➤ Gun laws on the books not enforced

- ❖ According to House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, Clinton has been *"covering up the fact that this administrations' Justice Department has not been enforcing the law. There's been over 6,000 kids in America caught with guns in school, and only eight cases prosecuted."* [The Salt Lake Tribune, 5/24/99]
- ❖ *"It takes a lot of nerve to bang your fist and demand tougher juvenile gun laws while doing almost nothing to enforce the ones that already exist."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, USA Today, 5/28/99]
- ❖ George W. Bush *"criticized the Clinton administration for what he called a 40 percent decline in federal prosecutions of gun offenses during the as six years."* [The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/22/99]
- ❖ *"Federal prosecutions of gun crimes have fallen 46 percent since Clinton took office in 1993. It offends me that we have this political game of more and more gun laws and less and less prosecutions."* [Sen. Jeff Sessions, The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/10/99]
- ❖ Sen. Orrin Hatch released a Judiciary Committee staff report that said federal gun prosecutions dropped from 7,048 when George Bush was president, to 3,807 last year. *"It's nice to mouth off about gun control, but we've got lots of laws on the books that aren't being enforced."* [AP Online, 9/16/99]
- ❖ *"We have less gun violation prosecutions than at any time in history. I believe there are not sufficient staff and resources devoted to it. If you don't enforce existing laws it gives less validity to the legislative process,"* said Sen. John McCain. [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, 9/17/99]
- ❖ Sen. Conrad Burns criticized the Clinton-Gore Administration's prosecutorial record. He noted that it is a federal crime to: possess a gun on school grounds, yet the administration prosecuted only eight such cases last year even though more than 6,000 students illegally brought a gun to school; to transfer a firearm to a juvenile, yet the administration prosecuted only six such cases last year and five the year before; and to possess or transfer a semiautomatic assault weapon, yet the administration prosecuted only four such cases last year and four the year before that. [Congressional Press Releases, 5/17/99]

➤ More laws won't stop criminals

- ❖ *"I would take the liberal chest-beating going on in Washington a lot more seriously on this issue if this administration had been enforcing the existing gun laws. For the life of me, if the two boys in Littleton were willing to violate 18 gun laws, I don't see how the prospect of violating 21 gun laws would have made that much of a difference."* [Gary Bauer, The Chattanooga Times, 5/23/99]
- ❖ *"We must keep in mind that nearly 20 gun control laws were violated in the Littleton high school shooting. There are already 20,000 gun control laws on the books. Does anyone truly believe that the 20,001st law would remedy this crisis? To claim that one more gun law would have prevented these school shootings is insulting to the victims and their families. We need a much more comprehensive solution to this cultural state of emergency."* [Rep. J.C. Watts, www.hillsource.house.gov, 5/22/99]
- ❖ Sen. Slade Gorton said that passing more laws, including those involving gun control, would not only be counterproductive but *"dangerous."* New gun laws or other legislation aimed at curbing school violence would be a mistake because *"they are a mirage. We*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

are repulsed by violence, and the mirage of the federal government's answer to violence raises false hopes. This violence stemmed from an evil that found fertile ground in the hearts of two impressionable boys in Colorado, and another federal law will not eradicate that evil." [The News Tribune, 5/15/99]

➤ Gun control violates Second Amendment, hurts everyday citizens

- ❖ *"I am concerned that waiting periods and bans, as well as taxes on ammunition and strict transfer laws, would not deter criminals from obtaining guns. Such measures only serve to infringe on the rights of honest citizens, not protect them from criminals." [Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, www.senate.gov/~lott, policy statement]*
- ❖ *"They believe in more regulations for the innocent, not more convictions for the guilty," said former Speaker Newt Gingrich. [The Chattanooga Times, 5/23/99]*
- ❖ *Sen. Jeff Sessions "criticized the Clinton administration for not prosecuting more gun crimes and instead 'demanding more gun laws of every kind on innocent, law-abiding citizens.'" [The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/10/99]*
- ❖ *Sen. Don Nickles' statement the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act: "This bill diverts money away from law enforcement to unproven federal programs that don't reduce crime, and it puts further restrictions on lawful gun owners. The Democrats' ultimate goal is to ban gun shows, have federal registration of firearms and outlaw guns." [www.senate.gov/~nickles, Policy Statement]*
- ❖ *"One of the greatest fears of gun owners is the registration of their guns by any governmental organization, be it local, state, or federal. The federal government must forever be preventive [sic] from collecting data on law abiding gun owners, simply because they are gun owners." [Rep. Bob Barr, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Hearing on the National Background Check System, 6/11/98]*
- ❖ *"Most proposed new laws don't target the criminals. They aim to restrict the actions of law-abiding citizens. And most of these proposed laws would not even have prevented the recent tragedies. But they are another way for the government to say it doesn't trust citizens to know best how to protect themselves or participate in a legitimate sport." [Rep. Chris Smith, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Hearing on Gun Control Legislation, 5/27/99]*

➤ Safety locks miss the mark

- ❖ *"Well, the mandatory safety lock provision is absolutely meaningless to pass the Senate [sic]. It simply says that a trigger lock or a safety device has to be included in the gun. The next step that I suppose Chuck Schumer would like is to empower ATF to go into people's homes to see if they are using the trigger locks. You know, it sounds good, it gives Chuck Schumer and the others a headline, perhaps, but that's meaningless. It doesn't mean anything." [Rep. Bob Barr, NBC's Meet the Press, 5/23/99]*
- ❖ *"We're doing a tremendous disservice to consumers if we say, 'Just run out and get a safety lock, and you'll be safe.'" [Kristen Rand, Anti-Gun Violence Policy Center, AP Online, 5/11/99]*
- ❖ *"In some ways the President portrays [safety locks], he sends a wrong message. They're not childproof." [Robert Delfay, president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, AP Online, 5/11/99]*

*- Rand Study
- Legislation
- childproofing
- CAP Smith & Wesson
- Kidst Gun
- ASD Rep*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

➤ Background checks have limited effectiveness

- ❖ *"Background checks are an extremely poor way of preventing criminals from obtaining firearms....The vast majority of people who enter stores to purchase firearms are law abiding Americans, not criminals. And for those few who are identified as a felon, few if any, in the so-called Brady States, are ever arrested. So, while they may be initially deterred, these criminals also remain free to try and find a gun through other sources....[will Congress] allow the second amendment to be taxed and the federal government to register the guns of law abiding Americans."* [Rep. Bob Barr, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Hearing on the National Background Check System, 6/11/98]
- ❖ Elizabeth Dole criticized the Clinton-Gore Administration, saying it has spent too little on instant background checks for gun sales, limiting their effectiveness. [The Columbus Dispatch, 5/3/99]

- NKS Press Paper
- New CS Shly
- Letter

➤ Buyback programs don't work

- ❖ Sen. Jeff Sessions characterized Clinton's announcement of a \$15 million federal gun buyback plan to get guns off the streets as a *"PR, political-type thing that will have very little impact on crime. The persons turning in guns are not likely to be the ones who would use them. I'm not impressed."* [The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/10/99]



- Press Paper
Explaining
initiative

- Had
materials
validation

- DC Buyback
event
CHFS study

RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE

➤ Politicizing tragedy

- ❖ *"We think there have been people, including the president, that have been very disappointing in using these tragedies, in politicizing these tragedies, in using it to advance gun control. We think it's a bigger problem than guns,"* said House Majority Whip Tom DeLay. [The Salt Lake Tribune, 5/24/99]
- ❖ *"This is not the time to play on the fears of our most vulnerable...What happened in Littleton, Colorado and Conyers, Georgia are genuine national tragedies. It is natural they should spur us to action. But it is wrong for anyone to simply try to score political points as a result of these tragedies."* [House Speaker Dennis Hastert, statement from the House Floor, 5/25/99]

- Press Paper

➤ Need to address cultural/values issues

- ❖ Tom DeLay criticized Attorney General Janet Reno saying *"she's not married, never had any kids, but now she is saying 'We are just going to have to listen to the kids.'* DeLay went on to say that any meaningful legislation should include a *"look at video games, we need to look at movies, what has happened with blocking religion out of schools. There's a lot of issues out there we need to address.* [The Salt Lake Tribune, 5/24/99]
- ❖ Tom DeLay in a sarcastic statement on the House floor: *"It couldn't have been because half our children are being raised in broken homes. It couldn't have been because our children get to spend an average of 30 seconds in meaningful conversation with their parents each day. It couldn't have been because our school systems teach the children that they are nothing but glorified apes who revolutionized out of some primordial soup of mud. It couldn't have been because we teach our children that there are no laws of morality that transcend us, that everything is relative, and that actions don't have*

- Youth Violence
Council

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

consequences....No, it must have been the guns." [The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, 6/16/99]

- ❖ "The culture of violence can be curtailed with real leadership. This means setting an example for the children of this country. Our nation's youth, now more than ever, cry out for role models who can be looked up to and respected." [J.C. Watts, www.hillsource.house.gov, 5/15/99]
- ❖ "There is a cultural state of emergency in America today. Our nation is hemorrhaging blood, yet President Clinton only offers us Band-Aid solutions. We need to address why some children have become killers if we have any hope of stopping the bloodshed. Unfortunately, this morning the President continued to advocate shortsighted solutions that only address how these crimes are being committed and not why they are committed." [J.C. Watts, www.hillsource.house.gov, 5/22/99]
- ❖ "There are things we can do in that area, but again, to do the typical knee-jerk reaction-'Oh goodness, we have had a crime and therefore what we need is gun control.' That's what you get in Washington." [Trent Lott, *The Bulletin's Frontrunner*, 4/28/99]
- ❖ Unless the disintegration of family and social life is addressed, America will face an explosion of juvenile criminal violence. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]

ANTI-CRIME BUDGET

➤ Small investment in law enforcement

- ❖ "This year, the President proposed spending \$1.6 billion on state and local law enforcement. Republicans sent him a package that would invest \$3 billion in state and local law enforcement. Now, the President is claiming that we didn't provide enough money for state and local law enforcement. The President is wrong." [House Speaker Dennis Hastert, speakernews.house.gov, 10/21/99]
- ❖ "I want to take this opportunity to examine why the President has proposed a budget which eliminates funding for 3 specific law enforcement programs administered by [the Office of Justice Programs]: the Juvenile Justice Accountability Incentive Block Grant program, the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program and the Truth In Sentencing/Violent Offender Incarceration Program....I believe the President's decision to eliminate funding for these programs is wrongheaded. The budget he submitted will result in an undercutting of the ability of state and local law enforcement entities to combat crime in communities throughout this nation." [Sen. Jeff Sessions, Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Youth Violence Hearing on the President's FY00 Budget, 3/25/99]

➤ Washington-focused budget, rather than local control

- ❖ "The issue here is not money - it's control. Our bill gives police chiefs the freedom to invest this money on initiatives that will best help their community. The President's proposal demands that communities spend this money the way that Washington dictates." [House Speaker Dennis Hastert, speakernews.house.gov, 10/21/99]
- ❖ "The answers are not in Washington, D.C. The answers are in our families, in our neighborhoods, in our churches and in our schools." [Lamar Alexander, *The Chattanooga Times*, 5/23/99]

