#### University of Denver

From the SelectedWorks of Corey A Ciocchetti

2013

#### 2nd Amendment: The Right to Keep & Bear Arms -- Teaching D.C. v. Heller

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Available at: http://works.bepress.com/corey\_ciocchetti/31/

### Article I

Ongress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

#### Article II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

### Article III

deprived of life, li ess of law; nor sha use, without just c

**B**n all criminal provide right to a speedy of the State and of the State and of the State and of been committed, ously ascertained nature and cause with the witnesse process for obtain the Assistance of of the State of the St

<u>2ND AMENDMENT:</u> The Right to Keep & Bear Arms Teaching <u>D.C. V. Heller</u>

## **Constitution & Business**

# FANTASY SCOTUS ... IF HEARD TODAY



# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Right to Keep & Bear Arms

**Constitution & Business** 

### THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT

"A WELL REGULATED MILITIA, BEING NECESSARY TO THE SECURITY OF A FREE STATE, THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED."

# "ENUMERATION IN THE CONSTITUTION, OF CERTAIN RIGHTS, SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED TO DENY OR DISPARAGE OTHERS RETAINED BY THE PEOPLE."

THE 9TH AMENDMENT

### **PRIMARY SOURCES**

# SECOND AMENDMENT

NINTH AMENDMENT

WHAT TO MAKE OF THE TWO AWKWARD CLAUSES

CONCEPT OF RESERVED RIGHTS TO "THE PEOPLE"

### A FEW INTERPRETATIONS OF 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT

INDIVIDUAL RIGHT V. COLLECTIVE RIGHT

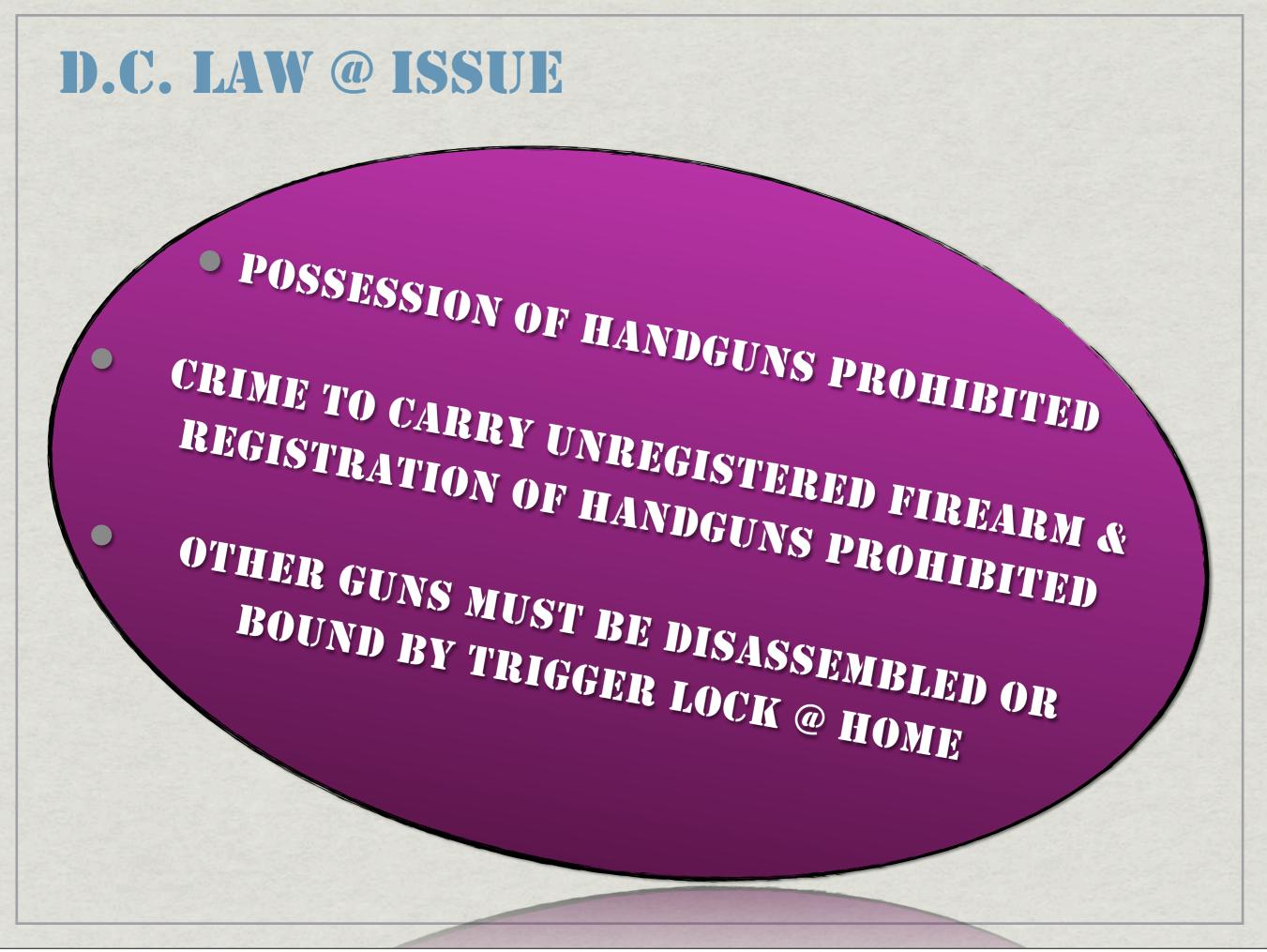
MILITIA BASED RIGHT

DO THE PEOPLE HAVE INDIVIDUAL RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS? IS THE MILITIA PROTECTED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT?

## **CASE OF FIRST IMPRESSION**

"SINCE THIS CASE REPRESENTS THIS COURT'S FIRST IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT, ONE SHOULD NOT EXPECT IT TO CLARIFY THE ENTIRE FIELD." -- JUSTICE SCALIA'S MAJORITY OPINION

# Just the Facts Constitution & Business



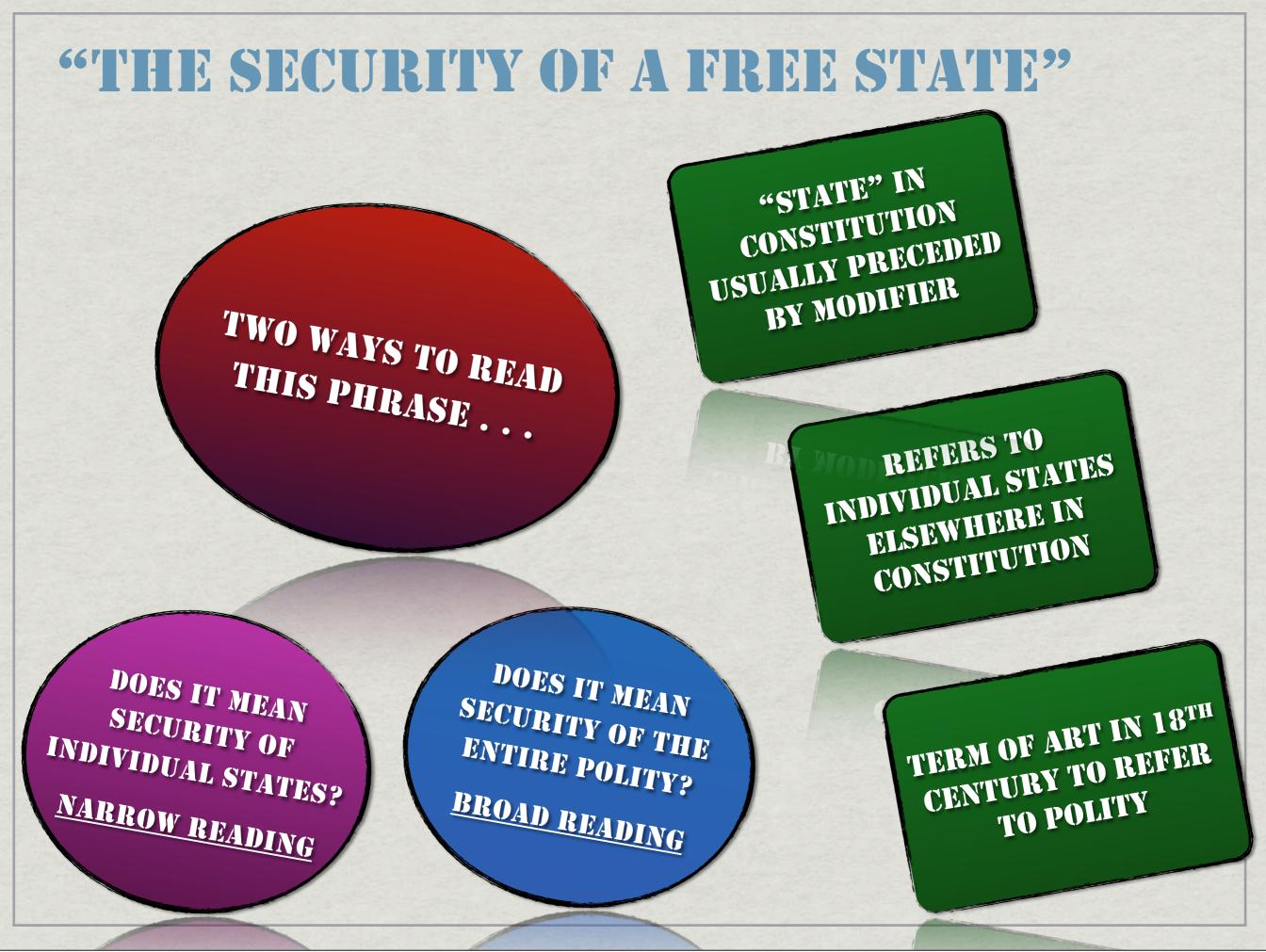
### "A WELL-REGULATED MILITIA"

