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Coalition Against Gun Violence is a non-profit coalition united against gun violence and committed to creating a safer community for Santa Barbara County residents.

COALITION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE
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KUDOS TO MICHAEL And Some...Editorial Comment

You probably know that “*Bowling for Columbine*” won the Oscar as the best documentary and has broken all attendance records for a documentary film. It has also garnered several other awards. This film has had the important effect of bringing the issue of gun violence into American homes and encouraging us to ask why we have so much gun violence.



“Bowling for Columbine” Community Forum February 13, 2003 Sponsored by CAGV. Moderator Jerry Cornfield and Mayor Marty Blum (not pictured), (l) S. B. Councilperson Babatunde Folayemi, Goleta Councilperson Margaret Connell, S.B. Police Officer Hove, Dr. Shane Jimerson, and Patricia Cooper were the panelists.

However, we believe Moore does not have all his facts right when in the film he tries to explain the differences in rates of gun violence. At the Cannes film festival press conference, a Canadian journalist respectfully objected to Moore’s contention that all Canadians didn’t lock their doors. Moore deflected the comment, insisting that something in the Canadian “cultural DNA” made it a less fearful and violent country than its neighbor.

We believe the critical difference between America and Canada are gun laws and the manner in which each country has historically and politically responded to gun violence. The history of gun laws in each respective country has influenced its “cultural DNA.”

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR MAY 10TH GARDEN PARTY RECEPTION

CAGV is hosting an elegant **Garden Party Reception, Saturday, May 10, 3:00 — 5:00 p.m.** at 627 Lilac Drive, Montecito. **Nancy Lessner** and **Paul Glenn** have graciously invited us again this year to share the beauty of their exquisite garden. If you missed exploring this fabulous and extensive garden, don’t pass up this opportunity. **Assemblymember Hannah-Beth Jackson** is scheduled to attend and speak and to enjoy the afternoon with us.

This year we will be honoring three local women who, in their work for peace, have brought innovation and inspiration to our community: **Betty Hatch, Sharon Hoshida** and **Judi Weisbart**.

You will also enjoy music performed by **Vocalist Shelly Rodriguez** along with tea, wine and delightful refreshments. Tickets are \$30.00. Invitations are in the mail. Please join us for a lovely afternoon. Valet parking, a must for this event, will be facilitated if you and some friends can carpool.

—in dark times let us gather in inspirational surroundings to reaffirm our commitment to a world free of (gun)violence.

SAVE THE DATE—OCTOBER 4, 2003

The Coalition Against Gun Violence will host its **9th Annual Dinner on October 4, 2003**. This year our distinguished speaker will be **Andrés Soto**. Mr. Soto has served as the Policy Director for the Trauma Foundation since 1996. In this capacity he directs the Pacific Center for Violence Prevention, which focuses on policy for the Violence Prevention Initiative of the California Wellness Foundation. The Center brings the public health approach to violence prevention by going after the source of problems and impeding the commerce of violence. Under Andrés’ leadership, The Pacific Center has been a leader in California’s efforts to increase regulation of firearms and to educate the public and policy leaders of the importance of supporting violence prevention programs. Mr. Soto has been a leading advocate and participant in the majority of gun control legislation that has reached the California legislature.