Budget Book
 300% increase
 in law
 enforcement

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

LENIENT SENTENCES

➤ Revolving-door justice system

- ❖ *"In reality, too many criminals go unpunished. Even those criminals who are incarcerated do not serve all of their sentences. We operate under a revolving-door system of criminal justice where violent criminals too often are on the streets after serving only a fraction of their sentence." [Sen. Connie Mack, www.senate.gov/~mack, Issue Brief]*
- ❖ *"Everybody's against crime. I'm not going to make the accusation that President Clinton or anybody else is not against crime. It's how do we punish them. Violent offenders shouldn't get a second opportunity in society to do it again," said Senator Bob Smith. [Legal Times, 3/15/99]*
- ❖ *"Under lenient criminal justice policies, violent criminals too often have served only a fraction of their sentences, even sentences that were short. The results have frequently proved fatal....shortened prison terms for violent repeat offenders do more than trigger a sense of injustice among their victims. They also mean more crime." [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]*

- Report on federal crime prosecutions

CLEMENCY TO FALN TERRORISTS

➤ Sends wrong message to criminals

- ❖ *"This [clemency], to me and really almost every member of Congress, was shocking....I think I'm joined by a vast majority of Americans in my failure to understand why the president, who has spoken out so boldly in opposition to domestic terrorism in recent years, has taken this kind of an action.....This whole episode raises a number of questions about the administration's approach to law enforcement and the rule of law in general.... Here we have another example of what people suspect -- the attorney general is asleep at the switch while the White House is running the Justice Department....This is yet another example of this administration sending the wrong message to criminals, be they foreign spies, gun offenders or in this case terrorists." [Sen. Orrin Hatch, Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing, 9/15/99]*
- ❖ *"President Clinton's anti-violence message didn't reverberate in his own ears. Just one week before the new Public Service Announcements entered American living rooms, he cut short the prison sentence of sixteen criminals convicted of violent crimes. This is particularly disturbing, since the arsenal of several of the soon-to-be free terrorists matches that of the Columbine killers: illegally obtained guns and bomb-making explosives." [Sen. Larry Craig, www.senate.house.gov/~Craig, 8/20/99]*

➤ Hurts fight against global terrorism

- ❖ *"I do not believe that clemency for people who have been involved in either conspiracies against the United States government or terrorist organizations is appropriate," said Sen. Robert G. Torricelli. [The Bergen County Record, 9/15/99]*
- ❖ *"With the stroke of a pen, our fight against global terrorism suffered an unmistakable setback," said Sen. Paul Coverdell. [The Raleigh News and Observer, 9/15/99]*
- ❖ *"What the President did was dangerous to the national security of this country," Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., said in a statement. *"We need to send a signal to potential**

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

terrorists that we will be extremely tough on them. What the President did sends the opposite signal." [Chattanooga Times, 9/15/99]

ANTI-OBSCENITY RECORD

➤ No obscenity prosecutions

- ❖ *"Pornography is an attack on women and children that leads to harmful and violent behavior. Our nation made great progress in fighting the illegal obscenity business under the Reagan-Bush Administration; but under the Clinton Administration, not one new obscenity case has been opened. As a result, the pornography industry is back, especially on the Internet, and the worldwide sexual slave trade operates with increasing boldness."* [Gary Bauer, Issue Statement, www.bauer2k.com]
- ❖ Although adult industry output has doubled, *"obscenity prosecutions have slowed to near-extinction under the Clinton Administration."* According to the Weekly Standard, Adult Video News claims that no better time has existed in American history for pornographers. Vigorously prosecuting pornographers would help create a more nurturing environment for women and children, and might also reduce sex crimes. [Family Research Council, Frequently Asked Questions, www.frc.org]

COPS PROGRAM

➤ Did not reduce crime rates

- ❖ *"The Administration erroneously claims that its "Cops on the Beat" program is largely responsible for recent declines in the crime rate. But an honest examination of the facts clearly reveals that the Republican-led crackdown on violent criminals, drug traffickers, and in particular the "revolving door justice" of lenient courts and corrections systems, is the real reason for recent gains in public safety. We have an extraordinary record of achievement on fighting crime and drugs."* [Reps. Dick Armey and Bill McCollum: Our Crime Fighting Record, freedom.house.gov]
- ❖ *"Many Americans think that increasing the number of police officers in their communities will decrease the amount of crime. The research however does not support a simple correlation between increased numbers of police officers and decreased crime. Between 1952 and 1978, total police personnel in the United States rose 171 percent, but the crime rate rose by 441 percent....In controlling crime and disorder, it is not the numbers of police that make a difference but rather how they are managed, how they are deployed, and how their mission is defined and executed."* [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]

➤ Didn't put 100,000 officers on the street

- ❖ *"Consider some of the findings from the Inspector General's audit report: By the President's own measure of success, it has failed to measure up: Far from putting the promised 100,000 new police on the street by 2000, the number will be less than 60,000."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight Hearing, 10/28/99]

➤ Doesn't put officers where they are needed

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❖ *"One of the program's biggest weaknesses is that COPS grants are not distributed on the basis of crime rates. Instead, they are distributed on the basis of the Attorney General's discretion."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight hearing, 10/28/99]
 - ❖ *"Right now, the block-grant formula is clearly skewed in favor of the cities, so we need to balance this better,"* said Rep. Bill McCollum, R-Fla., who chairs the House Judiciary Committee's Crime Subcommittee. *"And using the state attorney general as a gatekeeper is not working--some counties in Florida aren't getting one red cent. We need to take the attorneys general out of the loop."* [The National Journal, 9/25/99]
 - ❖ A 1997 Government Accounting Office study found that COPS funding was not going to cities hit hardest by violent crime. For example, Portland, Oregon, accounted for 56% of all violent crime in the state, but received less than 1% of the total funding awarded to the state. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
 - ❖ A 1996 news report showed that \$7.2 million in COPS money was funding officers in state parks, 30 officers for a "coral sanctuary" in Florida, and 19 park rangers for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
- **Communities can't keep up with funding**
- ❖ *"Remember the hundred thousand cops? That money went away after three years. I was a city attorney in South Carolina and my mayor turned down the offer because he didn't want to have an officer that three years later he'd have to pay for that maybe he couldn't afford. He would have loved to have bought a computer system to upgrade his police department."* [Rep. Lindsey Graham, press conference, 11/9/99]
 - ❖ *"Almost 60 percent of police agencies that have accepted the three-year COPS grants have not developed plans to retain officers once the federal funding dries up, as is ostensibly required to receive a grant. More than 7000 law enforcement agencies have chosen not to apply, and nearly 650 agencies have turned down funds awarded to them primarily because they could not afford them."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight hearing, 10/28/99]
 - ❖ According to a 1997 Government Accounting Office study and media reports, over 600 localities initially turned down COPS grants because they could not afford the 25% matching funds requirement to participate. A study of more than 100 communities found that fewer than 20% had detailed plans on how to pay for officers once the subsidy ended. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
- **Imposes a Washington solution**
- ❖ *"I am convinced that if we took all of the COPS funding each year and turned it into flexible block grants for local governments to fight crime as they see fit, and distributed on the basis of crime rates, we would be doing more to actually reduce crime than the COPS program does. Each city and county around the country has its own crime problems, its own law enforcement priorities, its own solutions. And the block grant approach recognizes that. I am concerned that the COPS program, on the other hand, represents the 'Washington-knows-best,' way of doing business."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight hearing, 10/28/99]
 - ❖ *"The Republican alternative to [the COPS program] was the local law enforcement training program, and what--or enforcement program--and what it allowed the local*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

police officers to do is put their money into new squad cars, new radio systems, or new police officers if that's what they wanted. And I don't see why the president of the United States has such a hard time letting local people decide." [Rep. Jack Kingston, press conference, 11/9/99]

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

➤ Legislation is unnecessary

- ❖ *"It's pretty redundant. I mean, if you kill, maim, murder, harm, assault, assail, cheat, rob, steal, beat somebody you're covered under law,"* said House Majority Leader Dick Armey. [CBS Evening News, 10/30/99]
- ❖ *"Republicans ignore Democratic charges that they are insensitive and argue two main points: federal prosecutors should not be allowed to step on the work of local law enforcement agencies, and hate crimes laws are repetitive since punishment already is dispensed for illegal acts. 'We want to keep the focus on criminal behavior, not criminal motives,'"* said House Majority Leader Richard K. Armey, R-Texas." [The Detroit News, 10/29/99]
- ❖ *"Any time we have a policy dispute they decide to call us names,"* said John Feehery, spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill. *'There's a general agreement among Republicans and a lot of other people that any crime is a hate crime and once you start classifying by group, you give special significance to which group is included and which is not.'* [AP Online, 10/27/99]

➤ Makes sexual preference a federally protected right

- ❖ *"Hate crimes laws are based on the faulty premise that some victims are worthy of more government protection than others victimized by similar crimes. In addition, adding sexual orientation to the list of federally protected civil rights is problematic because for the first time, an individual's sexual behavior will become a federally protected right. If individual sexual behavior is a federally protected civil right, the logical conclusion is that those who object to certain behaviors based on moral, religious, or personal beliefs could be prevented from freely exercising their faith and beliefs,"* said Family Research Council Chief Spokesperson Janet Parshall. [Press release, www.frc.org/press, 9/30/99]

WAR ON DRUGS

➤ Drug use up

- ❖ *"Drug use among our children is skyrocketing. The numbers are simply shocking. In the last five years, drug use among youth aged 12 to 17 has more than doubled. It's up 120%. For kids aged 12 to 17, first-time heroin use has increased 875 % since 1992. During that same period, marijuana use increased by 253 percent among eighth-graders, 151 percent among tenth-graders, and 84 percent among twelfth-graders. Overall, among kids aged 12 to 17, marihuana smoking has jumped 125 % since 1991. This is unacceptable. We owe our children every effort to rid our streets and schools of drugs and the violence that accompany the drug trade."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Oversight Hearing of the Drug Enforcement Administration, 7/29/99]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❖ *"Despite the fact that drug use in this country has been so devastating, the National Drug Control Strategy as developed and implemented by the Clinton Administration has failed to stem the crisis, especially among our nation's teen-age population."* [House Republican Conference Issue Brief, 3/25/98. John Boehner, Chair.]
- ❖ *"The Clinton Administration, compared with the Reagan and Bush Administrations, has done a remarkably poor job in curbing the use of illegal narcotics. Among college students, drug use peaked at 55 percent in 1981. Thereafter, it gradually dropped to 40.7 percent by 1992. After Bill Clinton's election as President, however, the rate reversed course, rising to 50.8 percent by 1996."* [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
- **Poor national drug control strategy**
 - ❖ *"The Administration's response and inattention to this growing national crisis, and the resulting explosion of drug use across the nation is frightening. The resources of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) have been shifted from priorities set in the late 1980s, namely from the emphasis on prevention and interdiction, to a post-1993 increase in emphasis on treatment of 'hardcore addicts' and a 'controlled shift' to source country programs."* [House Republican Conference Issue Brief, 3/25/98. John Boehner, Chair.]
 - ❖ *"This administration lacks the moral authority that made 'Just Say No' so effective," says George Terwilliger, former deputy attorney general in the Bush administration, who is now a partner in the D.C. office of Richmond's McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe."* [Legal Times, 3/15/99]
 - ❖ *"I do have some concerns with the Clinton Administration's [ONDCP] reauthorization plan, the fulcrum of which is the proposal for a 10 year strategy with a 5 year budget. The Administration states that adoption of this plan will necessitate a 12 year reauthorization period to allow full implementation and evaluation of the plan. ... Congress is being asked to make a major leap of faith that this administration's long term plan is America's best hope for curbing rampant youth drug abuse in this country. Based on the administration's ambivalence toward the drug issue, many in Congress are reluctant to give such a long term license, absent objective evidence that the proposals contained under this strategy are proven to be effective in reversing the trend of drug abuse, particularly among our nation's youth."* [Sen. Orrin Hatch, Senate Judiciary Hearing on the Reauthorization of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, 7/23/97]
 - ❖ Former Speaker Newt Gingrich criticized General McCaffrey and the Administration's goals for reducing drug use. *"The document I received is more like a plan for surrender than a plan for victory... Winning the war on drugs does not mean that 10 years from now we should have more than 5 percent of our children as young as 12 years old on drugs."* [The Bergen County Record, 10/23/97]
 - ❖ At a hearing for two ONDCP nominations, Senator Charles Grassley said, *"At a time of growing teenage drug use, filling these two positions are of critical importance. I note that in the case of the reduction office, that the job has been vacant for the past five years. The tardiness of getting this job filled does not lie with Congress. The committee has moved expeditiously on other nominations this very day. The failure of the administration to submit a qualified candidate for this position over the last five years does not speak well of its commitment to serious drug control leadership."* [Senate Judiciary Committee, 7/6/97]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