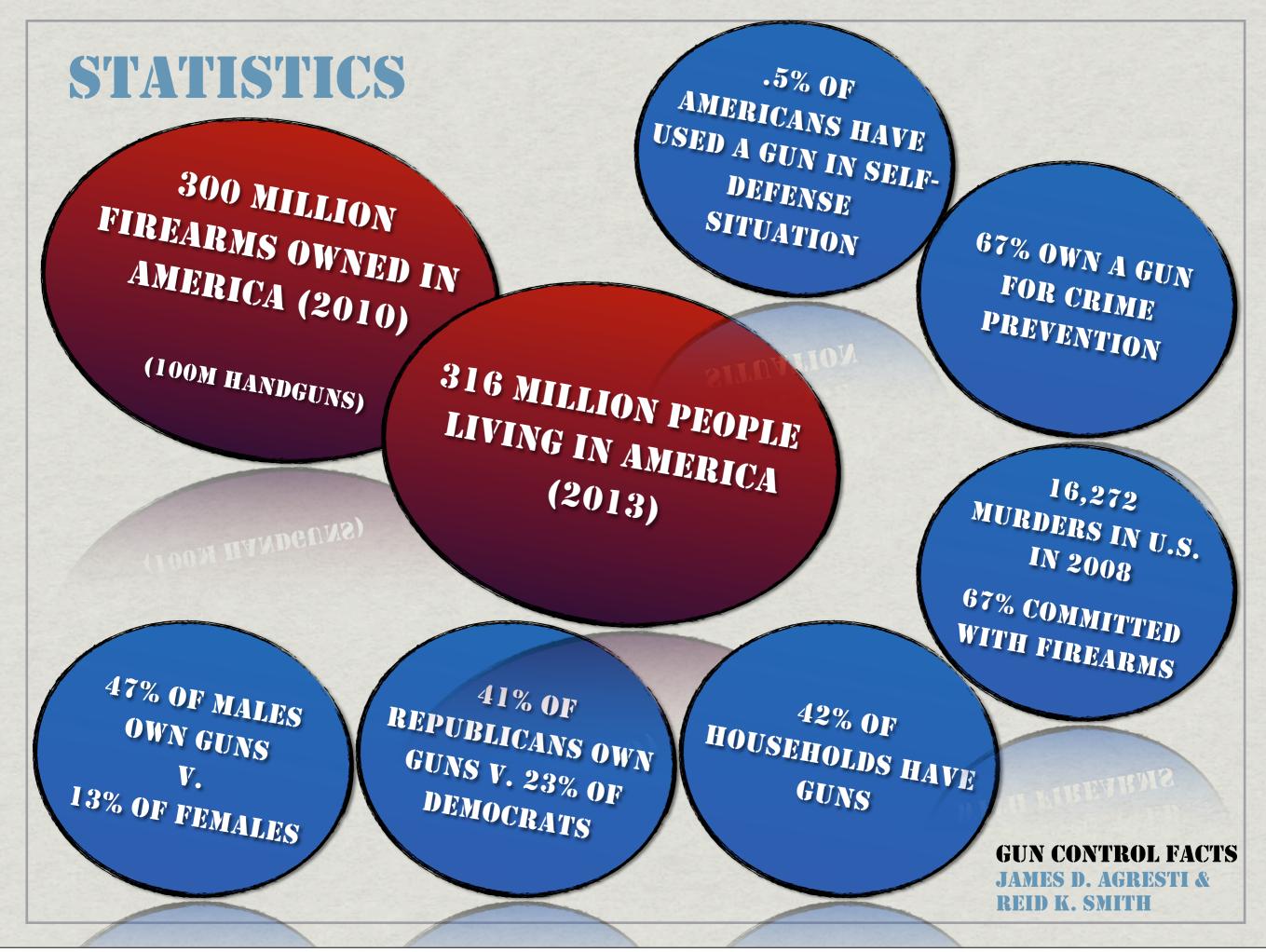
"ALL MALES PHYSICALLY CAPABLE OF ACTING IN CONCERT FOR THE COMMON DEFENSE" -MILLER MILITIA CALLED FOR IN ARTICLE 1

NOT A STANDING ARMY BUT CAN REPEL INVASIONS, SUPPRESS INSURRECTIONS & RESIST TYRANNY HAVE OTHER JOBS BUT KEEP ARMS @ HOME

BUT DOES THIS MEAN A MILITIA ORGANIZED BY CONGRESS INSTEAD?