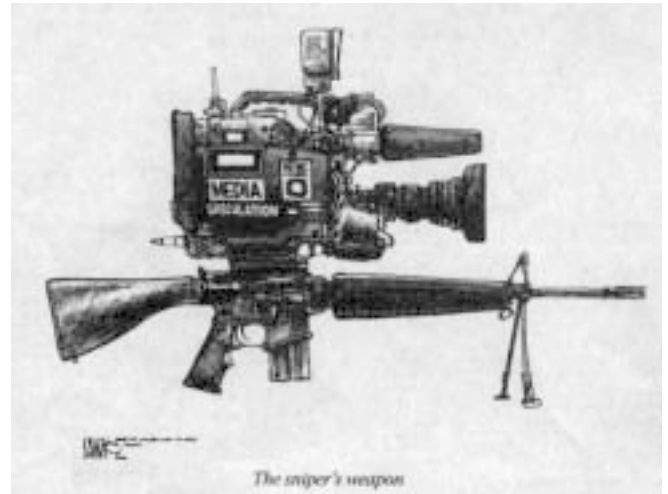
WAR TV: The Effect on American Children

In several past newsletters, we presented studies and articles describing the effects on children and adolescents from violent media, notably from Dr. Edward Donnerstein of UCSB. The current world situation has created a problem for parents helping their children to understand that conflict resolution rather than violence is the appropriate response to a problem situation.

Although we are powerless to stop the round the clock coverage of the “vast warland” of the violence in the Middle East, as parents and caretakers of our nation’s youth, we must be prepared to neutralize its impact on our kids.

Studies show that pre-teens who watch violence on television have an increased likelihood of exhibiting negative behavior with peers, and of growing into aggressive adults. From the beginning of the attack, the visual aspects of this war—bombs bursting in air over Iraq, the gunfire, the long line of tanks—seemed surreal, almost as if it were a part of a Hollywood movie.

Adults know that violence and death are real. Not so for most children. Most youngsters perceive death as unreal and nonpermanent. It is a media phenomenon. Actors “die” on one show and are “alive” on another. Death in a video game can be eliminated by re-booting. We are also learning that adolescents who live in a cultural atmosphere of violence are more likely to abuse alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.



Adults need to talk to their children now about violence; to let them know it is not a correct response to conflict, that violence represents a failure to negotiate and implement peaceful solutions. We need to teach our children about the sacredness of life, of the lives of all people on this earth.

Source: Jointogether: Judy Shepps Battle, addictions specialist, consultant and writer

FACTS

If guns made us safer, we would be the safest country in the world.

Bill Moyers has stated the, “The mark of an educated person is to be deeply moved by statistics.”
Do these statistics move you?

Between 1979 and 1991, nearly 50,000 children were killed by firearms — a total equal to the number of U.S. battle casualties in Vietnam.

Between 1986 and 1992 the total number of children killed by firearms rose by 144 %.

Since 1933, more people have died from gunshot wounds at home than all the wars this country has fought before or since. (MS., May/June 1994)

In 1995 California led the nation in firearm deaths among children .

(CDF Reports 1-98)

ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATION — But Against American Terrorists

—From an editorial in the *L.A. Times* (3-27-03)

Compared with rallies against the war in Iraq, this gathering on March 26th in front of the First Presbyterian Church on West Boulevard in Los Angeles was small. About 50 men and women came to protest the death by gun violence of 13-year-old Joseph Arthur Swift, killed in a war that is all too real to residents of neighborhoods terrorized by criminal street gangs and just about invisible to everyone else.

This child was killed on a sunny Sunday as he left his Bible study class. “They talk about Osama bin Laden,” said Joey’s grandfather, William Arbuckle, “There are Osama bin Ladens in East Los Angeles. There are Osama bin Ladens in Whittier and Compton.”

While the problem of gun violence requires many remedies, part of the solution may be a new program, the TenPoint Task Force, modeled after one in Boston that trains local clergy and church members to ease violence by “ministering, monitoring and mentoring” and to work with police and not with politicians.

Gun violence is terrorism in America and with 29,000 gun deaths annually, could be classified a war. According to the Times, about 10,000 people in Los Angeles participated in 22 demonstrations against the war in Iraq last week alone. Imagine that kind of turnout in opposition to the terror of gun violence in communities across America



“In developed democracies outside the United States, six or seven decades of consistent firearm registration and owner licensing – in particular the registration of handguns – are recognized as the cornerstone of effective gun injury prevention.”