➤ International drug problem

- ❖ *"There appears to be a growing restlessness abroad and within the administration against holding our foreign partners to any serious standards on drug control." [Sen. Charles Grassley, Senate Judiciary Committee, 7/6/97]*
- ❖ *"Because three quarters of the heroin on the United States' street and virtually all of the cocaine comes from Colombia today, this subcommittee is once again investigating and conducting oversight of our administration's counter-drug activities in Colombia... Since February the threat has grown substantially.... Many of us on the Hill saw this situation coming years ago as this administration repeatedly ignored the problem. As a result, Colombia now supplies 80 percent of the cocaine entering the United States." [Rep. John Mica, House Government Reform Subcommittee on Criminal Justice Hearing on U.S. Policy for Colombia, 8/6/99]*
- ❖ *"Interdiction in the transit zone is accompanied primarily by three federal agencies, the Department of Defense...the US Coast Guard, and the Customs Service. These agencies experienced devastating cuts in their operational budgets for drug interdiction during the first four years of the Clinton administration. Total interdiction flight hours in the transit zone were cut by 50 percent. The Department of Defense detection and monitoring budgets were sliced by more than 50 percent, and much of the hardware which had been used successfully in the interdiction efforts, including aircraft and helicopters, were actually mothballed." [Sen. Charles Grassley, Senate Judiciary Committee, 7/6/97]*
- ❖ *"U.S. dollars are used by Colombian drug cartels to sponsor the largest guerrilla movement in this hemisphere....the Clinton administration has cut international interdiction programs by roughly \$1 billion since 1993....an October 1997 General Accounting Office report, "Update on U.S. Interdiction Efforts in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific," states that since 1996, the amount of drugs smuggled and counternarcotics capabilities have remained unchanged. Clearly, the current policy is failing." [House Republican Conference Issue Brief, 3/25/98. John Boehner, Chair.]*

➤ Needle exchange/legalizing marijuana

- ❖ *"I was very disappointed yesterday when President Clinton chose to put the agenda of drug addicts over the needs of the citizens of Washington, DC and the citizens of this country.... What kind of message do we send to our kids when our government tells them not to do drugs, but then supplies them with needles.... The President tries to argue that spending taxpayer dollars on needles for drugs addicts will stop the spread of AIDS. But many of the best studies cast serious doubt on the ability of Needle Exchange Programs to reduce HIV infection.... Another reason President Clinton vetoed this bill is because he believes that District residents should be allowed to legalize marijuana.... It is time we sent a clear message to American taxpayers that Washington is going to stop wasting their tax dollars. The President should not be using programs like free needles for drug addicts and helping to legalize marijuana to prevent this year's budget from getting passed." [Speaker Dennis Hastert, speakernews.house.gov, 9/29/99]*
- ❖ *"I still remain concerned that despite previous testimony by General McCaffrey and previous assurances from the administration that they are unalterably opposed to the legalization of drugs including so-called medicinal use of marijuana, that we continue to see requests, as we have, before us in the Congress to spend American taxpayer dollars*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

to study it. The fact of how that can be consistent with saying, "we're unalterably opposed to it," continues to escape me." [Rep. Bob Barr, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Hearing on Medical Marijuana, 10/1/97]

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

➤ **Appoints activist Justices who are weak on crime**

- ❖ "The Clinton Administration has nominated numerous federal judges who have shown undue bias toward defendants, unusual leniency in sentencing, and insensitivity toward victims of crime." [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
- ❖ *"Judicial activism strikes at the heart of our system of separation of powers and represents a real and tangible threat to the people's freedom to govern themselves.... [Judges] have also become increasingly bold in second-guessing the judgments made by the people and their elected officials. This has been most obvious lately in the disturbing number of popular ballot initiatives that have been invalidated before they could even take effect. The most glaring example was Judge Henderson's policy-based decision to strike down the California Civil Rights Initiative."* [Sen. John Ashcroft, Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights, 6/11/97]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

GENERAL LINES OF ATTACK

- ✓ The Administration's focus on gun control as an answer to the violence that is plaguing our nation's schools and neighborhoods is wrong. Safety locks, background checks, and buyback programs are more PR than effective crime-fighting methods. Rather than focusing on measures making it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to buy guns, the Administration should enforce the gun laws already on the books and begin to address the cultural problems which are turning some children into violent criminals.
- ✓ In many areas, the Clinton-Gore Administration has shown a disregard for the rule of law. Gun laws are not enforced, obscenity cases are not prosecuted, convicted FALN terrorists are released, and activist judges too often grant lenient sentences to violent criminals -- who later don't even serve the full sentence and move right back on the street.
- ✓ The Administration pushes Washington solutions to what are local problems and does not allow communities the flexibility to address the problems in their neighborhoods. The COPS program in particular dictates to communities how to spend money and even forces them to contribute their own money if they want to hire additional officers -- regardless of whether hiring officers is in fact their top priority.
- ✓ The Clinton-Gore Administration is losing the war on drugs. Drug use is up, yet funding and staff for ONDCP has been cut. The Administration is not addressing the international drug problem. Support for needle exchange and legalization of marijuana show that the Administration is sending our children mixed messages and is not serious about fighting illegal drug use.

GUN CONTROL

- ❑ **Fails to prosecute gun crimes:** The Clinton-Gore Administration does almost nothing to enforce gun laws already on the books. Prosecutions dropped from 7,048 during the Bush Administration to 3,807 last year. The Clinton Administration prosecuted just ten persons for the illegal "straw man" gun purchases nationwide in 1998. And of the 6,000 young people caught with guns at school the past two years, only 13 were prosecuted. Only one person was prosecuted under the Brady Law.
- ❑ **More laws won't deter criminals:** There are already 20,000 gun control laws on the books. One more won't make any difference, and wouldn't have prevented the tragedy at Columbine.
- ❑ **Violate the Second Amendment:** Waiting periods, gun bans, taxes on ammunition and strict transfer laws infringe on the right of honest citizens to bear arms and are the first step down the road to a nationwide registration system. Gun control won't stop criminals from finding guns -- it will only leave the majority of the population defenseless.
- ❑ **Safety locks don't work:** Mandatory safety locks are meaningless, unless the government then wants to go door-to-door to make sure people are using them. Also, they are not childproof and are no guarantee that they will stop a child from using a gun. The government should not dictate how people should store their guns in their own homes.

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❑ **Background checks have limited effectiveness:** In order for background checks to work, we need to automate records and make instant checks possible. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut funding for instant background checks. Furthermore, most people who buy guns in a store are law-abiding citizens, not criminals.
- ❑ **Gun buybacks don't work:** Clinton-Gore has spent millions on gun buyback programs that do not disarm criminals. The guns collected are mostly junk weapons and the persons turning in guns are not likely to be the ones who would use them.

RESPONSE TO SCHOOL VIOLENCE

- ❑ **Politicizing tragedy:** Using senseless tragedies as platforms to call for more gun control is offensive and wrong.
- ❑ **Need to address values/cultural issues:** Instead of responding to incidents of school violence with calls for gun control, America should go back to the basics -- prayer in school, mothers at home, role models children can respect. This is a values and cultural problem, not a gun problem.

ANTI-CRIME BUDGET

- ❑ **Small investment in law enforcement:** Clinton proposed \$1.6 billion for local crime and law enforcement, then vetoed a bill that would spend \$3 billion.
- ❑ **DC-focused budget:** Clinton-Gore want to dictate to local communities, instead of giving them the flexibility to spend funds in a way that will best address crime problems in their neighborhoods.

LENIENT SENTENCES

- ❑ **Revolving-door justice system:** Violent criminals are back on the streets too quickly, getting lenient sentences, then don't even serve the full time.

CLEMENCY TO FALN TERRORISTS

- ❑ **Sends wrong message to criminals:** Clinton pardoned convicted FALN terrorists. This sends a message to terrorists -- and any criminal -- at home and abroad that the United States will not follow through on a strong punishment if you attack our citizens.
- ❑ **Hurts fight against global terrorism:** The clemency was dangerous to national security, no one involved in conspiracies against U.S. government or terrorist organizations should receive clemency.

ANTI-OBSCENITY RECORD

- ❑ **No obscenity prosecutions:** Conservatives contend the Clinton-Gore Administration is "weak on pornography." The Administration has not opened one new obscenity case.

COPS

- ❑ **Did not reduce crime:** The COPS program did nothing to bring about the drop in crime rates we see now. Crime rates have fallen thanks to the Republican focus on tougher penalties, crackdown on violent crime, and anti-drug agenda.
- ❑ **Did not put 100,000 officers on the street:** An Inspector General's audit report found that by 2000, the COPS program will put less than 60,000 officers on the street, not 100,000.

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❑ **Doesn't put officers where they're needed:** Grants distributed at Attorney General's discretion, not on basis of crime rates. Many communities that don't have big crime problems have gotten officers through the program.
- ❑ **Communities can't keep up with funding:** The program does not fund the full cost of the officers' salaries, and many communities can't afford the additional burden. Many communities did not apply for COPS grants because they could not come up with the matching funds; others who have received funding have no plans on how they will continue to pay the officers once federal funding is gone.
- ❑ **Imposes a Washington solution:** A law enforcement block grant, that would allow communities the flexibility to meet their own individual needs would be more effective than imposing a requirement to hire new personnel -- which may not be a community's number one need.

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

- ❑ **Hate crimes legislation unnecessary, infringe on free speech:** All crimes are hate crimes, and all crimes should be vigorously prosecuted. Hate crimes laws infringe on free speech and on civil rights since people who hold moral objections to homosexuality can be prosecuted for hate. Hate crimes laws are a backdoor attempt to bestow special rights on a group.
- ❑ **Federal Protection for Sexual Preference:** The Hate Crimes Prevention Act would make sexual orientation a federally protected civil right. It's only a matter of time before people who object to homosexuality based on moral, religious, or personal beliefs will be prevented from freely exercising their faith and beliefs.

