



FREEDOM *In PERIL*

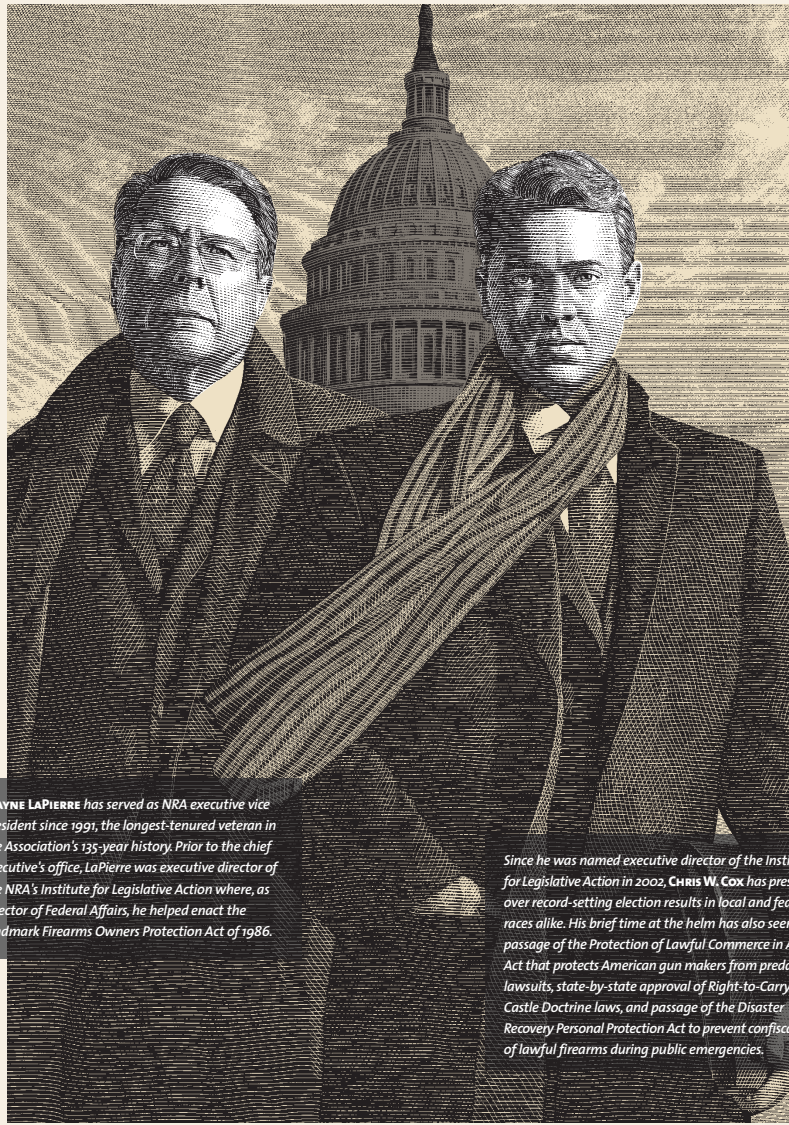
GUARDING *the 2ND AMENDMENT*
in the 21ST CENTURY

NRA

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Second Amendment freedom today stands naked in the path of a marching axis of adversaries far darker and more dangerous than gun owners have ever known. Acting alone and in shadowy coalitions, these enemies of freedom are preparing for a profound and foreboding confrontation in which they will not make the mistakes of their predecessors. We'd better be ready.



WAYNE LAPIERRE has served as NRA executive vice president since 1991, the longest-tenured veteran in the Association's 135-year history. Prior to the chief executive's office, LaPierre was executive director of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action where, as director of Federal Affairs, he helped enact the landmark Firearms Owners Protection Act of 1986.

Since he was named executive director of the Institute for Legislative Action in 2002, **CHRIS W. COX** has presided over record-setting election results in local and federal races alike. His brief time at the helm has also seen passage of the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act that protects American gun makers from predatory lawsuits, state-by-state approval of Right-to-Carry and Castle Doctrine laws, and passage of the Disaster Recovery Personal Protection Act to prevent confiscation of lawful firearms during public emergencies.

The COMING CONFRONTATION

Materials elsewhere document in detail the NRA's history of victories.

These pages outline NRA's future of formidable confrontations.

Whether it's evident or not, these are your fights, too. And NRA is the only guaranteed investment for Second Amendment survival, as well as for all the business benefits that come with it.

Only the NRA energizes the powerful pro-freedom voting bloc, resulting in election outcomes good for both American gun rights and for American business.

Candidates who support the Second Amendment also support you. They're typically pro-business people who fight for free-market issues, from tort and estate tax reform to immigration policy and the global war on terror.

Besides the foes identified on these pages, you should be aware of two relentless dynamics that remain at work, taking a toll around the clock.

The first is the low-profile, high-cost cancer of endless litigation. NRA is outspent ten-to-one in anti-gun court cases whose net effect is to make firearm ownership socially unacceptable. This tidal wave of lawsuits launched by states and municipalities – often with taxpayers' dollars – is compounded by a complicit media willing to parrot and promote their anti-gun viewpoint.