—Philip Alpers, International Firearms Expert comments to the California State Assembly Select Committee on Gun Policy, Glendale, December 1, 1999.

MOORE - *continued from page 1*

In the 1930s the United States decided to register all machine guns and license the owners. As a result of that stringent registration, machine guns are now the firearms least used in violence. At the same time the 54 members of the British Commonwealth, the nations of Europe and other countries went a significant step further and also required licensing and registration of all handguns.

Canada 1892: The first criminal code required individuals to have a basic permit to carry a pistol and vendors who sold handguns had to keep a record of the name, date and identification of the weapon.

Canada 1939: The first real registration requirement for handguns was created and centralized. Laws regulating firearms have continuously been expanded and amended until The Firearms Act was passed (a 20-year effort) on December 1, 1998. By January 3, 2003 all firearms must be registered and in order to register you must be licensed. These strict laws are in response to incidences of gun violence in Canada which would be considered minimal in the United States.

CANADA AND GUNS: MICHAEL MOORE — LET’S SHOW THE WHOLE PICTURE

By Zsuzsa Béres, Writer and Researcher

Michael Moore’s Oscar-winning documentary, *Bowling for Columbine*, claims that Canada has as much gun ownership and as many guns per resident as the United States, and yet only a tiny fraction of the homicides. It appears that part of this claim is not true, according to Canada’s Department of Justice. Moore is correct that handgun violence is lower in Canada than the U.S., but it appears this is due to a combination of tougher gun laws and a far lower rate of handgun use.

Household gun ownership in Canada is about half of what it is in the US. Nearly 22 percent of Canadian households possessed at least one firearm in 1996, compared to 48.6 percent – the world’s highest – in the United States.

Canadians also tend to own rifles rather than handguns, and gun ownership tends to correlate with rural living – i.e., a smaller

proportion of urban dwellers own guns. Canada is a nation of hunters, and most firearms in Canada are rifles used for hunting.

<u>Firearm Homicide -U.S.</u>	<u>Firearm Homicide-Canada</u>
1987-96 5.7	0.7 Per 100,000 pop.
<u>Handgun Homicide-U.S.</u>	<u>Handgun Homicide-Canada</u>
1989-95 4.8	0.3 Per 100,000 pop.

There are more than 30 times more firearms in the U.S. than in Canada – 222 million vs. 7.4 firearms, and 76 million handguns vs. 1.2 million (Dept. of Justice, Canada). Between 1987 and 1996 U.S. firearm homicide rates increased 2% and those in Canada decreased 7%.

A comparison of data in Canada and the United States suggests that access to handguns may play a role in murder, suicide and unintentional injury rates. While the U.S. murder rate without guns is only 1.8 times that of Canada’s, the murder rate with handguns is 14.5 times the Canadian rate.

Canada’s firearms crime rate is much lower than in the United States. U.S. firearm homicide rates are 8.1 times higher than Canada’s, according to Canada’s Department of Justice. Canadian statistics also show that U.S. handgun homicide rates are 15.3 times higher than in Canada. (Murder rates without guns are roughly comparable between the two countries.)

The rate of homicides with rifles and shotguns has dropped to the lowest point in 25 years – 0.15 per 100,000 (Homicide in Canada 2001, Statistics Canada, September 2002). The rate of homicides involving firearms has declined over 35 percent since 1991, according to the Canadian Center for Justice. The rate of firearms being used in spousal homicide has declined by nearly 80 percent since 1974. The study also indicates that the rate of overall firearm homicides remains low at 0.55 per 100,000 and that decreases in homicides with firearms have followed the strengthening of firearms regulations.

Canada, with a population of 31 million, limits possession of handguns to collectors, target shooters and those who can demonstrate a need of guns to protect their lives. Canadian gun laws are among the toughest in the world, especially since the new Firearms Act came into full effect in December 1998.

Canada’s strict federal gun laws – on importing, exporting, possession, use, storage, display and transportation of firearms – seem to be a factor in reducing handgun violence.

