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CRIME AND JUSTICE
A Review of Research
VOLUME 27

Gun Self-Defense and Deterrence

Jens Ludwig

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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Georgetown Public Policy Institute

September 24, 2000

Deanne Benos
The White House
Domestic Policy Council
224 OEOB
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Deanne,

Enclosed please find a copy of my review article on self-defense gun use and concealed gun-carrying laws, which I thought might be of interest. The essay was recently published in Michael Tonry's Crime and Justice series.

Best regards,

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 Leanne A. Shimabukuro

08/09/2000 09:29:10 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Deanne E. Benos/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: another one -- this one is quite old

Concealed Weapons Legislation

Q: What is the Administration's position on the concealed weapons legislation that passed out of the House Judiciary Committee this week?

A: There may be good reasons to allow retired and current police officers to carry their weapons on an interstate basis, and we intend to consult the law enforcement organizations and others on this issue. However, as we understand it, the bill's current language also allows the increasing number of persons with state permits to carry concealed weapon to similarly carry these weapons into other states. Frankly, we do not think that it is a good idea -- before the Brady Law is made permanent, and before the NICS system is implemented -- to allow millions of persons to carry concealed weapons throughout the country.

Concealed Weapons Referendum Q&A
April 7, 1999

Q: Yesterday, Missouri citizens rejected a referendum to allow people to carry concealed weapons in public. What is your reaction to the vote?

A: We believe that there were very serious public safety concerns with the Missouri concealed weapons referendum proposal, and we are pleased that the voters rejected it. As Governor of Arkansas, President Clinton vetoed a similar piece of legislation. This ill-conceived proposal would have permitted even some convicted criminals to carry concealed firearms, and it would have allowed people to carry concealed weapons in venues such as sporting events, hospitals, and bars. The First Lady took an active role in opposing this measure in order to protect the children of Missouri. We believe her efforts to call attention to some of the dangers of the NRA backed proposal -- through efforts to get out the vote and other means -- had a positive impact on what turned out to be a very close vote.