Rifle teams quietly disappear. Shooting clubs dry up. Ranges close down. Hunting safety, target shooting and firearm skills are unwelcome in traditional venues like FFA and Boy Scouts. Firearm freedom is being crushed into ruts by armies of anti-gun warriors in wingtips.

Second, time is ticking and overdue for the collision of two threads in history.

It's inevitable that terrorists will infest America for generations to come. It's also inevitable that an anti-gun president will occupy the White House, and anti-gun forces will control the U.S. House and Senate.

This is when the alchemy explodes, never to be contained again.

When these two certainties intersect, America's anti-gun agenda will emerge in full force masquerading as an anti-terrorist agenda. Unless we are well-financed to face that moment, the final disarmament of law-abiding Americans will occur beneath the shroud of anti-terrorism legislation.

With these two forces – litigation and terrorism – at work and in waiting, freedom is indeed in peril. What follows are specific threats already making battle plans.

History teaches us that their assault will be precipitated by a high-profile criminal act, like an L.A. riot, a D.C. sniper or a schoolyard shooting. All it takes is a rare, tragic anomaly to roll out a blood-red carpet for the gun-ban crowd.

In the pages that follow, you'll see that, together, we face a future so formidable it stands to overwhelm us.

Wayne LaPierre
Executive Vice President

Chris W. Cox
Executive Director,
NRA Institute for Legislative Action



“IT IS A SORT OF DISEASE WHEN YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF SOME KIND OF GOD, THE CREATOR OF EVERYTHING, BUT I FEEL COMFORTABLE ABOUT IT NOW SINCE I BEGAN TO LIVE IT OUT.”

- George Soros,
The Independent, U.K., 2004

The GUN-BAN BANKROLLERS

He admits that American free enterprise and open-market capitalism made him a billionaire. Now he's spending those billions to defeat capitalism and almost everything America stands for.



The Hungarian-born billionaire bankroller of a globalist jihad against firearm freedom, George Soros has been trying to revoke the Bill of Rights through his checkbook – to the tune of more than \$100 million.

After Al Gore's loss in 2000, Soros funded an army of the slickest D.C. lobbyists and spinmeisters to ensure enactment of the McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform bill, which muzzled the NRA's free speech during elections. Then he bankrolled political organizations called "527s," named for the section of the tax code that exempts them from many restrictions on speech and spending, to speak where the NRA could not.

In the 2004 elections alone, he personally invested \$27.5 million in anti-Bush groups, and his foundation's annual budget of \$400 million stands at the ready.

If anyone doubts Soros is paying to excise the Second Amendment – just as he paid to mangle the First – a look at his investment in gun control tells a chilling tale:

- Soros largely funded the NRA-bashing "Million Mom March"
- Soros underwrote lawsuits against the American firearms industry, including the NAACP suit that charged lawful manufacturers and dealers for the acts of armed criminals in New York

AFTER AL GORE'S LOSS IN 2000, SOROS FUNDED AN ARMY OF THE SLICKEST D.C. LOBBYISTS AND SPINMEISTERS TO ENSURE ENACTMENT OF THE MCCAIN-FEINGOLD CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM BILL, WHICH MUZZLED THE NRA'S FREE SPEECH DURING ELECTIONS.

- Soros specifically targeted NRA by pumping money into the "Campaign for a Progressive Future," an organization that supports candidates opposed by the NRA
- Soros' "Open Society Institute" (OSI) paid for research to be taken up elsewhere when Congress shut down the Clinton-era "Federal Centers for Disease Control" to treat firearms ownership as a public health issue

Soros believes he is the apostle of what he calls "The Open Society," under which national sovereignty is subjugated to global "consensus."

His vision includes the borderless spread of international gun control, which Soros has funded through his "Open Society Institute" – the same group he used to fund lobbying for the McCain-Feingold bill.

In the gun-control world, Soros is not alone. Many like-minded billionaires

populate the anti-gun movement, like Internet mogul Andrew McKelvey, insurance tycoon Peter B. Lewis and ketchup queen Teresa Kerry. Meanwhile, millionaire celebrities like Barbra Streisand, George Clooney and Susan Sarandon – who once only lent their names to the cause – now also donate their cash.

But Soros is the first among equals. He is the enabler, a networker and a fundraiser capable of enticing huge contributions from other sympathizers, funneling funds through endless loops of shadowy, connected organizations.

Losing only inspires financiers like Soros to invest even more, because their egos don't readily accept defeat. Soros' chillingly grandiose self-view became public when, in 2004, he told the British newspaper *The Independent*, "It is a sort of disease when you

consider yourself some kind of god, the creator of everything, but I feel comfortable about it now since I began to live it out."

The NRA must mobilize to oppose and defeat the likes of George Soros, whatever the cost.

The Second Amendment needs freedom-loving financiers on her side, or she will be drowned in the tsunami of cash flowing from freedom's enemies. Like the American Red Cross, NRA is regularly faced with an urgent need for immediate funds with no time to raise them.