WAR ON DRUGS

- ❑ **Drug use up:** Drug use is on the rise among American teens, with overall drug use among 12-17 year olds up 78% since 1992, and marijuana use up 141%. The Clinton-Gore Administration has done little to stem the tide.
- ❑ **Poor national drug control strategy:** Despite the rise in drug use, the Clinton-Gore Administration cut funding for the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) by 83% and reduced staffing from 146 to 25 employees. Set weak goals for reducing drug use.
- ❑ **Not addressing international drug problem:** The drug trade is a key element in international crime, yet Clinton-Gore have done little to address the problem. U.S. dollars are used by Colombian drug cartels to sponsor the largest guerilla movement in this hemisphere. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut international interdiction programs by \$1 billion since 1993. An October 1997 GAO study found that since 1996, the amount of drugs smuggled and counternarcotics capabilities have remained unchanged.
- ❑ **Needle exchange programs encourage drug use:** President Clinton vetoed the FY99 District of Columbia Appropriations Bill because he wants to spend taxpayer dollars to give needles to drug addicts. Studies have not proven that needle exchange programs reduce the risk of HIV, and money would be better spent funding treatment programs.
- ❑ **Legalizing marijuana:** President Clinton also vetoed the FY99 District of Columbia Appropriations bill because he supports the legalization of marijuana. The President's own Drug Czar has said that marijuana should not be used as medicine and has no curative impact. Legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes undercuts the "just say no" message we should be sending to our children. The Administration claims they do not support

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

legalization, yet they continue to request money to "study" the effectiveness of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- **Activist judges who are weak on crime:** The Clinton-Gore Administration has appointed numerous judges who show an undue bias toward defendants and leniency in sentencing. Many of these judges are exercising an authority they do not have in overturning laws and legislating through their decisions.

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The Clinton-Gore Crime Record

Taking Guns Off the Streets with the Brady Law

False Claim: The Brady Law, and gun control in general, does not stop crime and is ineffective.

Facts: Sensible gun control measures have been a key part of the Clinton-Gore Administration's successful strategy to bring crime rates down. The Brady Law alone has kept more than 536,000 handguns out of the hands of fugitives, felons, and domestic abusers -- with minimal inconvenience for law abiding citizens.

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Felons

- Since the President signed the Brady Bill into law, more than 536,000 felons, fugitives and domestic abusers have been prevented from purchasing guns. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Background Checks for Firearm Transfers, 1999, 6/00]

Established the National Instant Criminal Background Check System

- The Brady Law requires licensed firearms dealers to request National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) checks on people trying to buy a handgun. NICS is the first national system for checking the backgrounds of prospective gun buyers.
- In its first 13 months of operation, NICS conducted over 10 million background checks and blocked an estimated 179,000 prohibited gun sales. Of prospective buyers denied by the FBI, 71% were known felons, 15% had been convicted of domestic violence or under restraining orders, and 4% were abusers of illegal drugs. [Department of Justice, 11/30/99]

THE BRADY BILL AT WORK: In 1996, a Northampton, Massachusetts man, who is a convicted felon, tried to buy a handgun in Vermont using fake identification. After the Brady background check, the man was denied the handgun and later arrested. The man had recently completed a six-to-eight year prison sentence for burning the house of a woman who was a witness against him in a case. [Handgun Control, Issue Brief: "Gun Laws Work - Loopholes Don't"]

Minimal Inconvenience for Law-Abiding Citizens

- Law-abiding citizens have nothing to fear from measures like the Brady Law and background check requirements. 72 percent of NICS checks are completed within 30 seconds; 95 percent are completed within 2 hours. When a check cannot be completed within 24 hours, the individual being checked is nearly 20 times more likely to be a felon or other prohibited buyer than the average purchaser. [Department of Justice, 11/30/99]

High Cost of Shorter Background Check Timeframes

- If the FBI had only 24 hours to do a background check, instead of up to 3 business days under current law, nearly 34,000 prohibited purchasers -- over 38% of FBI denials -- would have received guns. [White House Fact Sheet, 3/15/00]

Successful Enforcement Efforts

- Since the NICS took effect, the ATF has opened over 1,000 criminal investigations involving

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people who illegally attempted to purchase firearms -- over 200 of which have been referred to U.S. Attorneys for federal prosecution. [Department of the Treasury Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Implementation of the Brady Law, 9/99]

Taking Deadly Assault Weapons Off America's Streets

- In 1994, President Clinton and Vice President Gore successfully fought for passage of the assault weapons ban, which prohibits the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and large capacity ammunition clips that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition. To protect the rights of law-abiding citizens, more than 650 types of hunting and sporting weapons are specifically exempted by the ban. [Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, PL 103-22]

Crime Rates are Down

- Violent crime rate fell 7 percent in 1999 and 27 percent since 1993. The murder rate is down more than 25 percent since 1993, its lowest point since 1967 -- mainly due to a reduction in gun related homicides. The overall crime rate is the lowest in 25 years, and the eighth annual decrease nationwide. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports for the United States 1998, 1999]

Working for Stronger Gun Safety Measures

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have called on Congress to quickly pass a common sense gun safety bill that would close the gun show loophole; require child safety locks for handguns; bar the importation of large-capacity ammunition clips; and ban violent juveniles from owning guns for life. This legislation would build on the work of the Brady Law and federal gun tracing initiatives, and keep guns out of the wrong hands.

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

GUN CONTROL

➤ Gun laws on the books not enforced

- ❖ According to House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, Clinton has been *"covering up the fact that this administrations' Justice Department has not been enforcing the law. There's been over 6,000 kids in America caught with guns in school, and only eight cases prosecuted."* [The Salt Lake Tribune, 5/24/99]
- ❖ *"It takes a lot of nerve to bang your fist and demand tougher juvenile gun laws while doing almost nothing to enforce the ones that already exist."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, USA Today, 5/28/99]
- ❖ George W. Bush *"criticized the Clinton administration for what he called a 40 percent decline in federal prosecutions of gun offenses during the as six years."* [The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/22/99]
- ❖ *"Federal prosecutions of gun crimes have fallen 46 percent since Clinton took office in 1993. It offends me that we have this political game of more and more gun laws and less and less prosecutions."* [Sen. Jeff Sessions, The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/10/99]
- ❖ Sen. Orrin Hatch released a Judiciary Committee staff report that said federal gun prosecutions dropped from 7,048 when George Bush was president, to 3,807 last year. *"It's nice to mouth off about gun control, but we've got lots of laws on the books that aren't being enforced."* [AP Online, 9/16/99]
- ❖ *"We have less gun violation prosecutions than at any time in history. I believe there are not sufficient staff and resources devoted to it. If you don't enforce existing laws it gives less validity to the legislative process,"* said Sen. John McCain. [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, 9/17/99]
- ❖ Sen. Conrad Burns criticized the Clinton-Gore Administration's prosecutorial record. He noted that it is a federal crime to: possess a gun on school grounds, yet the administration prosecuted only eight such cases last year eve though more than 6,000 students illegally brought a gun to school; to transfer a firearm to a juvenile, yet the administration prosecuted only six such cases last year and five the year before; and to possess or transfer a semiautomatic assault weapon, yet the administration prosecuted only four such cases last year and four the year before that. [Congressional Press Releases, 5/17/99]

➤ More laws won't stop criminals

- ❖ *"I would take the liberal chest-beating going on in Washington a lot more seriously on this issue if this administration had been enforcing the existing gun laws. For the life of me, if the two boys in Littleton were willing to violate 18 gun laws, I don't see how the prospect of violating 21 gun laws would have made that much of a difference."* [Gary Bauer, The Chattanooga Times, 5/23/99]
- ❖ *"We must keep in mind that nearly 20 gun control laws were violated in the Littleton high school shooting. There are already 20,000 gun control laws on the books. Does anyone truly believe that the 20,001st law would remedy this crisis? To claim that one more gun law would have prevented these school shootings is insulting to the victims and their families. We need a much more comprehensive solution to this cultural state of emergency."* [Rep. J.C. Watts, www.hillsource.house.gov, 5/22/99]
- ❖ Sen. Slade Gorton said that passing more laws, including those involving gun control, would not only be counterproductive but *"dangerous."* New gun laws or other legislation aimed at curbing school violence would be a mistake because *"they are a mirage. We*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

are repulsed by violence, and the mirage of the federal government's answer to violence raises false hopes. This violence stemmed from an evil that found fertile ground in the hearts of two impressionable boys in Colorado, and another federal law will not eradicate that evil." [The News Tribune, 5/15/99]

➤ **Gun control violates Second Amendment, hurts everyday citizens**

- ❖ *"I am concerned that waiting periods and bans, as well as taxes on ammunition and strict transfer laws, would not deter criminals from obtaining guns. Such measures only serve to infringe on the rights of honest citizens, not protect them from criminals."* [Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, www.senate.gov/~lott, policy statement]
- ❖ *"They believe in more regulations for the innocent, not more convictions for the guilty,"* said former Speaker Newt Gingrich. [The Chattanooga Times, 5/23/99]
- ❖ Sen. Jeff Sessions "criticized the Clinton administration for not prosecuting more gun crimes and *instead 'demanding more gun laws of every kind on innocent, law-abiding citizens.'*" [The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/10/99]
- ❖ Sen. Don Nickles' statement the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act: *"This bill diverts money away from law enforcement to unproven federal programs that don't reduce crime, and it puts further restrictions on lawful gun owners. The Democrats' ultimate goal is to ban gun shows, have federal registration of firearms and outlaw guns."* [www.senate.gov/~nickles, Policy Statement]
- ❖ *"One of the greatest fears of gun owners is the registration of their guns by any governmental organization, be it local, state, or federal. The federal government must forever be preventive [sic] from collecting data on law abiding gun owners, simply because they are gun owners."* [Rep. Bob Barr, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Hearing on the National Background Check System, 6/11/98]
- ❖ *"Most proposed new laws don't target the criminals. They aim to restrict the actions of law-abiding citizens. And most of these proposed laws would not even have prevented the recent tragedies. But they are another way for the government to say it doesn't trust citizens to know best how to protect themselves or participate in a legitimate sport."* [Rep. Chris Smith, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Hearing on Gun Control Legislation, 5/27/99]

➤ **Safety locks miss the mark**

- ❖ *"Well, the mandatory safety lock provision is absolutely meaningless to pass the Senate [sic]. It simply says that a trigger lock or a safety device has to be included in the gun. The next step that I suppose Chuck Schumer would like is to empower ATF to go into people's homes to see if they are using the trigger locks. You know, it sounds good, it gives Chuck Schumer and the others a headline, perhaps, but that's meaningless. It doesn't mean anything."* [Rep. Bob Barr, NBC's Meet the Press, 5/23/99]
- ❖ *"We're doing a tremendous disservice to consumers if we say, 'Just run out and get a safety lock, and you'll be safe.'" [Kristen Rand, Anti-Gun Violence Policy Center, AP Online, 5/11/99]*
- ❖ *"In some ways the President portrays [safety locks], he sends a wrong message. They're not childproof."* [Robert Delfay, president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, AP Online, 5/11/99]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

➤ **Background checks have limited effectiveness**

- ❖ *"Background checks are an extremely poor way of preventing criminals from obtaining firearms....The vast majority of people who enter stores to purchase firearms are law abiding Americans, not criminals. And for those few who are identified as a felon, few if any, in the so-called Brady States, are ever arrested. So, while they may be initially deterred, these criminals also remain free to try and find a gun through other sources....[will Congress] allow the second amendment to be taxed and the federal government to register the guns of law abiding Americans."* [Rep. Bob Barr, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Hearing on the National Background Check System, 6/11/98]
- ❖ Elizabeth Dole criticized the Clinton-Gore Administration, saying it has spent too little on instant background checks for gun sales, limiting their effectiveness. [The Columbus Dispatch, 5/3/99]