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“The real comparison is that Canadians are more seriously concerned about keeping their society safe by controlling guns. Canada’s new Firearms Act did not come easily. It was twenty years in the making.”

MOORE - Whole Picture *continued from page 3*

Under Canada’s new Firearms Act, all firearms owners were required to obtain a license by the year 2001, renewable every five years. Licensing is subject to standard safety checks to ensure that the individual does not pose a risk to public safety.

The new Act also requires that all firearms be registered by the year 2003 – new firearms at their point of sale and imported firearms at their point of entry. Every registration certificate will have

a Firearms Identification Number (FIN). At least 80 percent of firearms can be uniquely identified for the purpose of registration, according to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Canadian gun owners must have a registration certificate for every gun in their possession. If a gun is loaned, its certificate must be loaned, as well. When a gun is sold, bartered or given from one person to another, the registration must be transferred to the new owner.

The law stipulates that firearms must be stored unloaded, with the ammunition separate. Handguns and other restricted weapons must be stored in a locked container, unloaded and made inoperable, with the ammunition stored separately. License applicants must also take the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and/or pass the test for the course, or show by some other approved means that they know about firearms laws and safety practices.

The old system used fragmented databases, often only updated locally, that dealt exclusively with restricted weapons such as handguns. The new system covers all firearm owners and their guns in a centralized and integrated database.

Except most notably in the U.S., the majority of industrialized nations license gun owners and register all guns – Canada’s new law merely brings it into line with other industrialized countries and the 1997 resolution of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

The Canadian public supports the law. According to the most recent Gallup Poll (November 10, 2000), 76 percent of Canadians agree with the registration of firearms. Canadian government studies suggest that Canada’s stringent firearms legislation may be playing a role in these declining rates.

The real comparison is that Canadians are more seriously concerned about keeping their society safe by controlling guns. Canada’s new Firearms Act did not come easily. It was twenty years in the making. We will bring you the Canadian gun control story in greater depth in an upcoming issue of this newsletter.

Source: *The Coalition for Gun Control*

(The Coalition for Gun control is a Canadian non-profit organization working to reduce gun death, injury and crime. Currently, the position of the Coalition for Gun Control is endorsed by over 350 organizations, including: the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, the Canadian Public Health Association, the Canadian Criminal Justice Association, the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians, the Canadian Federation of University Women, the Canadian Teacher’s Federation and the YWCA of Canada.) www.guncontrol.ca

In 1995, the federal government of Canada passed the Firearms Act that includes the following measures:

- **Registration of all firearms by 2003 and a national information system**
- **Strict license screening for all gun owners who possess firearms by 2001 and continuous eligibility checks**
- **A ban on semi-automatic military assault weapons and short-barreled handguns**
- **Controls on the sale of ammunition**
- **Stricter penalties for firearms misuse**
- **Stricter controls on the import, export and tracking of guns**

The system is working. According to statistics collected between the program’s inception on December 1, 1998 up until January 22, 2002:

- Data on 2 million gun owners and around 2 million firearms are contained in the Canadian Firearms Registry on-line
- More than 4,000 firearms licenses have been refused or revoked from potentially dangerous individuals. The number of revoked licenses is 32 times greater than the total for the past five years.
- The new spousal notification line has received well over 26,000 calls. This has proven to be an excellent tool for an applicant’s spouse (or others) to share concerns about their safety.
- In May 2000, the firearm registry helped uncover what is alleged to be a large and sophisticated gun smuggling ring. Likely destined for the black market, nearly 23,000 firearms and their components were seized. In 1998 alone, there were 5,832 firearms reported stolen, lost or missing, by definition falling into the wrong hands.



IMMUNITY FOR GUN INDUSTRY NOT TOY INDUSTRY

“Guns are already the only consumer product (other than tobacco) exempt from federal safety oversight, so the federal government cannot recall unsafe firearms, or require the implementation of life-saving safety devices in guns.”