That's why NRA must always be prepared to respond to might with equal might, to rise to meet and defeat the threat with a swift and certain sword.

“NEXT TO MY FANTASIES ABOUT BEING GOD, I ALSO HAVE VERY STRONG FANTASIES OF BEING MAD. IN FACT, MY GRANDFATHER WAS ACTUALLY PARANOID. I HAVE A LOT OF MADNESS IN MY FAMILY. SO FAR I HAVE ESCAPED IT.”

– George Soros, BBC, 2004



SECOND AMENDMENT FREEDOM
TODAY STANDS NAKED IN THE PATH
OF A MARCHING AXIS OF ADVERSARIES
FAR DARKER AND MORE DANGEROUS
THAN GUN OWNERS HAVE EVER KNOWN.

The GANG of OPPORTUNISTS

SEN. HILLARY CLINTON

The modern incarnation of political guile and cynical grace, Hillary Clinton has become the single most powerful operative in the Democratic Party and very possibly its 2008 presidential nominee.

Clinton views America as the great experiment, not for freedom, but for her own political ambitions. It's hard to find a more consistently anti-Second Amendment figure whose political



success could turn back a quarter-century of advancements of our rights.

Equally ominous are the appointments a President Clinton might make for attorney general, secretary of State and Interior secretary, plus nominations for the U.S. Supreme Court.

As of late 2006, Sen. Clinton had more cash on hand than any other potential candidate, well on her way toward a war chest of more than \$200 million.

"IF I COULD HAVE GOTTEN 51 VOTES IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES FOR AN OUTRIGHT BAN, PICKING UP EVERY ONE OF THEM ... 'MR. AND MRS. AMERICA, TURN 'EM ALL IN,' I WOULD HAVE DONE IT." SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN



SEN. DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Feinstein authored the ten-year Clinton semi-auto ban, the most sweeping (and pointless) abolition of gun rights in the past half-century.

As mayor of San Francisco in 1982, Feinstein pushed through a ban on handguns. Three months later, it was overturned by the California state Court of Appeals.

In 1993, she told the Associated Press, "Banning guns addresses a fundamental right of all Americans to feel safe."

Feinstein admitted that if it were up to her, guns would be banned and confiscated. She told "60 Minutes," "If I could have gotten 51 votes in the Senate of the United States for an

outright ban, picking up every one of them ... 'Mr. and Mrs. America, turn 'em all in,' I would have done it."

Clearly, Sen. Feinstein is betting on global support for her anti-gun aims. About the July 2006 United Nations global gun ban summit, she said, "The Conference is the first step, not the last, in the international community's efforts to control the spread of small arms and light weapons."



SEN. BARBARA BOXER

The doctrinaire hardcore leftist of the U.S. Senate, Boxer has a nearly perfect anti-gun voting record.

In the late 1980s, Boxer was a financial and political supporter of the communist Sandinistas under dictator Daniel Ortega in Nicaragua.

Though Boxer is not typically a front-line spokeswoman for gun bans – protocol dictates that she not appear to be trying to take the limelight from fellow California U.S. Senator Feinstein – she is nonetheless a reliable anti-gun vote and voice in the Senate.



SEN. TED KENNEDY

Since the 1970s, Kennedy has been the leading and loudest voice for firearm and ammunition bans in the U.S. Senate.

Kennedy has repeatedly called for abolition of guns, criminalization of ammunition ownership, gun owner licensing and registration, creation of a federal gun-owner database, so-called ballistic "fingerprinting," waiting periods and countless other manifestations of gun-hating legislation.

His dogged insistence on pushing these proposals illustrates his ignorance of fact and disregard for the rights of gun owners and hunters.

SEN. JOHN KERRY

Kerry has voted at least 51 times against gun owners' rights, making him the most anti-gun presidential candidate in U.S. history.

The only reason Kerry has a shorter bad record on the Second Amendment than fellow Massachusetts U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy is because Kennedy has been in the Senate almost twice as long as Kerry.

Kerry enjoys 100 percent ratings from the Brady Campaign, from the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence (formerly the National Coalition to Ban Handguns), from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and from The Fund for Animals.



SEN. CHARLES SCHUMER

Schumer is former chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, where he turned gun control into his signature cottage industry and largely built his career on this one issue.

In the last 20 years, if there was a press conference for any form of gun control, Schumer was there and almost always at the podium.

From the failed Million Mom March to the "plastic gun" fraud to the ballistic "fingerprinting" hoax and many other gun-ban schemes, Schumer was there preening in greenroom mirrors, awaiting his grand entrance in yet another anti-gun fantasy.

Perhaps the most important harbinger of Sen. Schumer's future influence on gun rights is his 2006 chairmanship of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign

Committee, which picks and promotes Senate candidates. By cleansing the candidate pool of pro-Second Amendment contenders, Schumer can spread and perpetuate his hatred of gun rights far into the future.