➤ **Buyback programs don't work**

- ❖ Sen. Jeff Sessions characterized Clinton's announcement of a \$15 million federal gun buyback plan to get guns off the streets as a *"PR, political-type thing that will have very little impact on crime. The persons turning in guns are not likely to be the ones who would use them. I'm not impressed."* [The Bulletin's Frontrunner, 9/10/99]

RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE

➤ **Politicizing tragedy**

- ❖ *"We think there have been people, including the president, that have been very disappointing in using these tragedies, in politicizing these tragedies, in using it to advance gun control. We think it's a bigger problem than guns,"* said House Majority Whip Tom DeLay. [The Salt Lake Tribune, 5/24/99]
- ❖ *"This is not the time to play on the fears of our most vulnerable...What happened in Littleton, Colorado and Conyers, Georgia are genuine national tragedies. It is natural they should spur us to action. But it is wrong for anyone to simply try to score political points as a result of these tragedies."* [House Speaker Dennis Hastert, statement from the House Floor, 5/25/99]

➤ **Need to address cultural/values issues**

- ❖ Tom Delay criticized Attorney General Janet Reno saying *"she's not married, never had any kids, but now she is saying 'We are just going to have to listen to the kids.'* Delay went on to say that any meaningful legislation should include a *"look at video games, we need to look at movies, what has happened with blocking religion out of schools. There's a lot of issues out there we need to address.* [The Salt Lake Tribune, 5/24/99]
- ❖ Tom DeLay in a sarcastic statement on the House floor: *"It couldn't have been because half our children are being raised in broken homes. It couldn't have been because our children get to spend an average of 30 seconds in meaningful conversation with their parents each day. It couldn't have been because our school systems teach the children that they are nothing but glorified apes who revolutionized out of some primordial soup of mud. It couldn't have been because we teach our children that there are no laws of morality that transcend us, that everything is relative, and that actions don't have*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- consequences....No, it must have been the guns."* [The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, 6/16/99]
- ❖ *"The culture of violence can be curtailed with real leadership. This means setting an example for the children of this country. Our nation's youth, now more than ever, cry out for role models who can be looked up to and respected."* [J.C. Watts, www.hillsource.house.gov, 5/15/99]
 - ❖ *"There is a cultural state of emergency in America today. Our nation is hemorrhaging blood, yet President Clinton only offers us Band-Aid solutions. We need to address why some children have become killers if we have any hope of stopping the bloodshed. Unfortunately, this morning the President continued to advocate shortsighted solutions that only address how these crimes are being committed and not why they are committed."* [J.C. Watts, www.hillsource.house.gov, 5/22/99]
 - ❖ *"There are things we can do in that area, but again, to do the typical knee-jerk reaction- 'Oh goodness, we have had a crime and therefore what we need is gun control.' That's what you get in Washington."* [Trent Lott, *The Bulletin's Frontrunner*, 4/28/99]
 - ❖ Unless the disintegration of family and social life is addressed, America will face an explosion of juvenile criminal violence. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]

ANTI-CRIME BUDGET

➤ Small investment in law enforcement

- ❖ *"This year, the President proposed spending \$1.6 billion on state and local law enforcement. Republicans sent him a package that would invest \$3 billion in state and local law enforcement. Now, the President is claiming that we didn't provide enough money for state and local law enforcement. The President is wrong."* [House Speaker Dennis Hastert, speakernews.house.gov, 10/21/99]
- ❖ *"I want to take this opportunity to examine why the President has proposed a budget which eliminates funding for 3 specific law enforcement programs administered by [the Office of Justice Programs]: the Juvenile Justice Accountability Incentive Block Grant program, the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program and the Truth In Sentencing/Violent Offender Incarceration Program....I believe the President's decision to eliminate funding for these programs is wrongheaded. The budget he submitted will result in an undercutting of the ability of state and local law enforcement entities to combat crime in communities throughout this nation."* [Sen. Jeff Sessions, Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Youth Violence Hearing on the President's FY00 Budget, 3/25/99]

➤ Washington-focused budget, rather than local control

- ❖ *"The issue here is not money - it's control. Our bill gives police chiefs the freedom to invest this money on initiatives that will best help their community. The President's proposal demands that communities spend this money the way that Washington dictates."* [House Speaker Dennis Hastert, speakernews.house.gov, 10/21/99]
- ❖ *"The answers are not in Washington, D.C. The answers are in our families, in our neighborhoods, in our churches and in our schools."* [Lamar Alexander, *The Chattanooga Times*, 5/23/99]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

LENIENT SENTENCES

➤ Revolving-door justice system

- ❖ *"In reality, too many criminals go unpunished. Even those criminals who are incarcerated do not serve all of their sentences. We operate under a revolving-door system of criminal justice where violent criminals too often are on the streets after serving only a fraction of their sentence." [Sen. Connie Mack, www.senate.gov/~mack, Issue Brief]*
- ❖ *"Everybody's against crime. I'm not going to make the accusation that President Clinton or anybody else is not against crime. It's how do we punish them. Violent offenders shouldn't get a second opportunity in society to do it again." said Senator Bob Smith. [Legal Times, 3/15/99]*
- ❖ *"Under lenient criminal justice policies, violent criminals too often have served only a fraction of their sentences, even sentences that were short. The results have frequently proved fatal....shortened prison terms for violent repeat offenders do more than trigger a sense of injustice among their victims. They also mean more crime." [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]*

CLEMENCY TO FALN TERRORISTS

➤ Sends wrong message to criminals

- ❖ *"This [clemency], to me and really almost every member of Congress, was shocking....I think I'm joined by a vast majority of Americans in my failure to understand why the president, who has spoken out so boldly in opposition to domestic terrorism in recent years, has taken this kind of an action.....This whole episode raises a number of questions about the administration's approach to law enforcement and the rule of law in general.... Here we have another example of what people suspect -- the attorney general is asleep at the switch while the White House is running the Justice Department....This is yet another example of this administration sending the wrong message to criminals, be they foreign spies, gun offenders or in this case terrorists." [Sen. Orrin Hatch, Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing, 9/15/99]*
- ❖ *"President Clinton's anti-violence message didn't reverberate n his own ears. Just one week before the new Public Service Announcements entered American living rooms, he cut short the prison sentence of sixteen criminals convicted of violent crimes. This is particularly disturbing, since the arsenal of several of the soon-to-be free terrorists matches that of the Columbine killers: illegally obtained guns and bomb-making explosives." [Sen. Larry Craig, www.senate.house.gov/~Craig, 8/20/99]*

➤ Hurts fight against global terrorism

- ❖ *"I do not believe that clemency for people who have been involved in either conspiracies against the United States government or terrorist organizations is appropriate," said Sen. Robert G. Torricelli. [The Bergen County Record, 9/15/99]*
- ❖ *"With the stroke of a pen, our fight against global terrorism suffered an unmistakable setback," said Sen. Paul Coverdell. [The Raleigh News and Observer, 9/15/99]*
- ❖ *"What the President did was dangerous to the national security of this country," Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., said in a statement. "We need to send a signal to potential*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

terrorists that we will be extremely tough on them. What the President did sends the opposite signal." [Chattanooga Times, 9/15/99]

ANTI-OBSCENITY RECORD

➤ No obscenity prosecutions

- ❖ *"Pornography is an attack on women and children that leads to harmful and violent behavior. Our nation made great progress in fighting the illegal obscenity business under the Reagan-Bush Administration; but under the Clinton Administration, not one new obscenity case has been opened. As a result, the pornography industry is back, especially on the Internet, and the worldwide sexual slave trade operates with increasing boldness."* [Gary Bauer, Issue Statement, www.bauer2k.com]
- ❖ Although adult industry output has doubled, *"obscenity prosecutions have slowed to near-extinction under the Clinton Administration."* According to the Weekly Standard, Adult Video News claims that no better time has existed in American history for pornographers. Vigorously prosecuting pornographers would help create a more nurturing environment for women and children, and might also reduce sex crimes. [Family Research Council, Frequently Asked Questions, www.frc.org]

COPS PROGRAM

➤ Did not reduce crime rates

- ❖ *"The Administration erroneously claims that its "Cops on the Beat" program is largely responsible for recent declines in the crime rate. But an honest examination of the facts clearly reveals that the Republican-led crackdown on violent criminals, drug traffickers, and in particular the "revolving door justice" of lenient courts and corrections systems, is the real reason for recent gains in public safety. We have an extraordinary record of achievement on fighting crime and drugs."* [Reps. Dick Armey and Bill McCollum: Our Crime Fighting Record, freedom.house.gov]
- ❖ "Many Americans think that increasing the number of police officers in their communities will decrease the amount of crime. The research however does not support a simple correlation between increased numbers of police officers and decreased crime. Between 1952 and 1978, total police personnel in the United States rose 171 percent, but the crime rate rose by 441 percent....In controlling crime and disorder, it is not the numbers of police that make a difference but rather how they are managed, how they are deployed, and how their mission is defined and executed." [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]

➤ Didn't put 100,000 officers on the street

- ❖ *"Consider some of the findings from the Inspector General's audit report: By the President's own measure of success, it has failed to measure up: Far from putting the promised 100,000 new police on the street by 2000, the number will be less than 60,000."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight Hearing, 10/28/99]

➤ Doesn't put officers where they are needed

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❖ "One of the program's biggest weaknesses is that COPS grants are not distributed on the basis of crime rates. Instead, they are distributed on the basis of the Attorney General's discretion." [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight hearing, 10/28/99]
- ❖ "Right now, the block-grant formula is clearly skewed in favor of the cities, so we need to balance this better," said Rep. Bill McCollum, R-Fla., who chairs the House Judiciary Committee's Crime Subcommittee. "And using the state attorney general as a gatekeeper is not working--some counties in Florida aren't getting one red cent. We need to take the attorneys general out of the loop." [The National Journal, 9/25/99]
- ❖ A 1997 Government Accounting Office study found that COPS funding was not going to cities hit hardest by violent crime. For example, Portland, Oregon, accounted for 56% of all violent crime in the state, but received less than 1% of the total funding awarded to the state. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
- ❖ A 1996 news report showed that \$7.2 million in COPS money was funding officers in state parks, 30 officers for a "coral sanctuary" in Florida, and 19 park rangers for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]

➤ **Communities can't keep up with funding**

- ❖ "Remember the hundred thousand cops? That money went away after three years. I was a city attorney in South Carolina and my mayor turned down the offer because he didn't want to have an officer that three years later he'd have to pay for that maybe he couldn't afford. He would have loved to have bought a computer system to upgrade his police department." [Rep. Lindsey Graham, press conference, 11/9/99]
- ❖ "Almost 60 percent of police agencies that have accepted the three-year COPS grants have not developed plans to retain officers once the federal funding dries up, as is ostensibly required to receive a grant. More than 7000 law enforcement agencies have chosen not to apply, and nearly 650 agencies have turned down funds awarded to them primarily because they could not afford them." [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight hearing, 10/28/99]
- ❖ According to a 1997 Government Accounting Office study and media reports, over 600 localities initially turned down COPS grants because they could not afford the 25% matching funds requirement to participate. A study of more than 100 communities found that fewer than 20% had detailed plans on how to pay for officers once the subsidy ended. [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]