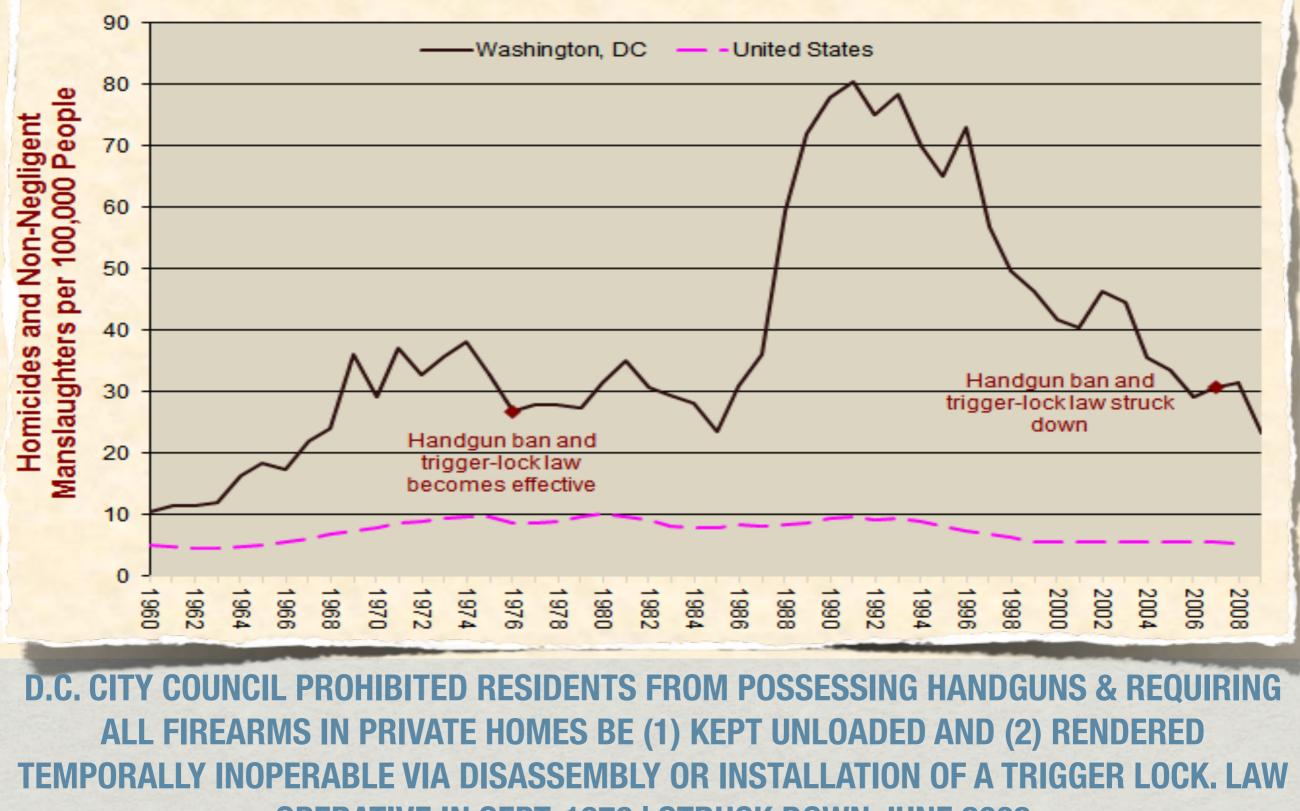




### **STATISTICS: PRE- & POST-HELLER**

GUN CONTROL FACTS JAMES D. AGRESTI & REID K. SMITH

#### Murder Rates in Washington, D.C. and the United States

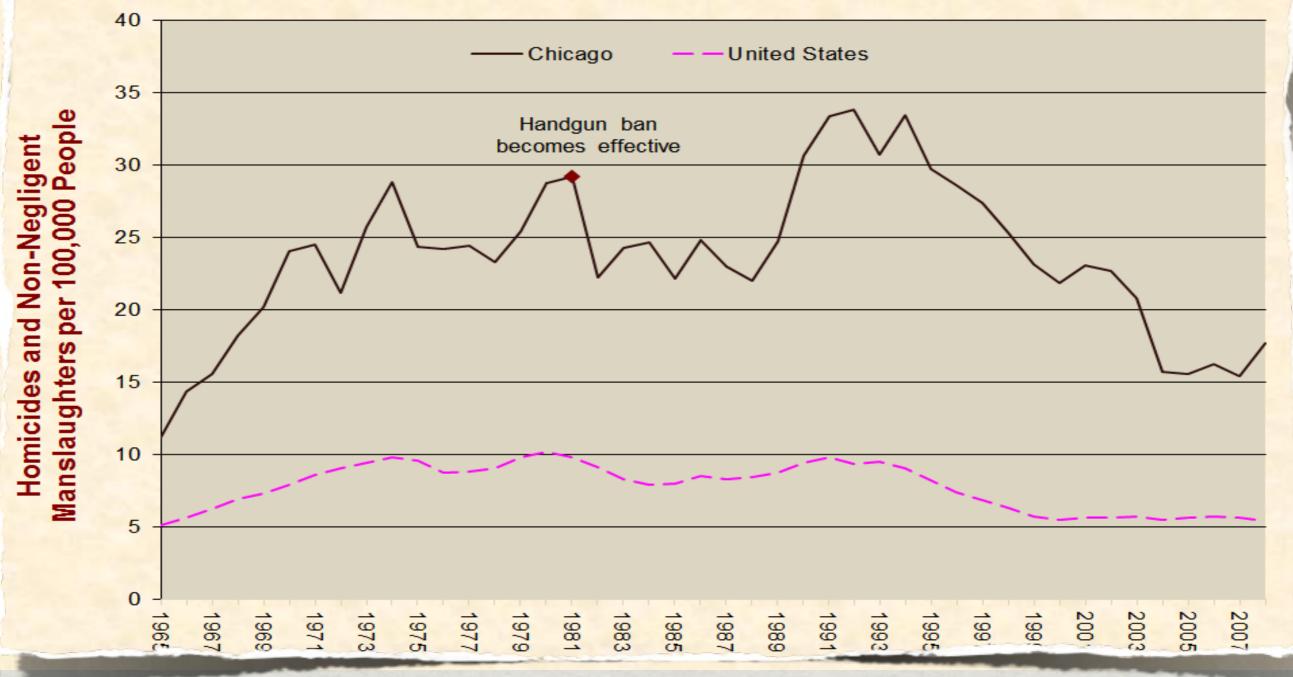


**OPERATIVE IN SEPT. 1976 | STRUCK DOWN JUNE 2008** 

### **STATISTICS: PRE- & POST-MCDONALD**

GUN CONTROL FACTS JAMES D. AGRESTI & REID K. SMITH

#### Murder Rates in Chicago and the United States, 1965-2008



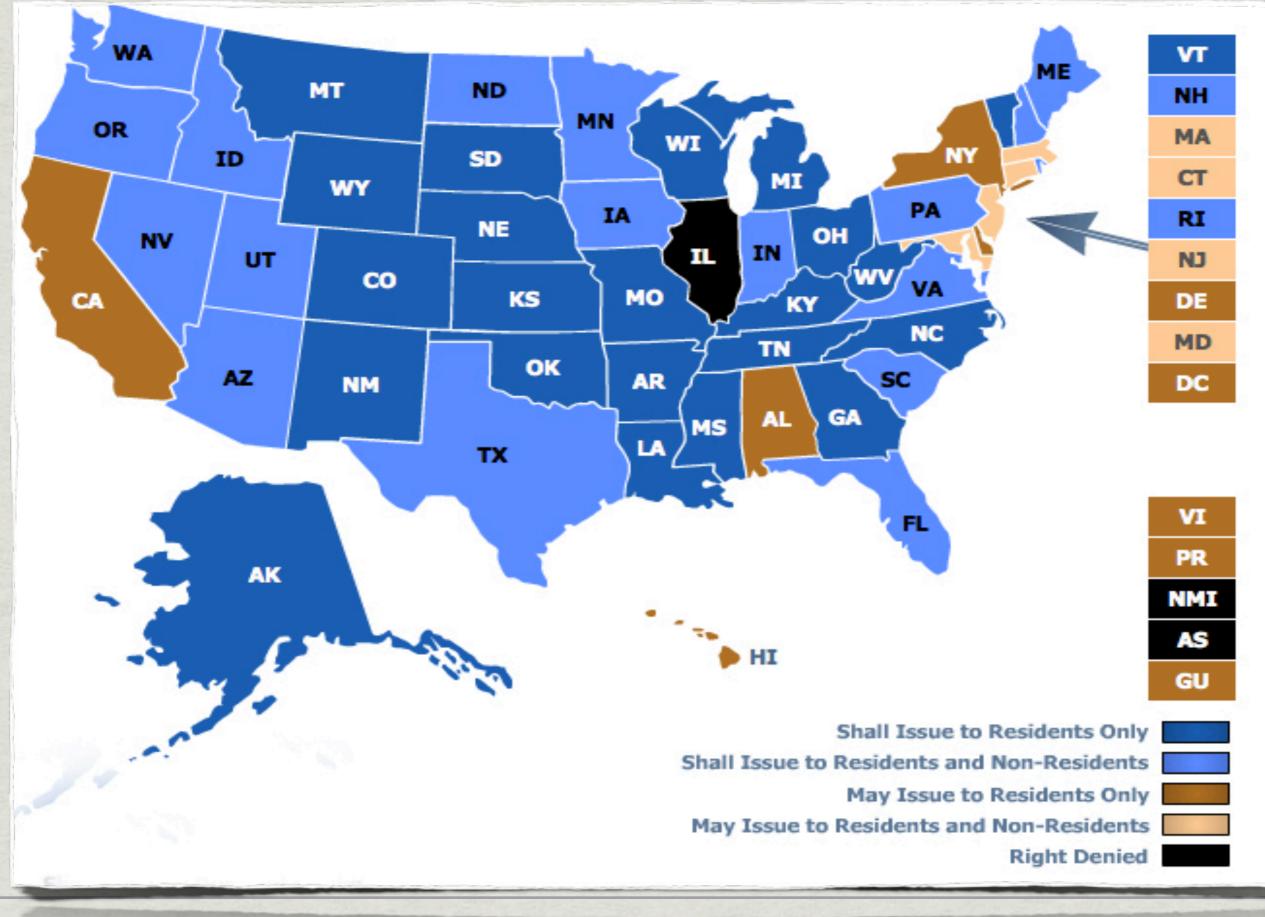
**CHICAGO** 1982. BAN GUNS RAN G NS RARRF POSSESSIN G EXCEPT FOR THOSE REGISTERED PRIOR TO ENAC TMENT. SUCH HANDGUNS HAD TO BE RE-TWO YEARS OR OWNERS W REGISTERED RI TO POSSESS AW WAS **FVFRY** D FORFE THEM AMENDED IN 1994 TO REQUIRE ANNUAL RE-REGISTRATION I STRUCK DOWN JUNE 2010.