REP. NANCY PELOSI

As the Democrat leader in the House, Pelosi represents a major threat to gun owners' rights.

Because whereas Democratic leaders in the past were ambivalent or even occasionally friendly to gun owners' rights, the Pelosi Democratic leadership is downright hostile.

As the face fronting the anti-gun charge, Pelosi exerts significant influence over fellow Democrats to promote gun-ban gimmicks and crusade against gun owners.



KERRY HAS VOTED AT LEAST 51 TIMES AGAINST GUN OWNERS' RIGHTS, MAKING HIM THE MOST ANTI-GUN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE IN U.S. HISTORY.

HURRICANE KATRINA
 TAUGHT AMERICAN GUN OWNERS
 TWO ESSENTIAL LESSONS:

- ① *Even greater disaster is inevitable, and*
- ② *when it happens, they'll take away your guns.*

The DISASTER APOLOGISTS

WHEN CHAOS REIGNS, TYRANNY RULES

It's true no matter where you live. From Florida to Alaska and Montana to Maine, your Katrina may be an earthquake, a tornado, a terrorist attack, a flood, a wildfire or one of many other catastrophes both natural and man-made.

If we note how government behaves in the disasters we're being told to prepare

for, the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 revealed a horror story as big as the storm itself.

NRA has had news crews on the ground in New Orleans since the hurricane hit, interviewing NRA members, gun owners, investigators and law enforcement officers.

The ugly truth about the default posture of government in disaster is this: When chaos reigns, tyranny rules.

In the aftermath of Katrina, and for the first time in American history, New Orleans and other government officials ordered law enforcement officers to go





door to door to confiscate firearms from law-abiding citizens at gunpoint.

When there were no police or 9-1-1 or lights or phones, when armed gangs roamed the streets and gunshots rang out in the moonless sky, when thousands of lawful Americans were reduced to the final and purest form of self-reliance in the face of terrifying anarchy, their very means of self-reliance was taken away.

Katrina became the proving ground for what American gun owners have always predicted. The day came when government bureaucrats threw the Bill of Rights out the window and

declared freedom to be whatever they say it is.

A mayor and a police chief revoked the civil rights of law-abiding citizens. The Second Amendment was only as good as they said it was. And they had plenty of men in helmets and body armor with M-16s to prove it.

No one really knows how many hundreds or thousands of guns were confiscated. In fact, it took six months and an NRA lawsuit in federal court before the city admitted they took any guns at all. Many are lost. Few are likely to make it back to their rightful owners.

In the overwhelming wake of Katrina, local bureaucrats, with no conceivable authority to do so, revoked the Second Amendment. They suffered no consequences. And American media remained silently complicit.

Who, if not NRA, will rise to tell this terrible story and prevent its future occurrence?

NRA immediately launched a two-part initiative:

1. The NRA asked every mayor and police chief in America to sign a pledge that they will never forcibly disarm the law-abiding citizens of their town or city.

Mayors and police chiefs have already sworn to support the U.S. Constitution in their oaths of office. So signing this pledge should be just as effortless. And their constituents will find out whose side their local leaders are on.

If they refuse to make the pledge, they should explain under exactly what circumstances their citizens should agree to be forcibly disarmed.

2. The NRA will support the introduction of state and federal legislation that makes it a crime to forcibly disarm law-abiding citizens. Violation should result in arrest and hard prison time.

This legislation protects not only lawful gun owners, but also rank-and-file police and military officers who should not be ordered to do what they know is wrong. They don't want politically motivated leaders to use them as instruments of tyranny to disarm their fellow townsmen.

In the minds of those who framed our Constitution, the right to armed self-protection in times of pandemonium was so obvious and innate that it didn't warrant mention. That's why the Second Amendment is brief in language but broad in scope, serving as umbrella

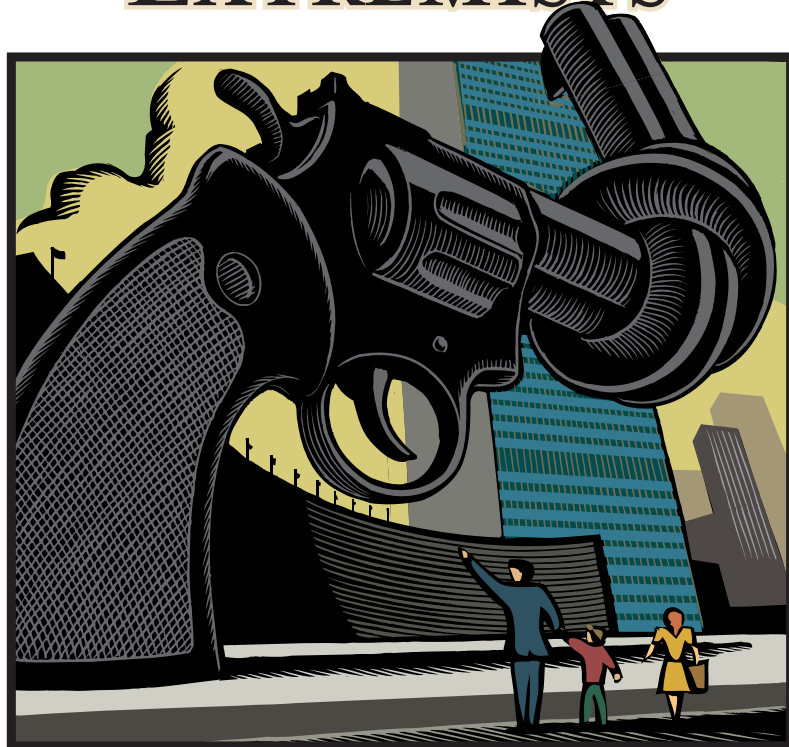
protection for lawful use of arms in almost any circumstance.