Remember the work of California gun control advocates to pass legislation (**SB 682**) to repeal special immunity for gun manufacturers? Now the U.S. Congress is poised to nullify California's law. On April 9, 2003, the House approved a bill giving gun manufacturers and dealers immunity against many suits, including those already in court brought by victims who had been shot and many municipalities. The legislation, approved by vote of 285 to 140, would undercut more than a dozen lawsuits by cities seeking to hold gun makers and distributors responsible for local violence.

Republican majorities sponsored both bills and in the Senate prospects look strong for **S. 6591**. A defeat of the bill could well depend on how a handful of swing senators vote in the event of a filibuster. So far nine Democrats are also sponsoring the bills. Democrats from rural areas tend to be fearful of alienating their gun-toting constituencies. Conversely, urban constituencies favor stronger gun laws.

Granting immunity to the gun industry would be a serious setback for advocates of gun control, who have turned to state courts increasingly in recent years after meeting resistance to gun control laws in legislatures. This legislation favors one industry from liability and lawsuits, an industry that manufactures products that kill. As we all know, toys are more heavily regulated than guns and there's no immunity for the toy industry against litigation. It is also a federal usurpation of states' rights, as it would override the will of the California legislature.

The lawsuits which have cost the industry more than \$100 million in legal fees could, the gun lobby says, dry up the supply of guns, infringing on gun owners 2nd Amendment right to bear arms. Rep. Candice S. Miller (R-Mich) asserted, "Where will our soldiers get the arms they need to protect our freedoms, from France, from Germany?"

The Bush administration supports the legislation saying, "The manufacturer or seller of a legal, non-defective product should not be held liable for the criminal or unlawful misuse of that product by others." If we follow that reasoning, product liability for most manufactured goods would be eliminated.

The lawsuits are just now unearthing evidence that gun manufacturers have long known that some of their dealers sold guns to criminals. Court actions is needed because there has been no serious legislative attempt to regulate industry practices, including "straw man" purchases of guns for felons who otherwise would be unable to purchase a gun.

Because an immunity bill would remove even the threat of lawsuit, the gun industry would feel even less of an obligation to build safer firearms and act more responsibly in how they are distributed. This proposed critical legislation has received little publicity or public debate.

There are innumerable dangers created by granting the gun industry the special protections provided by H.R. 1036/S. 6591. Here are a few:

The bill immunizes gun makers, gun sellers, and gun trade associations from liability under most negligence and other common law principles. Negligence law is the cornerstone of our civil justice system; it essentially requires people and businesses to use reasonable care in their actions to minimize the foreseeable risk that others in society will be injured. An action can be legal (preventing the imposition of criminal liability), but still be negligent (and warrant civil liability). Under current law, a gun dealer may be liable for shootings using guns negligently sold to a trafficker, for example, where the dealer sold 50 or 100 guns to a person who clearly intended to resell them to criminals. Under **H.R. 2037**, these dealers would be immunized from liability, despite their negligent conduct. Victims of gun industry misconduct would also be denied remedy under public nuisance law. Only a narrow class of cases – where the conduct is criminal, or the dealer negligently entrusted the gun to the shooter – would be allowed. The bill protects gun makers who refuse to make their products safer.

Guns are already the only consumer product (other than tobacco) exempt from federal safety oversight, so the federal government cannot recall unsafe firearms, or require the implementation of life-saving safety devices in guns. By eliminating liability in virtually all design defect cases, this bill would eliminate any incentive for the gun industry to design guns responsibly. The bill radically alters existing law. Under existing product liability law in most states, manufacturers must include feasible safety devices that would prevent injuries caused when their products are foreseeably misused, regardless of whether the uses are "intended" by the manufacturer, or if the product did not "fail" or "improperly" function. Manufacturers cannot put their heads in the sand and ignore how their products are actually used to injure people in the real world. Thus, cars must be made "crashworthy," even though they are not "intended" to be crashed. Cigarette lighters must be childproofed, even though children are not "intended" to use them. Under this bill, however, gun manufacturers face no liability for failing to implement safety devices that would prevent common, foreseeable injuries, so long as the gun was not "used as intended" whenever children or juveniles injure themselves or others with a gun.