#### **STRICTNESS OF GUN LAWS** Ø RI WA ME ND MT CT MN VT OR NY NH WI NJ SD ID м MA PA WY DE IA. MD OH NE IL IN NV UT ٧A CO KS. MO KY CA Strangest NC ΤN 75-100 sc OK AR ΑZ NM GA 58-74 AL MS LA ТΧ 25-49 11-24 FI AK . -0-10 Weakest HI

the second

246346

### **CONCEALED CARRY**



# Much Different Opinions Constitution & Business

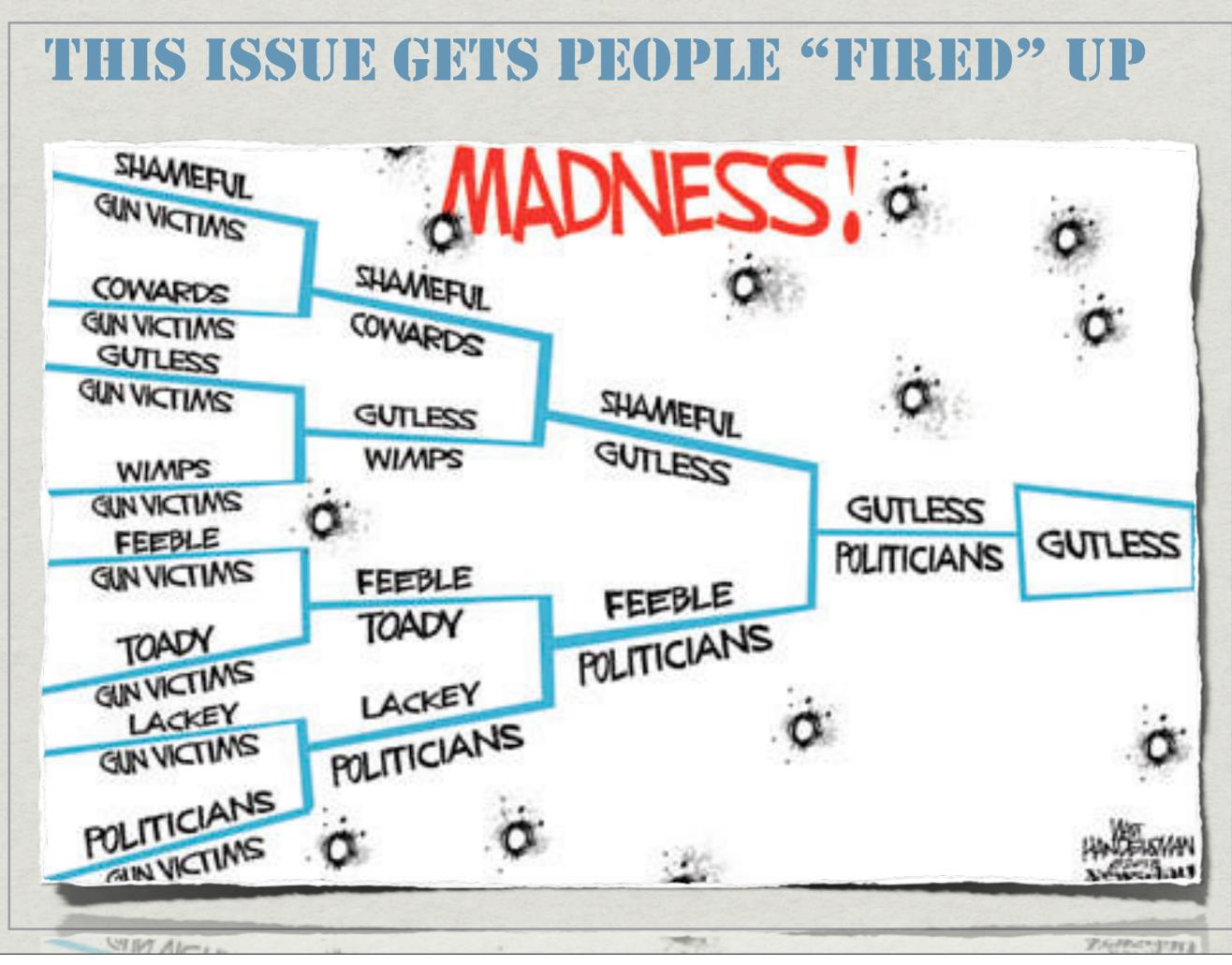
# Nothing to See Here. Just a Coincidence.

Country with the loosest gun control laws in the developed world.



Country with the highest gun-related homicides in the developed world.





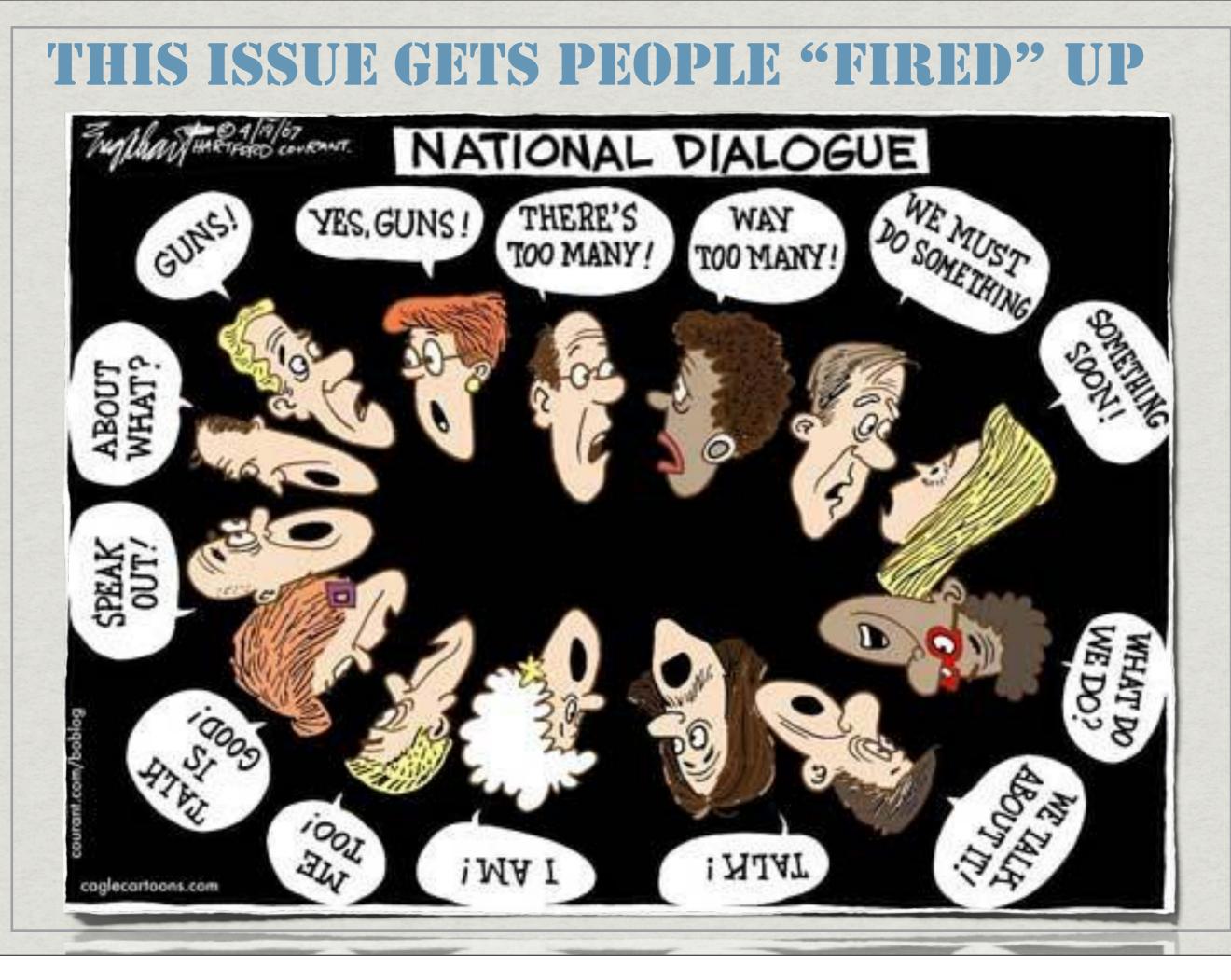


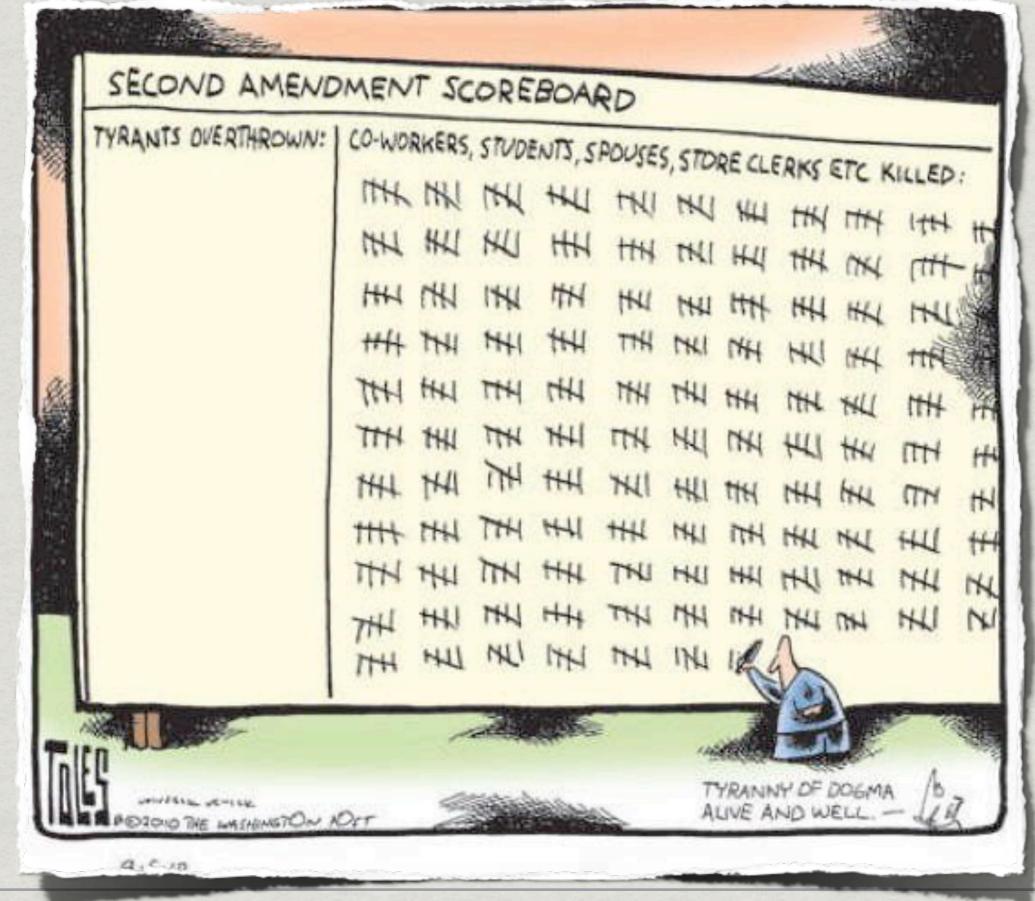
LAST YEAR, HANDGUNS KILLED 48 PEOPLE IN JAPAN. 8 IN GREAT BRITAIN. 34 IN SWITZERLAND. 52 IN CANADA. 58 IN ISRAEL. 21 IN SWEDEN. 42 IN WEST GERMANY. 10,728 IN THE UNITED STATES.