We can't know from whence the next calamity will come, only that it will come. And only the NRA stands sentry for gun rights when it arrives.

If we do not heed the lesson of Katrina – that survival in disaster is ultimately the responsibility of the individual – the next tragedy will almost certainly include further devastation of American freedoms.

ELIMINATING CIVILIAN OWNERSHIP OF FIREARMS WORLDWIDE IS A FRONT-BURNER MISSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THEY'RE SPENDING MILLIONS DISTRIBUTING ANTI-GUN PROPAGANDA WORLDWIDE, WITH A PROFOUND PRESENCE IN AMERICA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS. WITHOUT A SUSTAINED COUNTER-EFFORT, THE U.N. WILL REACH OUR KIDS BEFORE NRA CAN.

The ONE-WORLD EXTREMISTS



The U.N. represents the world's wealthiest and most organized enemy of the very freedoms our nation offers to all. They've already been successful in orchestrating gun bans in once-free countries like England, Australia, Canada and South Africa.

Rebecca Peters led Australia's disastrous gun ban. Now she heads the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), a powerful, internationally funded United Nations non-governmental organization (NGO) that is pressing for binding global action on civil disarmament.

Peters admits that the real end game is the subordination of the U.S. Constitution to the United Nations, along with world-wide eradication of self-defense as a human right.

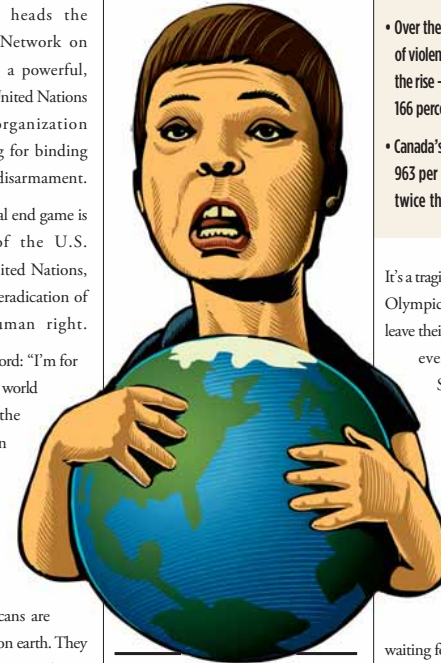
In 2004, she went on record: "I'm for global standards across the world ... It seems to me that the National Rifle Association would say all people on earth are created equal, but some people, Americans, are created more equal than others.

"No," she said, "Americans are people like everyone else on earth. They should abide by the same rules as everyone else."

But restrictive firearm legislation has failed to reduce gun violence in Australia, Canada and Great Britain. The policy of confiscating guns has been an expensive failure, according to a new paper, "The Failed Experiment: Gun Control and Public Safety in Canada,

Australia, England and Wales," just released by The Fraser Institute.

According to its author, Simon Fraser University professor Gary Mauser, disarming the public has not reduced criminal violence in any country examined in the study.



In fact, disarming the public has meant setting up expensive bureaucracies that produce no improvement in public safety and often make things worse. Canada's gun-confiscation machinery, an idea sold with a \$2 million price tag, has so far cost almost \$3 billion.

WHILE VIOLENT CRIME RATES HAVE PLUMMETED IN THE UNITED STATES, MAUSER CITES THESE FACTS:

- In England and Wales, the homicide rate jumped 50 percent in the 1990s after strict gun laws were passed; and in 2003, gun crime in England and Wales increased by 35 percent.
- Over the past six years, the overall rate of violent crime in Australia has been on the rise – armed robberies have jumped 166 percent nationwide.
- Canada's violent-crime rate rocketed to 963 per 100,000 in 2003, a rate about twice that of the U.S. (which is 475).

It's a tragic and telling irony that Britain's Olympic pistol-shooting team has to leave their homeland for training. Their events are illegal in England, Scotland and Wales.

When the United Nations produces its global gun-ban treaty, every member nation is likely to sign it immediately – except the United States.

But that treaty-in-waiting is a time bomb willingly waiting for a sympathetic White House and Senate majority. That's the moment of perfect political storm when, without consulting the American people, the Senate ratifies the treaty and the Second Amendment expires with the stroke of a pen.

Without a strong, stable NRA, there'll be no one to stand in their way.