We urge you to fax or email your Senators asking them to vote NO on S. 6591:

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer: Fax: (202) 956-6701 Website: <http://boxer.senate.gov>

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein: Fax: (202) 228-3954 Website: <http://feinstein.senate.gov>



GUN INDUSTRY KNOWINGLY SELLS GUNS TO CRIMINALS

Americans want to know how to stop criminals from getting guns. Bill Moyer's April 11th PBS program **NOW** focused on this critical issue revealing that executives of America's leading gun companies know and have known for a long time that some dealers are selling tens of thousands of guns to criminals yet refuse to stop supplying those dealers.

Robert Ricker, former lobbyist for the gun industry since the 1980s, has become the gun industry's "whistleblower" and primary witness in several lawsuits against gun manufacturers. Ricker has explained how the industry knew the facts about crime guns.

The ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms) has a center which traces crime guns. Police report the brand and serial number to the ATF, which calls the company and asks which dealer did you sell this gun to. Every dealer has an ATF license number. Through the Freedom of Information Act, a gun company could learn which dealers are selling crime guns and easily identify the bad gun dealers. An ATF memo (3-23-2000) states that the ATF would send the gun manufacturers a compact disc with a database of the information they collected annually on crime guns for \$50.00.

Ricker says that publicly the gun manufacturers said there was no way they could discover this information. However, according to Ricker, they discussed it at almost every meeting. Executives decided to ignore the ATF's tracing reports because they would lose profits. One study demonstrates that 25% of all handguns sold in the U.S. end up in a crime, so that gun makers could go out of business if criminals couldn't buy guns.

Cities began to sue the gun makers in the 1990s saying they were guilty of "willful blindness" and indifference to the gun violence which permeates America. Mr. Ricker said that he felt a moral obligation to reveal what he knew because the gun industry was not being responsible. Gun lobby counsel, Lawrence G. Keane, V.P. and counsel of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, said he doesn't know how the industry could learn which dealers were selling crime guns. He stated that it was not the industry's job to crack down on gun dealers and also that the ATF didn't want them to do that. However, two years ago the Justice Department's official strategy to cut down on gun violence was for the industry to police their own industry and refuse to supply guns to dealers who have a pattern of selling guns to criminals.

Although the ATF has the information they do not act upon it saying that there are over 100,000 dealers and they have only 2600 personnel who also must investigate tobacco, alcohol and explosives.

The NRA has called on Congress to abolish the ATF and now have an influential friend, Attorney General John Ashcroft. Under the Homeland Security Plan, Ashcroft's office took over ATF and refused any interviews by **NOW** of ATF officials. Since Ashcroft, the ATF is no longer allowed to give out the information it collects on crime guns. Gun industry lawyers stated that Robert Ricker's charges are devastating, therefore, the gun industry is seeking total immunity through the U.S. Congress and appears to be succeeding. To take action on this issue, contact your senators (see page 5).

DOES SOCIETY NEED SNIPER RIFLES?

WASHINGTON, DC – The Violence Policy Center (VPC) released a study entitled "**Just Like Bird Hunting**"—**The Threat to Civil Aviation from 50 Caliber Sniper Rifles**, which details the threat of military-bred 50 caliber sniper rifles to aviation and passengers throughout the United States. The 32-page study discusses the range and striking power of the 50 caliber sniper rifle and its ammunition in the context of potential terrorist attacks against civilian airports and aircraft.