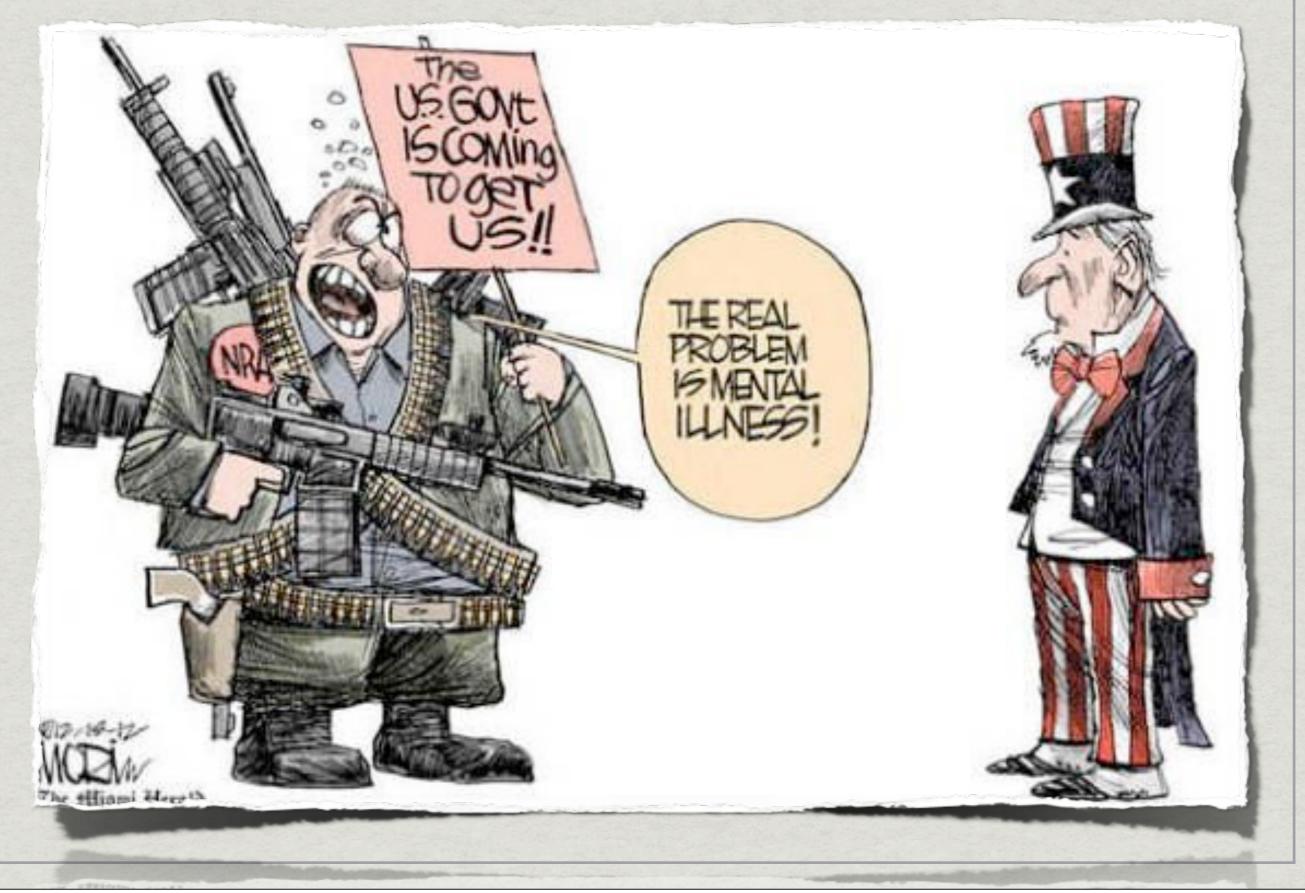
#### **GOD BLESS AMERICA.**

The pen is mightier than the gan. Write Handgun Control, Inc. Now, 810 18th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 Or call (202) 638-4723

STOP HANDGUNS BEFORE THEY STOP YOU.







THIS ISSUE GETS PEOPLE "FIRED" UP	
IF GUNS WERE AS	
<b>REGULATED AS CARS</b>	
Title and Tag at Each Point of Sale	Title and Tag at Each Point of Sale
Driver Training	Gun Training
Written Test	Written Test
Practical Test	Practical Test
Health Requirements	Health Requirements
Liability Insurance on Each Vehicle	Liability Insurance on Each Gun
Renewals and Inspections at Intervals	Renewals and Inspections at Intervals

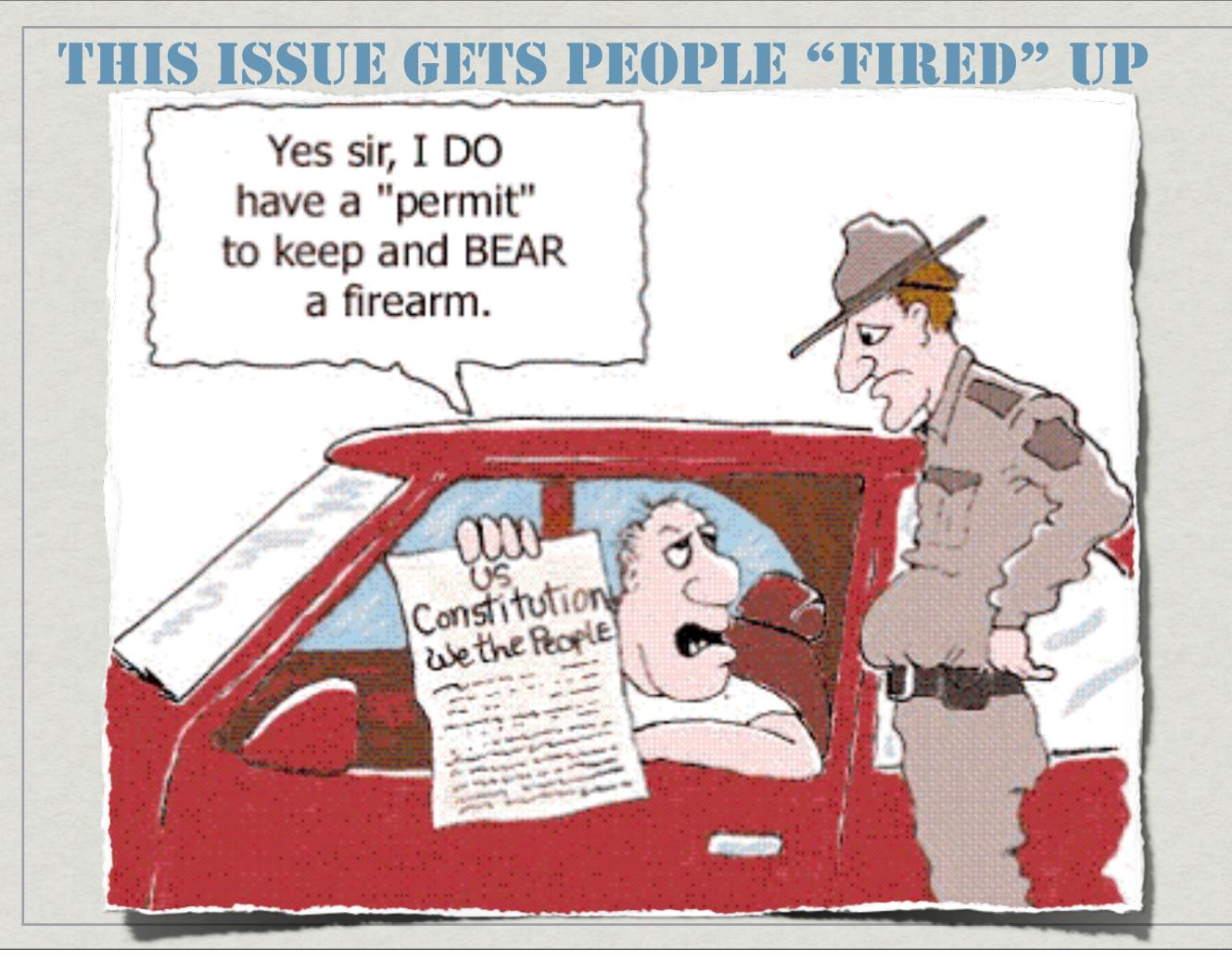
# THIS ISSUE GETS PEOPLE "FIRED" UP ASSAULT VEHICLE

It's black, scary-looking, and was clearly **designed to kill innocent people** by enabling the driver to exceed the legal speed limit by over 100 mph.