The ANIMAL RIGHTS TERRORISTS

In 2004 alone, groups dedicated to the elimination of hunting had more than \$100 million to spend on their effort.

That's enough to run commercials, print propaganda, stage rallies, infiltrate

schools with animal rights material, blow up medical labs, burn down buildings, destroy hunters' property and poison hunters' dogs - with enough left over to hire top-dollar lawyers if they get caught.

Their increasingly well-financed and sophisticated lobbying and communications efforts have helped these organizations migrate from the lunatic fringe to the American mainstream.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) is the largest, wealthiest and most high-profile group of animal rights extremists in the world. PETA is linked to a growing network of embedded cells of dangerous people willing to achieve their ends through violence.

If you look past all the puppies and propagandists and PR stunts, PETA is a fraud whose agenda won't improve animal welfare, but abolish it.

If PETA has its way, there will be no hunting - and therefore no wildlife conservation, no wetlands protection or habitat development. All pets must be set free. With no caretakers or veterinarians, the subsequent disease, starvation and die-off of animals is unthinkable.

That's just the tip of the iceberg that should sink their titanic lunacy.

PETA invests more money in wildlife conservation than hunters. In contrast, PETA hasn't spent a dime to buy one acre of land for wildlife, to sponsor a single wildlife restoration project, or to fund wildlife research, habitat conservation, species protection, or game law enforcement.

Many don't know that PETA wastes much more than to take a fishing pole from every child's hand, take away their pet cats and dogs, ban milk from their breakfast, and shut down all their circuses, zoos and aquariums. PETA wastes much more than to take Seeing Eye dogs away from the blind, and

take bomb-sniffing dogs away from our airports.

PETA wants to stop all medical advancements that use animal research in any way. That would eliminate almost every major medical achievement in the 20th century, including antibiotics, vaccines, chemotherapy, transplants and most surgery. PETA's agenda against hunting is consistent with its agenda against medicine: The only death that doesn't bother them is human death.



PETA's tax filings reveal contributions to violent terrorist cells like

the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and Earth Liberation Front (ELF), who have committed countless firebomb attacks and caused more than \$110 million in destruction.

This eco-terrorism movement is so dangerous, the FBI has declared it America's number one domestic terrorist threat. They've upstaged al-Qaeda as the greatest terrorist threat on American soil.

Scientists, doctors and their families have seen their property destroyed. They receive hate mail, letters loaded with razor blades and rat poison, death threats and bomb threats.

It's working. Medical research on the verge of breakthrough screeches to a halt. Our most promising labs are shut down.

PETA and similar groups with innocuous-sounding names like The Humane Society of the United States and the Animal Legal Defense Fund enjoy endorsements from Hollywood celebrities and financial backing from philanthropists who probably don't know the madness they're underwriting.

Animal rights extremists threaten the Second Amendment and our hunting heritage from every flank. The anti-human, pro-animal frontal assault is broad and pervasive, spanning from political initiatives to indoctrination of schoolchildren to hunter harassment.

Only the NRA has the will and the experience to do battle with these frightening forces. But it takes a well-planted financial footing to even throw a first blow. Until then, NRA cannot promise, as it has in the past, to do whatever it takes for as long as it takes to win.

It's time that patriots of financial position pledge to stand with freedom's fighters forevermore.



F R E E D O M I N P E R I L

The Illegal Alien Gangs



◆◆ ONCE FOUND PRINCIPALLY IN LARGE CITIES, VIOLENT STREET GANGS NOW AFFECT PUBLIC SAFETY, COMMUNITY IMAGE, AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN COMMUNITIES OF ALL SIZES IN URBAN, SUBURBAN AND RURAL AREAS. NO REGION OF THE UNITED STATES IS UNTOUCHED BY GANGS. GANGS AFFECT SOCIETY AT ALL LEVELS, CAUSING HEIGHTENED FEARS FOR SAFETY, VIOLENCE AND ECONOMIC COSTS. ◆◆

— 2005 National Gang Threat Assessment
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF GANG INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATIONS

For almost all legal immigrants, America is fertile soil where honest, hard work offers opportunity and prosperity beyond measure. But to criminal aliens, America is a giant supermarket, and nobody's minding the store.

Our nation's abundant material riches, plus our institutionalized fear of offending anyone, plus "sanctuary laws" that prohibit inquiry into an immigrant's legal status, combine to make America the target for any foreign criminal looking for easy pickings.

While the U.S. is an unwitting host to gangs from around the world, America's unfolding Latino gang crime wave will make the record-setting violent crime rates of the 1980s and '90s look like a schoolyard scuffle.

In response, gun owners can expect a thorough revisiting of every anti-gun scheme conjured since the Gun Control Act of 1968. And as always, it is the lawful who will take the fall.

For the first time, U.S. federal authorities are using immigration and customs authorities in an attempt to dismantle what they call "transnational, violent street gangs."