➤ **Imposes a Washington solution**

- ❖ "I am convinced that if we took all of the COPS funding each year and turned it into flexible block grants for local governments to fight crime as they see fit, and distributed on the basis of crime rates, we would be doing more to actually reduce crime than the COPS program does. Each city and county around the country has its own crime problems, its own law enforcement priorities, its own solutions. And the block grant approach recognizes that. I am concerned that the COPS program, on the other hand, represents the 'Washington-knows-best,' way of doing business." [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, COPS Oversight hearing, 10/28/99]
- ❖ "The Republican alternative to [the COPS program] was the local law enforcement training program, and what--or enforcement program--and what it allowed the local

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

police officers to do is put their money into new squad cars, new radio systems, or new police officers if that's what they wanted. And I don't see why the president of the United States has such a hard time letting local people decide." [Rep. Jack Kingston, press conference, 11/9/99]

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

➤ Legislation is unnecessary

- ❖ *"It's pretty redundant. I mean, if you kill, maim, murder, harm, assault, assail, cheat, rob, steal, beat somebody you're covered under law,"* said House Majority Leader Dick Armey. [CBS Evening News, 10/30/99]
- ❖ *"Republicans ignore Democratic charges that they are insensitive and argue two main points: federal prosecutors should not be allowed to step on the work of local law enforcement agencies, and hate crimes laws are repetitive since punishment already is dispensed for illegal acts. 'We want to keep the focus on criminal behavior, not criminal motives,'* said House Majority Leader Richard K. Armey, R-Texas." [The Detroit News, 10/29/99]
- ❖ *"Any time we have a policy dispute they decide to call us names,"* said John Feehery, spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill. *'There's a general agreement among Republicans and a lot of other people that any crime is a hate crime and once you start classifying by group, you give special significance to which group is included and which is not.'"* [AP Online, 10/27/99]

➤ Makes sexual preference a federally protected right

- ❖ *"Hate crimes laws are based on the faulty premise that some victims are worthy of more government protection than others victimized by similar crimes. In addition, adding sexual orientation to the list of federally protected civil rights is problematic because for the first time, an individual's sexual behavior will become a federally protected right. If individual sexual behavior is a federally protected civil right, the logical conclusion is that those who object to certain behaviors based on moral, religious, or personal beliefs could be prevented from freely exercising their faith and beliefs,"* said Family Research Council Chief Spokesperson Janet Parshall. [Press release, www.frc.org/press, 9/30/99]

WAR ON DRUGS

➤ Drug use up

- ❖ *"Drug use among our children is skyrocketing. The numbers are simply shocking. In the last five years, drug use among youth aged 12 to 17 has more than doubled. It's up 120%. For kids aged 12 to 17, first-time heroin use has increased 875 % since 1992. During that same period, marijuana use increased by 253 percent among eighth-graders, 151 percent among tenth-graders, and 84 percent among twelfth-graders. Overall, among kids aged 12 to 17, marihuana smoking has jumped 125 % since 1991. This is unacceptable. We owe our children every effort to rid our streets and schools of drugs and the violence that accompany the drug trade."* [Rep. Bill McCollum, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Oversight Hearing of the Drug Enforcement Administration, 7/29/99]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❖ *"Despite the fact that drug use in this country has been so devastating, the National Drug Control Strategy as developed and implemented by the Clinton Administration has failed to stem the crisis, especially among our nation's teen-age population."* [House Republican Conference Issue Brief, 3/25/98. John Boehner, Chair.]
 - ❖ *"The Clinton Administration, compared with the Reagan and Bush Administrations, has done a remarkably poor job in curbing the use of illegal narcotics. Among college students, drug use peaked at 55 percent in 1981. Thereafter, it gradually dropped to 40.7 percent by 1992. After Bill Clinton's election as President, however, the rate reversed course, rising to 50.8 percent by 1996."* [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
- **Poor national drug control strategy**
- ❖ *"The Administration's response and inattention to this growing national crisis, and the resulting explosion of drug use across the nation is frightening. The resources of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) have been shifted from priorities set in the late 1980s, namely from the emphasis on prevention and interdiction, to a post-1993 increase in emphasis on treatment of 'hardcore addicts' and a 'controlled shift' to source country programs."* [House Republican Conference Issue Brief, 3/25/98. John Boehner, Chair.]
 - ❖ *"This administration lacks the moral authority that made 'Just Say No' so effective,"* says George Terwilliger, former deputy attorney general in the Bush administration, who is now a partner in the D.C. office of Richmond's McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe." [Legal Times, 3/15/99]
 - ❖ *"I do have some concerns with the Clinton Administration's [ONDCP] reauthorization plan, the fulcrum of which is the proposal for a 10year strategy with a 5 year budget. The Administration states that adoption of this plan will necessitate a 12 year reauthorization period to allow full implementation and evaluation of the plan. ... Congress is being asked to make a major leap of faith that this administration's long term plan is America's best hope for curbing rampant youth drug abuse in this country. Based on the administration's ambivalence toward the drug issue, many in Congress are reluctant to give such a long term license, absent objective evidence that the proposals contained under this strategy are proven to be effective in reversing the trend of drug abuse, particularly among our nation's youth."* [Sen. Orrin Hatch, Senate Judiciary Hearing on the Reauthorization of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, 7/23/97]
 - ❖ Former Speaker Newt Gingrich criticized General McCaffrey and the Administration's goals for reducing drug use. *"The document I received is more like a plan for surrender than a plan for victory... Winning the war on drugs does not mean that 10 years from now we should have more than 5 percent of our children as young as 12 years old on drugs."* [The Bergen County Record, 10/23/97]
 - ❖ At a hearing for two ONDCP nominations, Senator Charles Grassley said, *"At a time of growing teenage drug use, filling these two positions are of critical importance. I note that in the case of the reduction office, that the job has been vacant for the past five years. The tardiness of getting this job filled does not lie with Congress. The committee has moved expeditiously on other nominations this very day. The failure of the administration to submit a qualified candidate for this position over the last five years does not speak well of its commitment to serious drug control leadership."* [Senate Judiciary Committee, 7/6/97]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

➤ International drug problem

- ❖ *"There appears to be a growing restlessness abroad and within the administration against holding our foreign partners to any serious standards on drug control." [Sen. Charles Grassley, Senate Judiciary Committee, 7/6/97]*
- ❖ *"Because three quarters of the heroin on the United States' street and virtually all of the cocaine comes from Colombia today, this subcommittee is once again investigating and conducting oversight of our administration's counter-drug activities in Colombia...Since February the threat has grown substantially....Many of us on the Hill saw this situation coming years ago as this administration repeatedly ignored the problem. As a result, Colombia now supplies 80 percent of the cocaine entering the United States." [Rep. John Mica, House Government Reform Subcommittee on Criminal Justice Hearing on U.S. Policy for Colombia, 8/6/99]*
- ❖ *"Interdiction in the transit zone is accompanied primarily by three federal agencies, the Department of Defense...the US Coast Guard, and the Customs Service. These agencies experienced devastating cuts in their operational budgets for drug interdiction during the first four years of the Clinton administration. Total interdiction flight hours in the transit zone were cut by 50 percent. The Department of Defense detection and monitoring budgets were sliced by more than 50 percent, and much of the hardware which had been used successfully in the interdiction efforts, including aircraft and helicopters, were actually mothballed." [Sen. Charles Grassley, Senate Judiciary Committee, 7/6/97]*
- ❖ *"U.S. dollars are used by Colombian drug cartels to sponsor the largest guerrilla movement in this hemisphere....the Clinton administration has cut international interdiction programs by roughly \$1 billion since 1993....an October 1997 General Accounting Office report, "Update on U.S. Interdiction Efforts in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific," states that since 1996, the amount of drugs smuggled and counternarcotics capabilities have remained unchanged. Clearly, the current policy is failing." [House Republican Conference Issue Brief, 3/25/98. John Boehner, Chair.]*

➤ Needle exchange/legalizing marijuana

- ❖ *"I was very disappointed yesterday when President Clinton chose to put the agenda of drug addicts over the needs of the citizens of Washington, DC and the citizens of this country....What kind of message do we send to our kids when our government tells them not to do drugs, but then supplies them with needles....The President tries to argue that spending taxpayer dollars on needles for drugs addicts will stop the spread of AIDS. But many of the best studies cast serious doubt on the ability of Needle Exchange Programs to reduce HIV infection....Another reason President Clinton vetoed this bill is because he believes that District residents should be allowed to legalize marijuana....It is time we sent a clear message to American taxpayers that Washington is going to stop wasting their tax dollars. The President should not be using programs like free needles for drug addicts and helping to legalize marijuana to prevent this year's budget from getting passed." [Speaker Dennis Hastert, speakernews.house.gov, 9/29/99]*
- ❖ *"I still remain concerned that despite previous testimony by General McCaffrey and previous assurances from the administration that they are unalterably opposed to the legalization of drugs including so-called medicinal use of marijuana, that we continue to see requests, as we have, before us in the Congress to spend American taxpayer dollars*

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

to study it. The fact of how that can be consistent with saying, "we're unalterably opposed to it," continues to escape me." [Rep. Bob Barr, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Hearing on Medical Marijuana, 10/1/97]

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

➤ **Appoints activist Justices who are weak on crime**

- ❖ *"The Clinton Administration has nominated numerous federal judges who have shown undue bias toward defendants, unusual leniency in sentencing, and insensitivity toward victims of crime."* [Heritage Foundation Issues '98, Chapter 8]
- ❖ *"Judicial activism strikes at the heart of our system of separation of powers and represents a real and tangible threat to the people's freedom to govern themselves.... [Judges] have also become increasingly bold in second-guessing the judgments made by the people and their elected officials. This has been most obvious lately in the disturbing number of popular ballot initiatives that have been invalidated before they could even take effect. The most glaring example was Judge Henderson's policy-based decision to strike down the California Civil Rights Initiative."* [Sen. John Ashcroft, Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights, 6/11/97]

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

GENERAL LINES OF ATTACK

- ✓ The Administration's focus on gun control as an answer to the violence that is plaguing our nation's schools and neighborhoods is wrong. Safety locks, background checks, and buyback programs are more PR than effective crime-fighting methods. Rather than focusing on measures making it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to buy guns, the Administration should enforce the gun laws already on the books and begin to address the cultural problems which are turning some children into violent criminals.
- ✓ In many areas, the Clinton-Gore Administration has shown a disregard for the rule of law. Gun laws are not enforced, obscenity cases are not prosecuted, convicted FALN terrorists are released, and activist judges too often grant lenient sentences to violent criminals -- who later don't even serve the full sentence and move right back on the street.
- ✓ The Administration pushes Washington solutions to what are local problems and does not allow communities the flexibility to address the problems in their neighborhoods. The COPS program in particular dictates to communities how to spend money and even forces them to contribute their own money if they want to hire additional officers -- regardless of whether hiring officers is in fact their top priority.
- ✓ The Clinton-Gore Administration is losing the war on drugs. Drug use is up, yet funding and staff for ONDCP has been cut. The Administration is not addressing the international drug problem. Support for needle exchange and legalization of marijuana show that the Administration is sending our children mixed messages and is not serious about fighting illegal drug use.