# 32,367 people were killed

on the roadways in 2011. Americans don't need 470 HP.

# **Ban them.**





# THIS ISSUE GETS PEOPLE "FIRED" UP TIMOTHY MCVEIGH DIDN'T USE A GUN.



- KILLED 168 INNOCENT PEOPLE.
- KILLED 19 CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6.
- INJURED OVER 680 INNOCENT PEOPLE.
- YOU CAN STILL BUY FERTILIZER.
- YOU CAN STILL BUY RACING FUEL.
- YOU CAN STILL RENT BOX TRUCKS.

MURDERERS WILL MURDER WITH OR WITHOUT A GUN. GUNSARE NOT THE PROBLEM.



Ever heard of the Pearl River, MS shooting? Probably not.

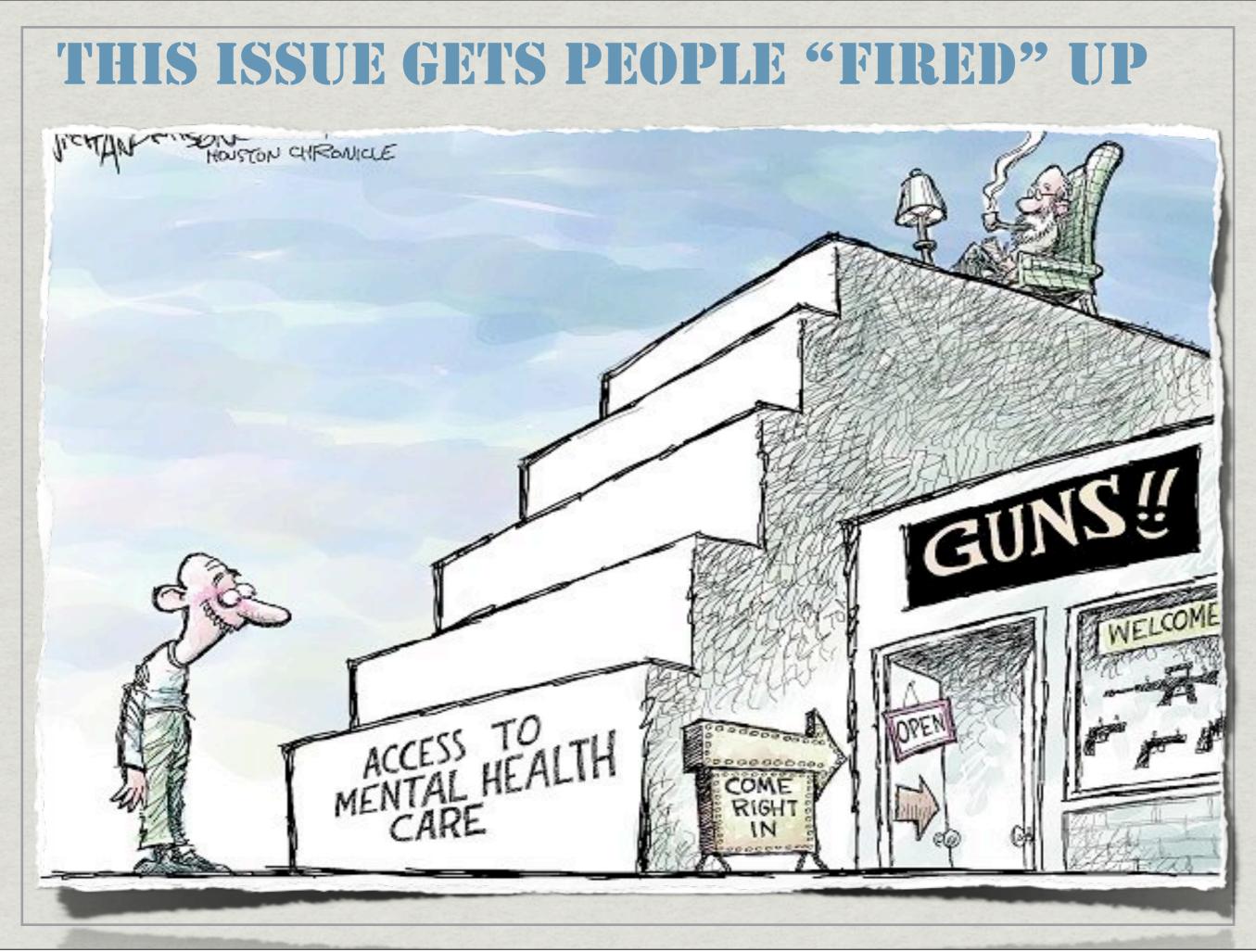
This 16 year old kid was stopped by Assist. Princripal Joel Myrick and his .45 pistol retrieved from his car.

Did the Gun Free Zone law stop this nut? Nope.

Did an armed citizen with a .45 pistol? Yep.

Will you hear this in the mainstream media? Nope.