The Department of Homeland Security launched "Operation Community Shield" in 2005 after immigration officials dubbed the street gang *Mara Salvatrucha*, or MS-13, as "one of the largest and most violent street gangs in the country." MS-13 members are typically from El Salvador, Honduras or Guatemala, and in the U.S. illegally.

In fact, some criminologists say MS-13 is the most dangerous and immediate



threat to you and your family on American soil – including terrorist groups like al-Qaeda.

Latino and Asian gangs have run most of the human smuggling business for decades. Their customers often pay off their transportation debts to the gang by selling drugs or performing slave labor. When they see the lucrative results, many stay in that line of business, thus perpetuating the peripheral violent criminal activity attendant to human and drug trafficking.

As a result, these illegal aliens are some of the most vicious, brutal and remorseless criminals at large in America. Gangs now account for a record 93 percent of all homicides in which organized crime is the suspected cause.

WHY COPS CAN'T TOUCH THEM

In many of the cities with the highest rates of illegal alien gang crime, police can't intercept aliens because of their immigration status. Cops are banned from enforcing any immigration law, or even asking about it.

Los Angeles and many other immigrant-rich cities, like New York, Chicago, Austin, Houston and San Diego, have "sanctuary policies" that prohibit city employees, including the cops, from reporting immigration violations to federal authorities.

Generally, the policy prohibits officers from "initiating police action where the objective is to discover the alien status of a person." Police can't question an

arrestee about his immigration status until after they have filed criminal charges, usually at least a felony.

So an easy and obvious tool for busting alien criminals – their illegal status – is not available to the cops who need it most.

For example: Miami police recently arrested a Honduran visa violator for seven vicious rapes. A year earlier, Miami cops had the suspect in custody for lewd molestation but could not check his immigration status. They could have discovered his visa overstay and turned him over for deportation, and the rapes would not have happened.

These "sanctuary laws" reflect the sheer political power of the immigrant lobbies and their friends in politics, a power so irresistible that most law enforcement officials won't acknowledge that an illegal alien crime wave exists.

LATINO GANGS AREN'T ALONE

There are at least 21,500 gangs and more than 731,000 active gang members in the United States. While immigrant members of gangs are predominately from Latin America, hyper-violent Caribbean, Southeast Asian and Eastern European street gangs have also emerged.

No matter where they're from, alien criminal street gangs are showing similar trends in increasingly violent crime that puts the general public at risk.

The FBI is dedicating additional manpower and resources to what it calls "nontraditional" organized crime,

U.S. officials estimate that every year, Chinese Triads illegally smuggle 100,000 Chinese into the U.S., who then enter servitude to work off their debt to the gangsters.

composed of Asian, Russian, Nigerian and other immigrant gangs. These gangs aren't built on the traditional hierarchical structure of the old Mafia, and often prey mainly on immigrants and businesses from their countries.

The most notorious Asian crime organizations are the Triads of China and the Yakuza of Japan. But there are countless smaller gangs from Taiwan, Vietnam, North and South Korea, Thailand, Laos, the Philippines and elsewhere. While Asian gangs are known for heroin and opium trafficking, they're actually far more diversified.

Other Asian gangster activities include arms smuggling, loan sharking, counterfeiting, software piracy, prostitution, gambling, white-collar crime, credit card fraud, home invasion and robbery, high-tech theft and trafficking endangered animals and plants.

What's more, U.S. officials estimate that every year, Chinese Triads illegally smuggle 100,000 Chinese into the U.S., who then enter servitude to work off their debt to the gangsters.

GANGS WITHOUT BORDERS

Meanwhile, Russian gangs often focus on cybercrime. One such gang, called the HangUp Team, has been ravaging e-commerce Web sites for years. The gang plants software bugs in computers that steal passwords and rents computer networks to flood the Internet with viruses and spam mail.

Another Internet-savvy group, the ShadowCrew, is a gang whose members are schooled and skilled in identity theft, bank account pillage and fencing of wares stolen off the Web. The ShadowCrew is thought to have 4,000 members operating worldwide, including Americans, Brazilians, Britons, Russians and Spaniards.

Also infesting more cities are Jamaican drug gangs like the Crazy Cowboys and the Jamaican Shower Posse, so named because they shower their victims in bullets.

The bottom line is that America, by its free and independent nature, is a breeding ground and safe haven for violent, illegal immigrant criminal gangs.

American gun owners should not only draw even tighter rein on their rights, but also brace for a new and decades-long assault upon all their freedoms.



THE TRAGEDY CHASERS

“The dirty secret of this day and age is that political gain and media ratings all too often bloom upon fresh graves.

Today, carnage comes with a catchy title, splashy graphics, regular promos, and a reactionary package of legislation.

Reporters perch like vultures on the balconies of hotels for a hundred miles around. Cameras jockey for shocking angles, as news anchors race to drench their microphones in the tears of victims.

Injury, shock, grief and despair shouldn't be 'brought to you by' sponsors. That's pornography.

It trivializes the tragedy, it abuses vulnerable people, and maybe worst of all, IT MAKES THE UNSPEAKABLE SEEM COMMONPLACE.”