GUN CONTROL

- ❑ **Fails to prosecute gun crimes:** The Clinton-Gore Administration does almost nothing to enforce gun laws already on the books. Prosecutions dropped from 7,048 during the Bush Administration to 3,807 last year. The Clinton Administration prosecuted just ten persons for the illegal "straw man" gun purchases nationwide in 1998. And of the 6,000 young people caught with guns at school the past two years, only 13 were prosecuted. Only one person was prosecuted under the Brady Law.
- ❑ **More laws won't deter criminals:** There are already 20,000 gun control laws on the books. One more won't make any difference, and wouldn't have prevented the tragedy at Columbine.
- ❑ **Violate the Second Amendment:** Waiting periods, gun bans, taxes on ammunition and strict transfer laws infringe on the right of honest citizens to bear arms and are the first step down the road to a nationwide registration system. Gun control won't stop criminals from finding guns -- it will only leave the majority of the population defenseless.
- ❑ **Safety locks don't work:** Mandatory safety locks are meaningless, unless the government then wants to go door-to-door to make sure people are using them. Also, they are not childproof and are no guarantee that they will stop a child from using a gun. The government should not dictate how people should store their guns in their own homes.

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❑ **Background checks have limited effectiveness:** In order for background checks to work, we need to automate records and make instant checks possible. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut funding for instant background checks. Furthermore, most people who buy guns in a store are law-abiding citizens, not criminals.
- ❑ **Gun buybacks don't work:** Clinton-Gore has spent millions on gun buyback programs that do not disarm criminals. The guns collected are mostly junk weapons and the persons turning in guns are not likely to be the ones who would use them.

RESPONSE TO SCHOOL VIOLENCE

- ❑ **Politicizing tragedy:** Using senseless tragedies as platforms to call for more gun control is offensive and wrong.
- ❑ **Need to address values/cultural issues:** Instead of responding to incidents of school violence with calls for gun control, America should go back to the basics -- prayer in school, mothers at home, role models children can respect. This is a values and cultural problem, not a gun problem.

ANTI-CRIME BUDGET

- ❑ **Small investment in law enforcement:** Clinton proposed \$1.6 billion for local crime and law enforcement, then vetoed a bill that would spend \$3 billion.
- ❑ **DC-focused budget:** Clinton-Gore want to dictate to local communities, instead of giving them the flexibility to spend funds in a way that will best address crime problems in their neighborhoods.

LENIENT SENTENCES

- ❑ **Revolving-door justice system:** Violent criminals are back on the streets too quickly, getting lenient sentences, then don't even serve the full time.

CLEMENCY TO FALN TERRORISTS

- ❑ **Sends wrong message to criminals:** Clinton pardoned convicted FALN terrorists. This sends a message to terrorists -- and any criminal -- at home and abroad that the United States will not follow through on a strong punishment if you attack our citizens.
- ❑ **Hurts fight against global terrorism:** The clemency was dangerous to national security, no one involved in conspiracies against U.S. government or terrorist organizations should receive clemency.

ANTI-OBSCENITY RECORD

- ❑ **No obscenity prosecutions:** Conservatives contend the Clinton-Gore Administration is "weak on pornography." The Administration has not opened one new obscenity case.

COPS

- ❑ **Did not reduce crime:** The COPS program did nothing to bring about the drop in crime rates we see now. Crime rates have fallen thanks to the Republican focus on tougher penalties, crackdown on violent crime, and anti-drug agenda.
- ❑ **Did not put 100,000 officers on the street:** An Inspector General's audit report found that by 2000, the COPS program will put less than 60,000 officers on the street, not 100,000.

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

- ❑ **Doesn't put officers where they're needed:** Grants distributed at Attorney General's discretion, not on basis of crime rates. Many communities that don't have big crime problems have gotten officers through the program.
- ❑ **Communities can't keep up with funding:** The program does not fund the full cost of the officers' salaries, and many communities can't afford the additional burden. Many communities did not apply for COPS grants because they could not come up with the matching funds; others who have received funding have no plans on how they will continue to pay the officers once federal funding is gone.
- ❑ **Imposes a Washington solution:** A law enforcement block grant, that would allow communities the flexibility to meet their own individual needs would be more effective than imposing a requirement to hire new personnel -- which may not be a community's number one need.

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

- ❑ **Hate crimes legislation unnecessary, infringe on free speech:** All crimes are hate crimes, and all crimes should be vigorously prosecuted. Hate crimes laws infringe on free speech and on civil rights since people who hold moral objections to homosexuality can be prosecuted for hate. Hate crimes laws are a backdoor attempt to bestow special rights on a group.
- ❑ **Federal Protection for Sexual Preference:** The Hate Crimes Prevention Act would make sexual orientation a federally protected civil right. It's only a matter of time before people who object to homosexuality based on moral, religious, or personal beliefs will be prevented from freely exercising their faith and beliefs.

WAR ON DRUGS

- ❑ **Drug use up:** Drug use is on the rise among American teens, with overall drug use among 12-17 year olds up 78% since 1992, and marijuana use up 141%. The Clinton-Gore Administration has done little to stem the tide.
- ❑ **Poor national drug control strategy:** Despite the rise in drug use, the Clinton-Gore Administration cut funding for the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) by 83% and reduced staffing from 146 to 25 employees. Set weak goals for reducing drug use.
- ❑ **Not addressing international drug problem:** The drug trade is a key element in international crime, yet Clinton-Gore have done little to address the problem. U.S. dollars are used by Colombian drug cartels to sponsor the largest guerilla movement in this hemisphere. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut international interdiction programs by \$1 billion since 1993. An October 1997 GAO study found that since 1996, the amount of drugs smuggled and counternarcotics capabilities have remained unchanged.
- ❑ **Needle exchange programs encourage drug use:** President Clinton vetoed the FY99 District of Columbia Appropriations Bill because he wants to spend taxpayer dollars to give needles to drug addicts. Studies have not proven that needle exchange programs reduce the risk of HIV, and money would be better spent funding treatment programs.
- ❑ **Legalizing marijuana:** President Clinton also vetoed the FY99 District of Columbia Appropriations bill because he supports the legalization of marijuana. The President's own Drug Czar has said that marijuana should not be used as medicine and has no curative impact. Legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes undercuts the "just say no" message we should be sending to our children. The Administration claims they do not support

ATTACKS ON THE CLINTON-GORE ANTI-CRIME RECORD

legalization, yet they continue to request money to "study" the effectiveness of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- ❑ **Activist judges who are weak on crime:** The Clinton-Gore Administration has appointed numerous judges who show an undue bias toward defendants and leniency in sentencing. Many of these judges are exercising an authority they do not have in overturning laws and legislating through their decisions.

THE CLINTON RECORD ON CRIME

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration doesn't understand the crime problem. The President knows what to say, but he doesn't grasp what needs to get done.

THE FACTS: Over the past three years, the Clinton Administration has made tremendous progress in bringing crime and drug abuse under control. The violent crime and murder rates across the country are falling, tens of thousands of criminals have been prevented from buying guns, over 46,000 police have been funded and more than 20,000 new officers are already on the street. President Clinton is committed to stopping any attempts to roll back the progress we have made in reducing crime and will continue in his efforts to put more cops on the beat and take guns, drugs, and gangs off the streets.

- **The Toughest, Smartest Crime Bill Ever.** After six years of gridlock, President Clinton passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill in the nation's history. It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National Sheriff's Association, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Police Are on the Street.** The President's plan to put 100,000 more police on the streets is working. Already, over 20,000 new police are on the streets of America's communities and more than 46,000 additional officers have been funded. This represents the federal government's largest commitment ever to local law enforcement. Every major law enforcement organization has expressed support for the Crime Bill's COPS program. [Source: Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **Taking Deadly Assault Weapons off the Streets.** The Crime Bill banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies while specifically protecting more than 650 legitimate sporting weapons. Already, in just one year since the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped 18%. [Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]
- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** President Clinton stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. In the two years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped more than 60,000 fugitives and felons and other criminals from purchasing handguns. The President has built on the successful Brady Law by making it against the law for those convicted of any offense involving domestic violence -- misdemeanor or felony -- to own or possess a firearm. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96, FY97 Budget]
- **Tougher Laws and More Prisons.** The Crime Bill provides for:
 - A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
 - An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
 - Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states to ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
 - Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders. [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]
- **Fighting to End Domestic Violence.** The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Dept. of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration does not deserve any credit for crime rate reductions. Crime rates have fallen because incarceration rates are increasing. The total estimated correctional population (probation, jail, parole, etc.) has risen 7.8% since 1992.

THE FACTS: Violent crime across the country has fallen in each and every year since President Clinton took office. In fact, the rate of reported violent crime has fallen four years in a row -- the first time since 1960. Yet, for four straight years before the President took office, the violent crime rate increased. The Crime Bill and the Brady Bill are two reasons why we are finally seeing crime fall across the country. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

- **Community Policing is Working.** In city after city across America, crime is down.
 - ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
 - ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
 - ★ *"The decline [in crime] can be explained in part by policy-driven law enforcement effort that capitalize on community crime-fighting initiatives and take the bad guys off the streets."* [Source: John Dilulio Jr., Princeton University, in Wall Street Journal, 9/6/95]
- **Tougher Laws are Putting More Criminals Behind Bars.** With the passage of the Crime Bill, tough action replaced tough talk, giving communities the tools to prosecute and punish more criminals than ever before.
 - * **Three Strikes-And-You're Out.** The Crime Bill made "Three-Strikes" the law of the land. Prosecutors are using this provision to target the small number of violent, repeat offenders who commit a great deal of the crime in this country.

Taking Violent Criminals Off of America's Streets and into Prison for Good

- ★ *Thomas Farmer was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole under the President's "Three Strikes" law for his part in the armed robbery of an Iowa supermarket. Farmer had urged his accomplices to kill a store employee who was unable to open the store's safe. He had previously been convicted in 1971 of second degree murder; in 1979 of robbery, which he committed while on parole; and in, 1983 of murdering a fellow inmate. Had Farmer been prosecuted in state court, he might have been eligible for parole in just two and one-half years.*
- ★ *Clayton James Phillips was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences without parole for the armed robbery of two St. Mary Parish, Louisiana post offices under "Three Strikes." Phillips had been convicted in state court in 1978 of armed robbery and again in 1989 of attempted first degree murder. Phillips also was sentenced to an additional, consecutive 25 year sentence for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.*

- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which has already stopped more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns. President Clinton has built on the successful Brady Law by making it against the law for those convicted of any offense involving domestic violence -- misdemeanor or felony -- to own or possess a firearm. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

The Brady Law is Making a Difference

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

FALSE CLAIM: If President Clinton was really serious in fighting crime, he wouldn't have vetoed a tough anti-crime bill.

THE FACTS: The President vetoed the Republican attempt to gut proven crime fighting programs because it represented an unacceptable retreat in the fight against crime and drugs. That bill was a step back, not a step forward.

- **No New Police on Our Streets.** It tried to eliminate the plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer on America's streets. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Abolished the Drug Court Program.** Drug Courts are a proven success in breaking the cycle of crime and drugs by stripping drug users of their addiction to controlled substances and thereby ending their addiction to crime. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Cut Funding for the Federal Drug Enforcement Efforts.** The Republican bill cut \$5 million from the President's request for the Drug Enforcement Agency and also cut federal law enforcement task forces (OCEDTF) of FBI, DEA, and Treasury agents who are busting drug traffickers. This bill also cut funds for the FBI, U.S. Marshals, drug prosecutors, Bureau of Prisons and other drug fighting resources. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]

FALSE CLAIM: There were 500,000 more victims of violent crime in 1994 than in 1992.