# Arguments

Petitioner's Arguments
Respondent's Arguments
Constitution & Business

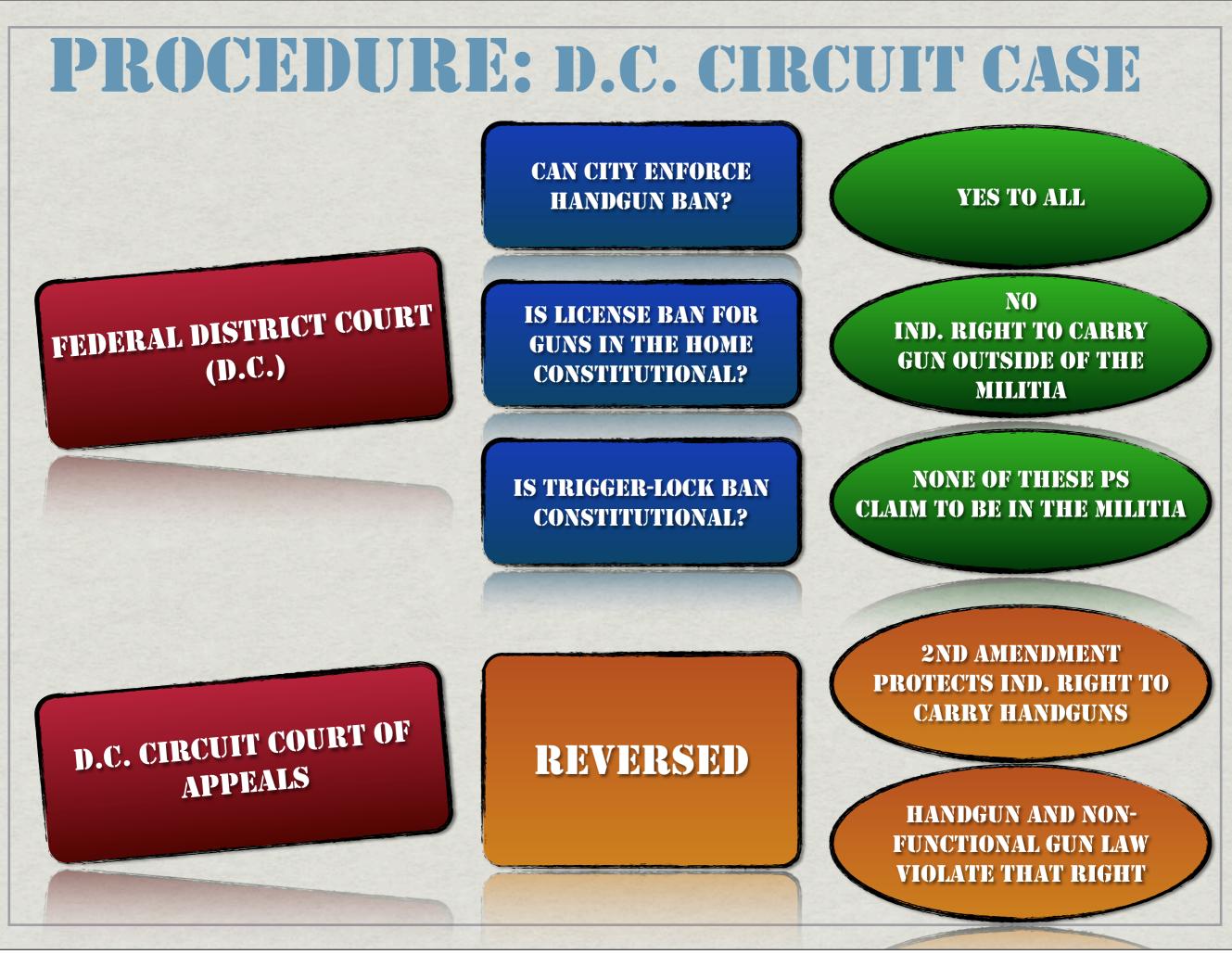
### ISSUES

DOES A D.C. LAW TOTALLY BANNING HANDGUN POSSESSION AT HOME VIOLATE THE 2ND AMENDMENT? DOES A D.C. LAW REQUIRING LEGAL GUNS IN HOMES BE DISABLED OR TRIGGER-LOCKED VIOLATE THE 2ND AMENDMENT?

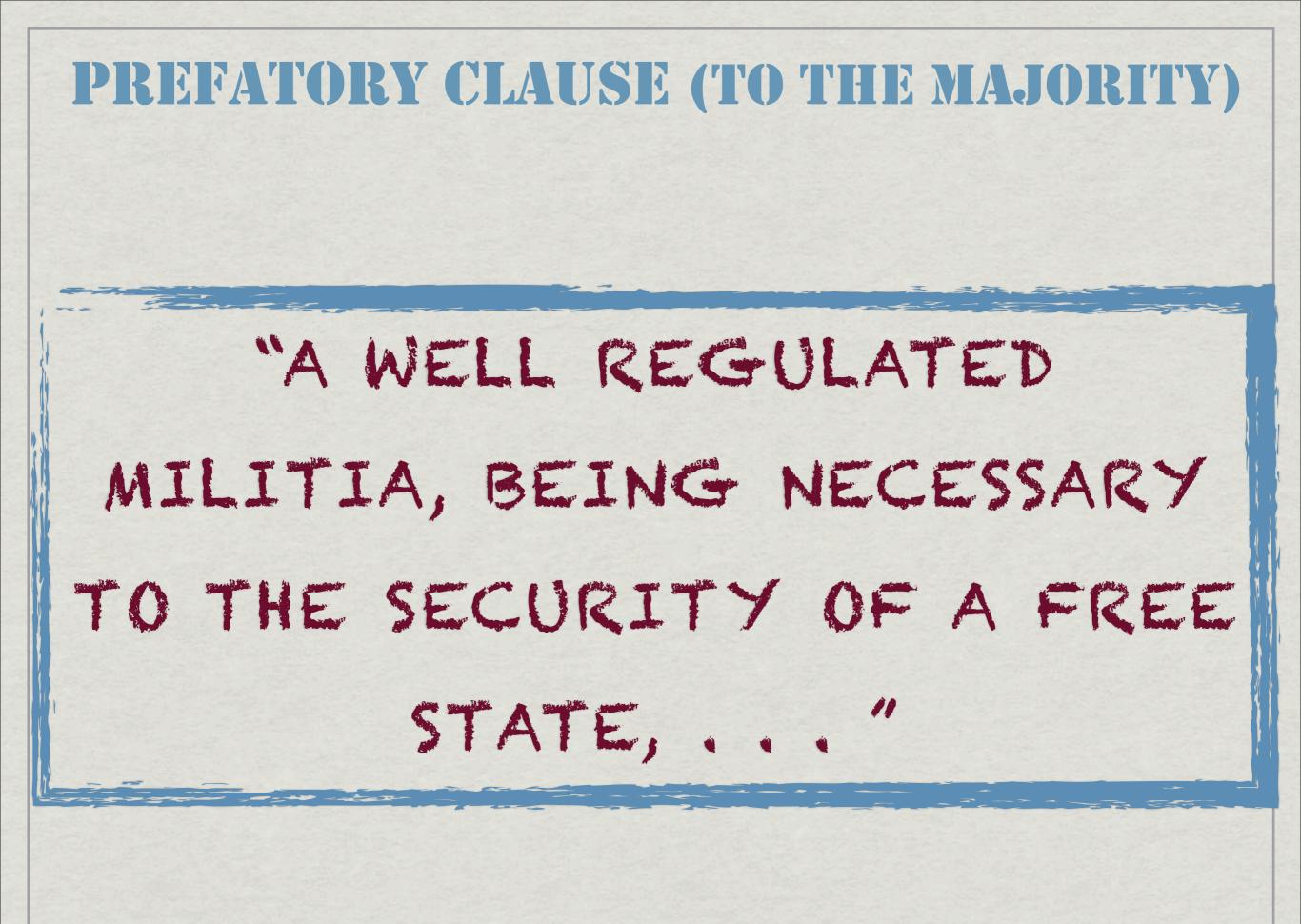
IS HELLER ENTITLED TO A GUN LICENSE?



Petitioner's Brief
Respondent's Brief
Oral Argument
Lower Court Opinion
Supreme Court Opinion
Constitution & Business



# **OPERATIVE CLAUSE (TO THE MAJORITY)** "... THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS, SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED."



