

Dr. Gary Kleck



By David J. Bordua Professor of Criminology

Kleck's recent research has found that higher general gun ownership rates reduce homicide rates, probably because the violence-reducing effects of guns among noncriminal victims and prospective victims outweigh the violence-increasing effects of guns among criminals. Other research found that adding more officers to a city's police force will not produce increased deterrence of crime. Another recent study found that victims who resist rape attempts, including those who resist forcibly, are more likely to avoid completion of the rape and no more likely to suffer additional injuries than victims who do not resist.

In 1993, Dr. Kleck won the Michael J. Hindelang Award from the American Society of Criminology for his book *Point Blank: Guns and Violence in America* (Aldine de Gruyter, 1991). He has testified before Congress and state legislatures on gun control proposals. His research was cited in the Supreme Court's landmark *District of Columbia v. Heller* decision, which struck down the D.C. handgun ban and held that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 1979, University of Illinois at Urbana; Sociology

M.A. 1975, University of Illinois at Urbana; Sociology

B.A. 1973, University of Illinois, with High Honors and with Distinction;
Sociology

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Jongyeon Tark, Gary [Kleck](#). 2014. "[Resisting Rape: The Effects of Victim Self-Protection on Rape Completion and Injury](#)" *Violence Against Women*.

Gary [Kleck](#), James C. Barnes. 2014. "Do More Police Generate More Crime Deterrence?" *Crime and Delinquency*.

Gary [Kleck](#). 2013. "An Overview of Gun Control Policy in the United States" *The Criminal Justice System (10th Edition)*.

Tomislav Kovandzic, Mark E. Schaffer, Gary [Kleck](#). 2013. "[Estimating the Causal Effect of Gun Prevalence on Homicide Rates: A Local Average Treatment Effect Approach](#)" *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*.

Gary [Kleck](#). 2013. "Deterrence: Actual vs. Perceived Risk of Punishment" *Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice*.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Kleck, Gary, Brion Sever, Spencer Li, and Marc Gertz. 2005. "The Missing Link in General Deterrence Research." *Criminology* 43(3):623-659.

Kleck, Gary and Jongyeon Tark. 2005. "Resisting Crime: The Effects of Victim Action on the Outcomes of Crimes." *Criminology* 42(4):861-909.

Kleck, Gary. 1997. *Targeting Guns: Firearms and their Control*. Hawthorne, N.Y.: Aldine de Gruyter,

Kleck, Gary and Marc Gertz. 1995. "Armed Resistance to Crime: the Prevalence and Nature of Self-defense with a Gun." *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology* 86(1):150-187.

Kleck, Gary. 1991. *Point Blank: Guns and Violence in America*. Hawthorne, N.Y.:Aldine de Gruyter. Winner of the Michael J. Hindelang Award of the American Society of Criminology.