"Increasingly popular 50 caliber sniper rifles, available at your local gun shop, are a lethal danger to the safety and security of Americans. We ask this Administration to consider the serious consequences of the 50 caliber sniper rifle in terrorist hands," said Tom Diaz, VPC senior policy analyst and study author.

The 50 caliber sniper rifle is capable of firing accurately over thousands of yards and can utilize legally available armor-piercing, incendiary, and explosive ammunition. The U.S. Army's manual on urban combat states that 50 caliber sniper rifles are intended for use as anti-materiel weapons, designed to attack bulk fuel tanks and other high-value targets from a distance, using "their ability to shoot through all but the heaviest shielding material." Various models at a wide range of prices are available to civilians from an increasing number of gun manufacturers.

Even the leading manufacturer of these deadly terrorist tools, which are easier to buy than handguns, touts their anti-aircraft capability. In a brochure advertising its Model 82A1 50 caliber sniper rifle, Tennessee based Barrett Firearms Manufacturing Inc. states, "The cost-effectiveness of the Model 82A1 cannot be overemphasized when a round of ammunition purchased for less than 10 USD [U.S. dollars] can be used to destroy or disable a modern jet aircraft." In 1999 court testimony, Barrett Manufacturing head Ronnie Barrett testified as to the 50 caliber's ability to destroy aircraft: "If it is coming directly at you, it is almost as easy. Just like bird hunting. But yes, it is more difficult if it is horizontally, or moving from left to right, yes."

The VPC has warned President Bush, Secretary of the Office Of Homeland Security Tom Ridge, Attorney General John Ashcroft, FBI Director Robert Mueller, and countless other state and federal officials charged with keeping Americans safe from terrorist activities of the dangers posed by 50 caliber sniper rifles.

OUTLAW 50 CALIBER BMG (Browning machine gun) RIFLES – CONTACT ASSEMBLYMEMBER JACKSON

AB 50 would expand the existing assault weapon law to include 50 Caliber BMG rifles including any 50 BMG cartridges. Existing law makes it an offense, subject to certain exceptions, for any person to manufacture or cause to be manufactured, import into this state, transport, distribute, keep for sale, offer or expose for sale, give, lend or possess an assault weapon, as specified. This bill would extend those provisions to include a 50 BMG rifle.

Assemblymember Hannah-Beth Jackson: Tel (805) 564-1649 Fax (805)564-1651 • E-mail: assemblymember.jackson@assembly.ca.gov Suggest: Attention: Holly-the contact person for gun control issues.

THIS BILL WAS DEFEATED THE FIRST TIME THROUGH THE LEGISLATURE !!



America: Results of Daily Violence

Nearly eighty people a day die in the U.S. from gun-related suicides, homicides and unintentional injuries. In response to these tragic and unnecessary deaths, community organizations, parents, youth, lawenforcement officers, faith leaders, survivors and health providers are joining together to stop the violence. In future editions we will learn about the background of guns and violence in America.

No New Guns At Earl Warren

Earl Warren Showgrounds officials have banned new weapons from being sold at gun shows on the property. The new policy states that gun shows at the showgrounds may only exhibit antique, historical, or curio-type guns. Any gun newer than 50-years old, such as a Smith & Wesson nine-millimeter may not be exhibited. Antique gun dealers still must be licensed and abide by all the rules, such as background checks and waiting periods. The Warren Board of Directors' decision was made in the wake of a State Supreme Court ruling allowing venues to deny the sales of guns on state property. This ruling prompted Roger Aceves, Warren Board President and a Santa Barbara police detective, to propose the ban.

GunART Project—Swords into Plowshares and Firearms into Art

Police Departments receive firearms that were used in crimes or turned in by owners. In Santa Barbara these weapons are periodically rendered useless and recycled. The Coalition is sponsoring a Peace/Piece Project which will recycle weapons into art. We hope it will be possible to transform these weapons into a public art display, and we will keep newsletter readers informed on our progress.