— NRA President Charlton Heston
*Remarks at the 1999 annual meeting of members in Denver, Colorado,
only days after the Columbine High School massacre*

THEY DON'T DARE SAY IT OUT LOUD, BUT THEIR UNSPOKEN STRATEGY IS CLEAR, EVEN PREDICTABLE.

ANTI-GUN SOCIAL ENGINEERS HAVE LEARNED THAT PEDDLING THE ILLUSION OF SAFETY IN EXCHANGE FOR FREEDOMS IS A LOSING PROPOSITION — UNLESS IT'S CAREFULLY SYNCED UP WITH THE SUDDEN SHOCK OF A HUMAN TRAGEDY.

SO THEIRS IS A POLITICAL TACTIC ONCE UNTHINKABLE: TO LAY IN WAIT, HOPING FOR A MOMENT OF HORROR TO ADVANCE THEIR LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.

THE SCHOOL GROUNDS SHOOTING ... THE WORKPLACE ASSAULT ... THE TERRORIST ATTACK ... THAT'S WHEN THEY MAN THE MICROPHONES, POSE WITH VICTIMS AND PROMISE PROTECTIONS THEY CAN'T DELIVER. THEY ARE THE POWER BROKERS WHO TRADE IN TEARS AND TRAUMA, EXPLOITING MOMENTS OF WEAKNESS FOR PERMANENT POLITICAL GAIN.

TAKING THE BLAME

By any measure, our schools are very safe places for our children. The incidence of mortal violence in the classroom is so extremely rare as to be statistically insignificant. Any student in any American school is many times more likely to be struck by lightning than to be murdered at school.

But ever since the 1989 schoolyard shooting in Stockton, California, and especially since the Columbine High School tragedy in 1999, the NRA has been vilified for shootings in schools. Not to mention the workplace, public transit and everywhere else madmen might tread.

Until now, NRA has rightfully declined to join the debate, because no effective solution includes infringement of the

Second Amendment. Although tragic, these incidents have called for no more anti-gun measures than any other crime committed with firearms.

But the advent of domestic terrorism, compounded with recent high-profile school shootings, force America's gun owners to join the national discussion in a way we can no longer decline. Not because the Second Amendment is at fault, but because the Second Amendment is at risk.

As its guardian, NRA must accept the financial responsibility to take its place at that table of debate, and prevail.

MEDIA: A PERVERSIVE ACCOMPLICE

With sad credit to our high-def, TiVo®d, 24/7 video access to bloodshed wherever

it can be exploited, Americans of the 21st century have witnessed mind-shredding criminal brutality unlike any generation before them.

Like acts of terrorism on our own soil, school shootings batter our brains with a reality that knots the gut and tortures the psyche: Brutal slaughter can happen to the most innocent people in the most unlikely places.

This is a new evil for Americans to recognize in our living rooms.

First, we've always innately known that lethal attacker and victim usually bear at least some faint shred of a cause-and-effect relationship. Everyone knows to be wary if you're a battered woman with a deranged ex, or a cop with cold-blooded arrestees, or the well-known owner of big bags of jewels.

But school shootings and domestic terrorism erase all possibility of any objective predictability.

Secondly, these horrific acts of violence upon the innocent make for irresistible TV fare. For most of our history — with the exception of war veterans — the worst an American might see is choosing to rubberneck a car wreck. Most regretted doing so.

Today, gore that our grandparents would've censored out of hand is captured, packaged and fed to us with the numbing, endless-loop repetition of a live helicopter chase.

It's just as riveting, but just as useless in forming effective public policy.

Too often, the media have given enormous attention to school

murderers as a tactic to promote the gun-control agenda. Too often, such attention has likely led other sociopaths and losers to conclude that their one chance to become famous is to attack a school.

The Second Amendment is not part of the problem — never has been, never will be. But that doesn't preclude the NRA — America's foremost protector of the Second Amendment — from being part of the solution.

Whatever your opinion of media coverage, the

inescapable lesson of it all is that in the end, your individual safety is your individual duty.

This concept was not foreign to our Founders. Indeed, it was foremost on their minds, which is one reason it materialized as our Second Amendment.

But we have learned that too many media, politicians and opinion leaders are determined to spin every tragedy involving a firearm into an argument to diminish the Second Amendment.

This is why the NRA must rise to effectively join, and win, this debate.



EPILOGUE

THE HOUR IS AT HAND

You have learned of the disquieting and daunting nature of the many foes standing against our Second Amendment freedoms.

You understand that victory can no longer be borne solely by the masses.

So goes the saga of liberty. Sometimes, any hope of prevailing rests in the hearts and hands of a very urgent few, those patriots prepared to protect and pass on to future generations this most precious and hard-won of all human freedoms.

A handful of capable Americans can rise to meet this momentous occasion. They must first recognize the threats that NRA faces at this dire hour, as this book seeks to illustrate.

Those Americans, we hope, are on the threshold of helping underwrite this mission.

The towering waves of this coming storm are already crashing on our doorsteps.