THE FACTS: The number of violent crimes in 1995 are down dramatically compared to 1992. In 1995, violent crimes fell more than 9% -- the largest one-year drop in more than a decade. In fact, there were one million fewer violent crimes in 1995 than in 1994.

Crime is Down Across the Country -- This is No Time to Turn Back

- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years. [Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Release, May 5, 1996]
- The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period. [Source: FBI Release, May 5, 1996]
- The number of violent crimes fell by more than 9% in 1995 -- the largest one-year drop in more than a decade. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 9/17/96]
- In 1995, aggravated assaults dropped 19%, robbery fell 14% and rape declined 18%. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 9/17/96]
- The number of crimes reported to police has fallen 5% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

Gun control violates Second Amendment, hurts everyday citizens

- Most NICS checks take only seconds to complete. During NICS' first year, the FBI cleared 72% of prospective gun buyers within 30 seconds of the dealer's request for the check, allowing most gun buyers to receive their guns without any wait. Even when a transfer was delayed because a check revealed potentially disqualifying information, the FBI provided a check within two hours for 95 percent of prospective buyers. The other five percent of prospective gun buyers had records in NICS that required additional time for law enforcement to check. Data from the first year of operation demonstrates that a person whose NICS check takes more than 24 hours to complete is almost 20 times more likely to be determined a prohibited person than other gun buyers. *Source: March 14, 2000 letter to the White House from Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers and Attorney General Janet Reno*

Safety locks miss the mark

- An estimated one-third of all privately-owned handguns are left loaded and unlocked. Child safety locks can reduce the unauthorized use of handguns by a child at play or a teen looking to commit a crime. However, requiring child safety locks on all handguns is only one part of our legislative effort – we must also close the gun show loophole, ban the importation of all large capacity ammunition magazines, and extend the Brady Law to violent juveniles. Although violent youths convicted in adult courts are barred from owning firearms as adults, the same is not true for youths found guilty of serious violent crimes in juvenile court.
- Additionally, the President has also called on the Congressional leaders to pass his Child Access Prevention (CAP) proposal, which would hold adults accountable if they allow children easy access to loaded guns. Sixteen states have already adopted CAP laws. According to a study published by the Journal of the American Medical Association, CAP laws help reduce fatal unintentional shootings by an average of 23 percent. The President's proposed legislation would impose felony penalties on adults who knowingly or recklessly allow a child to have unlawful access to an unlocked gun that is later used to cause death or serious injury. Such adults could be imprisoned for up to three years, fined up to \$250,000, or both.

Background checks have limited effectiveness

- "The National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) currently allows the FBI and its partners in state and local law enforcement to perform instant searches of over 35 million records. NICS blocks criminal purchases efficiently by checking these records before the sale of a gun by a federally licensed gun dealer takes place. NICS stopped approximately 179,000 felons, fugitives, domestic violence abusers, and other prohibited persons from buying guns from licensed dealers in its first thirteen months, adding to the 312,000 who were stopped under the Brady Act's interim provisions. Over 10 million checks were run through NICS between November 30, 1998 and December 31, 1999." *Source: March 14, 2000 letter to the White House from Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers and Attorney General Janet Reno*
- The President's FY 2001 budget provides \$70 million to give law enforcement more tools to increase the speed and accuracy of Brady Background checks, and keep guns out of the hands of even more prohibited persons. The President's initiative doubles funding for the

THE CLINTON RECORD ON CRIME

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration doesn't understand the crime problem. The President knows what to say, but he doesn't grasp what needs to get done.

THE FACTS: Over the past three years, the Clinton Administration has made tremendous progress in bringing crime and drug abuse under control. The violent crime and murder rates across the country are falling, tens of thousands of criminals have been prevented from buying guns, over 100,000 46,000 police have been funded and more than 20,000 new officers are already on the street. President Clinton is committed to stopping any attempts to roll back the progress we have made in reducing crime and will continue in his efforts to put more cops on the beat and take guns, drugs, and gangs off the streets.

- **The Toughest, Smartest Crime Bill Ever.** After six years of gridlock, President Clinton passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill in the nation's history. It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National Sheriff's Association, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Police Are on the Street.** The President's plan to put 100,000 more police on the streets is working. Already, over 20,000 new police are on the streets of America's communities and more than 46,000 additional officers have been funded. This represents the federal government's largest commitment ever to local law enforcement. Every major law enforcement organization has expressed support for the Crime Bill's COPS program. [Source: Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **Taking Deadly Assault Weapons off the Streets.** The Crime Bill banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies while specifically protecting more than 650 legitimate sporting weapons. Already, in just one year since the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped 18%. [Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]
- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** President Clinton stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. In the two years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped more than 60,000 fugitives and felons and other criminals from purchasing handguns. The President has built on the successful Brady Law by making it against the law for those convicted of any offense involving domestic violence -- misdemeanor or felony -- to own or possess a firearm. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96, FY97 Budget]
- **Tougher Laws and More Prisons.** The Crime Bill provides for:
 - A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
 - An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
 - Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states to ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
 - Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders. [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]
- **Fighting to End Domestic Violence.** The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Dept. of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration does not deserve any credit for crime rate reductions. Crime rates have fallen because incarceration rates are increasing. The total estimated correctional population (probation, jail, parole, etc.) has risen 7.8% since 1992.

THE FACTS: Violent crime across the country has fallen in each and every year since President Clinton took office. In fact, the rate of reported violent crime has fallen four years in a row -- the first time since 1960. Yet, for four straight years before the President took office, the violent crime rate increased. The Crime Bill and the Brady Bill are two reasons why we are finally seeing crime fall across the country. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

- **Community Policing is Working.** In city after city across America, crime is down.
 - ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
 - ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
 - ★ *"The decline [in crime] can be explained in part by policy-driven law enforcement effort that capitalize on community crime-fighting initiatives and take the bad guys off the streets."* [Source: John Dilulio Jr., Princeton University, in Wall Street Journal, 9/6/95]
- **Tougher Laws are Putting More Criminals Behind Bars.** With the passage of the Crime Bill, tough action replaced tough talk, giving communities the tools to prosecute and punish more criminals than ever before.
 - * **Three Strikes-And-You're Out.** The Crime Bill made "Three-Strikes" the law of the land. Prosecutors are using this provision to target the small number of violent, repeat offenders who commit a great deal of the crime in this country.

Taking Violent Criminals Off of America's Streets and into Prison for Good

- ★ *Thomas Farmer was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole under the President's "Three Strikes" law for his part in the armed robbery of an Iowa supermarket. Farmer had urged his accomplices to kill a store employee who was unable to open the store's safe. He had previously been convicted in 1971 of second degree murder; in 1979 of robbery, which he committed while on parole; and in, 1983 of murdering a fellow inmate. Had Farmer been prosecuted in state court, he might have been eligible for parole in just two and one-half years.*
- ★ *Clayton James Phillips was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences without parole for the armed robbery of two St. Mary Parish, Louisiana post offices under "Three Strikes." Phillips had been convicted in state court in 1978 of armed robbery and again in 1989 of attempted first degree murder. Phillips also was sentenced to an additional, consecutive 25 year sentence for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.*

- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which has already stopped more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns. President Clinton has built on the successful Brady Law by making it against the law for those convicted of any offense involving domestic violence -- misdemeanor or felony -- to own or possess a firearm. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

The Brady Law is Making a Difference

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

FALSE CLAIM: If President Clinton was really serious in fighting crime, he wouldn't have vetoed a tough anti-crime bill.

THE FACTS: The President vetoed the Republican attempt to gut proven crime fighting programs because it represented an unacceptable retreat in the fight against crime and drugs. That bill was a step back, not a step forward.

- **No New Police on Our Streets.** It tried to eliminate the plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer on America's streets. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Abolished the Drug Court Program.** Drug Courts are a proven success in breaking the cycle of crime and drugs by stripping drug users of their addiction to controlled substances and thereby ending their addiction to crime. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Cut Funding for the Federal Drug Enforcement Efforts.** The Republican bill cut \$5 million from the President's request for the Drug Enforcement Agency and also cut federal law enforcement task forces (OCEDTF) of FBI, DEA, and Treasury agents who are busting drug traffickers. This bill also cut funds for the FBI, U.S. Marshals, drug prosecutors, Bureau of Prisons and other drug fighting resources. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]

FALSE CLAIM: There were 500,000 more victims of violent crime in 1994 than in 1992.

THE FACTS: The number of violent crimes in 1995 are down dramatically compared to 1992. In 1995, violent crimes fell more than 9% -- the largest one-year drop in more than a decade. In fact, there were one million fewer violent crimes in 1995 than in 1994.

Crime is Down Across the Country -- This is No Time to Turn Back

- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years. [Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Release, May 5, 1996]
- The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period. [Source: FBI Release, May 5, 1996]
- The number of violent crimes fell by more than 9% in 1995 -- the largest one-year drop in more than a decade. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 9/17/96]
- In 1995, aggravated assaults dropped 19%, robbery fell 14% and rape declined 18%. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 9/17/96]
- The number of crimes reported to police has fallen 5% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

TOUGH AND SMART

President Clinton's Record Fighting Crime

MORE POLICE ARE ON THE STREETS

- The President's plan to put 100,000 more police on the streets is working. Already, almost 20,000 new police are on the streets of America's communities and more than 44,000 additional officers have been funded. This represents the federal government's largest commitment ever to local law enforcement. Every major law enforcement organization has expressed support for the Crime Bill's COPS program. [Source: Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

KEEPING GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS OF CRIMINALS

- President Clinton stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. In the two years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped more than 60,000 fugitives and felons and other criminals from purchasing handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]
- In fewer than two years since the President signed the Assault Weapons Ban into law, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped a full 18%. [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]

TOUGHER LAWS AND MORE PRISONS

- President Clinton's Crime Bill included a targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
- Since its enactment, 16 career criminals in thirteen states have either been sentenced to life in prison under the Three Strikes provision, or are awaiting sentencing or trial. [Source: Department of Justice]
- His bill also expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
- President Clinton's Crime Bill expanded the death penalty to include drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
- The Crime bill provided funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states to ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- The President's Crime Bill increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders. [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]

FIGHTING TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]
- Included a first-ever Violence Against Women Act which triples funding for battered women's shelters and already has provided \$26 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF HARMS WAY

- **Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act.** Strengthened and expanded the Safe and Drug-Free School Act, which provides school security, drug prevention and education programs in 97% of America's school districts. The President successfully fought off an attempt by Congressional Republicans to dramatically cut the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program.

[Source: Based on House-passed FY96 Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill; Department of Education release 2/9/96]

- **School Uniforms.** Encouraged school to adopt school uniform policies, which promote discipline and respect, and developed a manual to be distributed to 16,000 school districts to assist them in establishing these policies.

- **Curfews.** Encouraged cities across the country to adopt curfew programs to decrease juvenile delinquency and victimization. Curfews, when backed up by a community of support and are part of a larger plan to help fight juvenile crime, can play an important role in keeping our children safe.

- **Truancy Programs.** Providing \$10 million in grants to schools and community groups to design and operate their own truancy programs to keep our children in school and off the streets -- out of harms way.

- **Youth Crime Interdiction.** Working with 17 cities and their police chiefs, local prosecutors, and federal investigators and prosecutors to trace firearms found on youths back to the crime gun traffickers. For the first time, every time a gun is used in a crime and seized by law enforcement, it will be tracked through a national tracing system. Law enforcement will use that trace information to help identify and local illegal gun traffickers who, especially, peddle guns to kids.