Meanwhile, if you live in the City of Santa Barbara and would like to dispose of any weapons or ammunition you have so that they are not re-sold or re-cycled, or know anyone who would like to dispose of firearms or ammunition, please take the weapons and/or ammunition to the Santa Barbara City Police Department.

Follow this procedure: leave the weapons in your locked car. Go into the police station and fill out a report which will release the weapons and/or ammunition for destruction. An officer will then accompany you to your car and he/she will take the weapons and/or ammunition from your car. Under no circumstances should you carry weapons and/or ammunition into the police station.

Other cities have embarked on such projects and we are excited about starting our own in Santa Barbara. For further information or if you have questions, please call: 564-6803.



STATE GUN LAWS BROKEN BY WAL-MART

Wal-Mart has agreed to temporarily halt firearm sales in California – the first time the nation's largest retailer has stopped gun sales across an entire state - because the company says it is committed to correcting the problem of breaking state gun laws by re-training employees.

The California attorney general's office announced that stores in the Central Valley committed nearly 500 violations of the state's gun laws, including selling weapons to felons and releasing firearms to buyers before the end of the required 10-day waiting period. Guns sold to felons were seized by law enforcement officials and these individuals will face new criminal charges.

In each of six stores audited by investigators, "there were violations of such magnitude that we are convinced it is not an isolated problem but a systemic statewide problem," a spokeswoman for Atty. Gen. Bill Lockyer said. Lockyer praised Wal-Mart for "acting promptly and responsibly. Violations of the type found are misdemeanors, but criminal charges will not be filed because the company is cooperating.

Wal-Mart spokesman Robert McAdam blamed the changes in California's firearm laws in the past two years. Poor management, communication and training have been named as the probable reasons.

The news comes at a bad time for Wal-Mart as the Bentonville, Arkansas based company embarks on a dramatic expansion across California. Wal-Mart now has 137 stores in California, 118 of which sell firearms.

Luis Tolley, head of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, questioned whether action against Wal-Mart should be confined to California. "This is just the tip of the iceberg," he said. "If the attorney general has found hundreds of violations in just six stores in one month, how many will there be across the country? We have much better enforcement [of gun laws] in California than most states, so what do you think is happening in those states that don't have such great enforcement?"



Latino Project Update

Director and Producer Lupe Luna-Martinez is working on a Latino video novella which will also be available in paperback. The video will consist of 4 short stories concerning domestic violence, children playing with toy guns and then finding a real weapon in their home. The actors are local families and youth, along with the participation of a few actors from Los Angeles. We are all anticipating the premier at a CAGV event to be announced in the near future.

**The Coalition Against Gun Violence is pleased to welcome a new partner organization:
Anti-Defamation League, Santa Barbara**

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS • A GROWING COALITION

American Association of University Women, Goleta Valley • American Association of University Women, Santa Barbara
American Association of University Women, Santa Maria • Anti-Defamation League, Santa Barbara • Building Bridges
CALM (Child Abuse Listening Mediation) • Casa de la Raza • Community Mediation Program • Conflict Management Institute
Congregation B'nai B'rith • Congregation B'nai B'rith Temple Sisterhood • Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
Democratic League • Democratic Women Domestic Violence Solutions for SB County • Everyday Gandhis
Families Against Violence Advocacy Network • The Family Service Agency • Green Party • Hadassah, S.B. Chapter
Junior League of Santa Barbara • Latinos for Better Government League of Women Voters
Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Social Concerns Committee • NAACP, Santa Barbara Chapter • Peace Education Project
Physicians for Social Responsibility • Santa Barbara Area Council of PTAs • Santa Barbara Friends (Quakers)
Santa Barbara Jewish Community Relations Council • Santa Barbara Pro Youth Coalition • Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center
Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics • Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee
Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara Social Concerns Commission
United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Barbara • Us Foundation
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom • Zona Seca

COALITION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE
A Project of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation

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