### MILITIA... TO THE MAJORITY

CONGRESS HAS THE POWER TO CALL FORTH THE MILITIA

> MEANING THAT IT ALREADY EXISTS

> > CONGRESS CAN THEN ORGANIZE IT TO A COMMON FIGHTING FORCE

### TAKEN TOGETHER

WELL REGULATED MILITIA NECESSARY FOR THE SECURITY OF A FREE STATE

RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO KEEP & BEAR ARMS

TYRANTS USED TO TAKE AWAY ARMS & ENSURE RULE WITH STANDING ARMY

CLAUSE PREVENTS ELIMINATION OF THE MILITIA SO... PEOPLE NEED TO REMAIN ARMED TO SECURE THEIR FREEDOM

### **PREFATORY & OPERATIVE CLAUSE**

MANY FOUNDING ERA DOCUMENTS HAD PREFATORY CLAUSE

DOES NOT LIMIT OR EXPAND SCOPE OF THE OPERATIVE CLAUSE

MAJORITY FIRST LOOKS AT THE OPERATIVE CLAUSE THEN COMES BACK

PREFATORY

CLAUSE

"THE PEOPLE" PROVIDES AN IND. RIGHT

OPERATIVE CLAUSE "BEAR ARMS" MEANS CARRYING GUNS OUTSIDE OF MILITIA SERVICE

IND. RIGHT TO POSSESS & CARRY WEAPONS IN CASE OF SOME CONFRONTATIONS



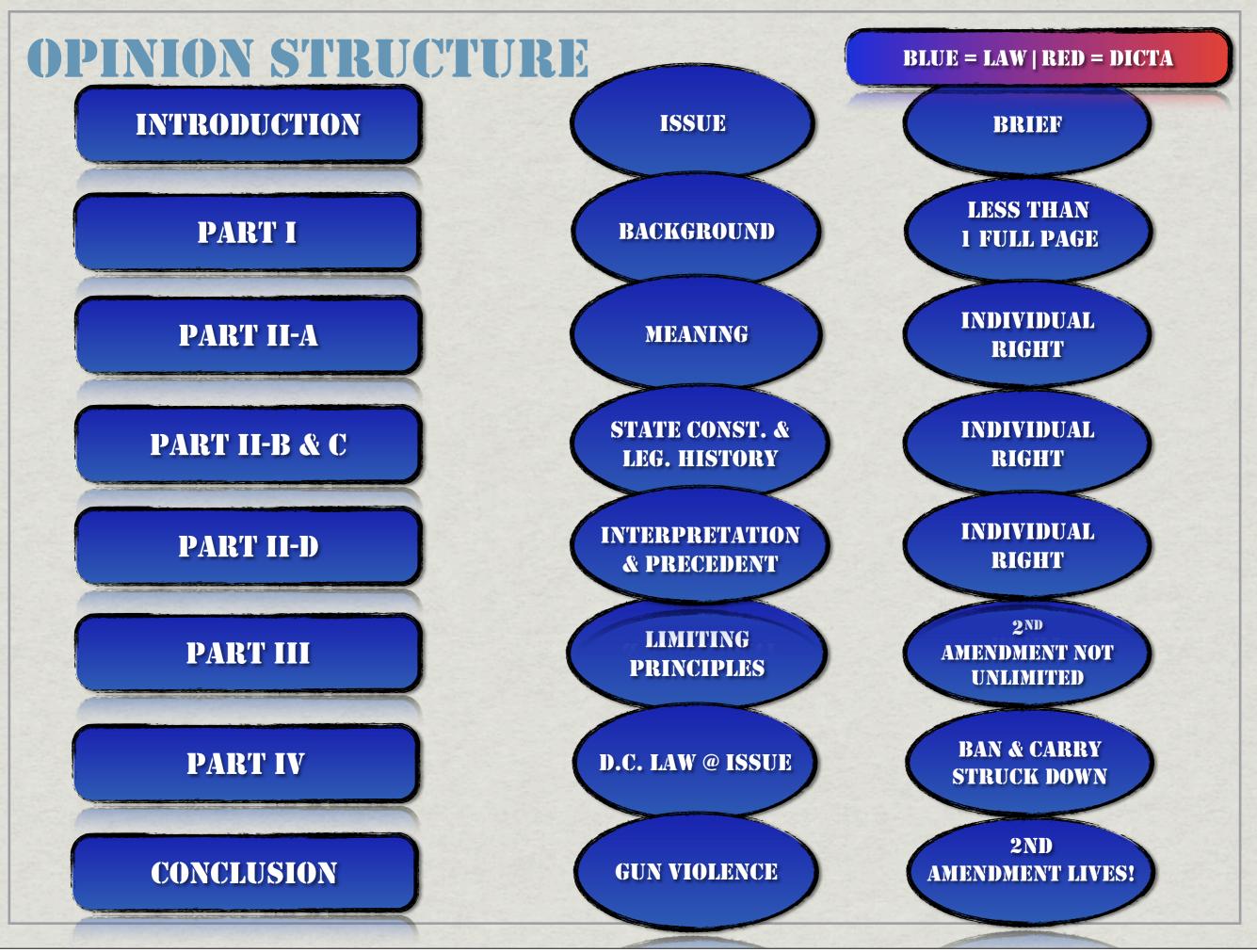
#### 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT GRANTS IND. RIGHT TO KEEP & BEAR ARMS IN THE HOME FOR SELF-DEFENSE



#### 2ND AMENDMENT DOES NOT ENSHRINE SELF-DEFENSE RIGHT



CANNOT SHOW D.C. LAW IS UNREASONABLE UNDER 2ND AMEND. INTEREST-BALANCING INQUIRY



### A LITTLE DICTA INTERSPERSED IN HELLER

"...NOTHING IN OUR **OPINION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO** CAST DOUBT ON LONGSTANDING PROHIBITIONS ON THE **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS BY** FELONS .... "

### **SCRUTINY OF GUN LAWS & SCALIA'S RESPONSE**

**RATIONAL BASIS** 

INTEREST TEST

STRICT SCRUTINY

GUNS LAWS NOT ANALYZED UNDER THIS PERMISSIVE STANDARD AS THIS IS AN ENUMERATED CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT

2ND AMENDMENT NOT SUBJECT TO CASE BY CASE ANALYSIS OF WHETHER IT IS REALLY WORTH PROTECTING

UNCLEAR . . . THIS TEST IS USED FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

# TEXT & HISTORY

2ND AMENDMENT TEXT MAKES CLEAR THAT IT'S

AN INDIVIDUAL RIGHT TO KEEP & BEAR ARMS

FOR SELF DEFENSE

#### **ORIGINALISM:** (DREAM OPINION FOR JUSTICE SCALIA)

LOOK TO AMERICAN & COMMON LAW HISTORY

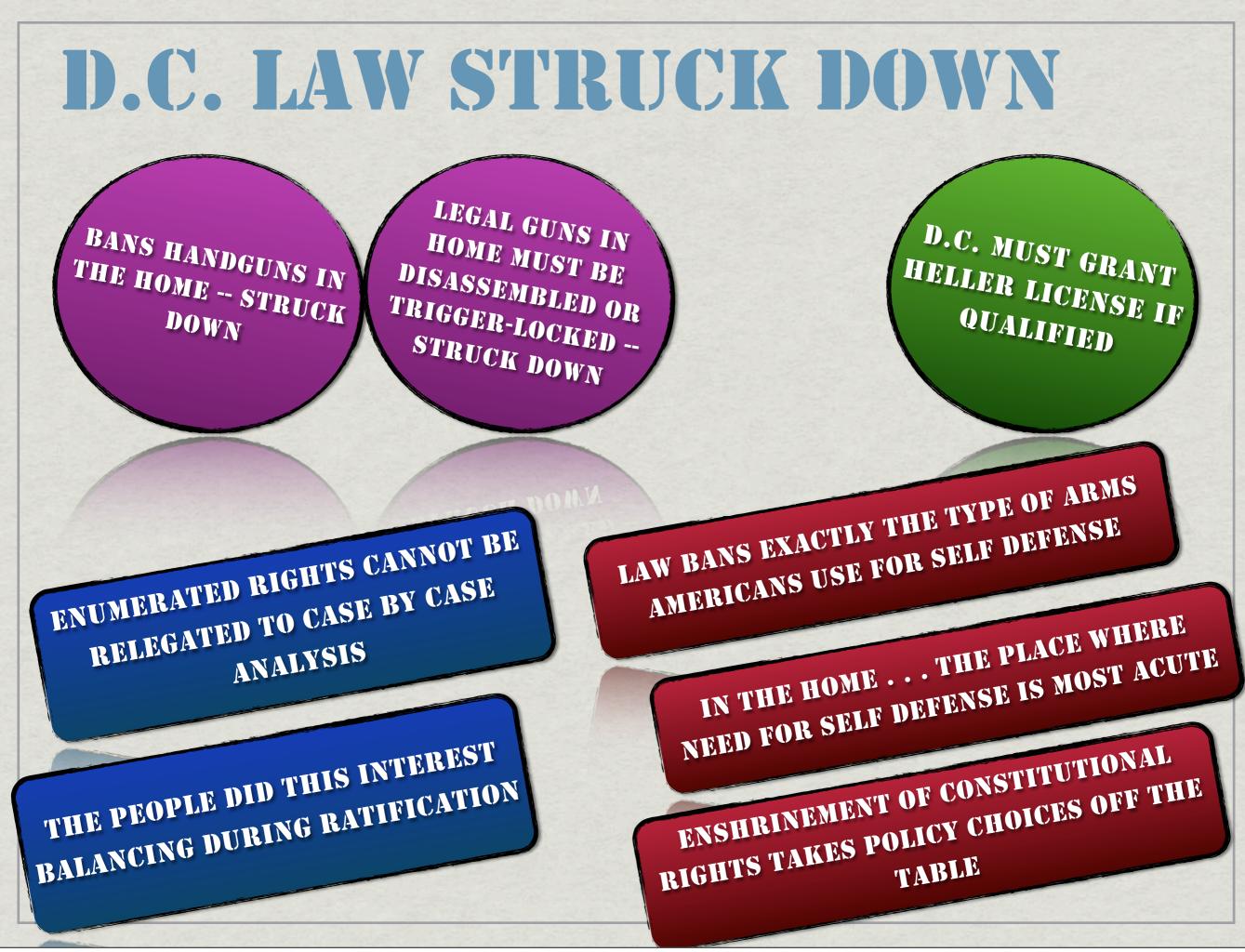
BRITISH & AMERICAN HISTORY MAKE CLEAR THAT IT'S AN INDIVIDUAL RIGHT TO KEEP &

NOT AN UNLIMITED **RIGHT!** 

LOOK TO

CONSTITUTIONAL

### LIMPING PRINCIPLES NOT A RIGHT TO CARRY ANY WEAPON, NOT AN IN ANY MANNER, UNLIMITED RIGHT FOR ANY PURPOSE PROHIBITIONS MAY STILL STAND ON: ★ MENTALLY ILL ★ SENSITIVE PLACES (SCHOOLS & GOV'T **FELONS** ★ CONDITIONS ON COMMERCIAL ARMS SALES



## STEVENS, J. DISSENTING

(1) QUESTION NOT WHETHER  $2^{\text{ND}}$  AMEND. PROTECTS INDIVIDUAL OR COLLECTIVE RIGHT

(2) QUESTION IS WHETHER IT ALLOWS INDIVIDUALS TO POSSESS WEAPONS FOR NON-MILITARY PURPOSES

(3) POINT WAS TO KEEP FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM DISBANDING STATE MILITIAS IN LIEU OF A STANDING ARMY

(4) FOUNDERS DIDN'T ARGUE THAT LEGISLATURES COULD NOT BAN PRIVATE OWNERSHIP | AND . . . THE TEXT DOESN'T INDICATE THAT

(5) HUNDREDS OF JUDGES HAVE RELIED ON <u>MILLER</u> & NO NEW EVIDENCE HAS COME TO LIGHT TO OVERRULE IT

(6) THIS IS GOING TO LEAD TO RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS IN PUBLIC

## BREYER, J. DISSENTING

#### (1) HELLER DECISION THREATENS GUNS LAWS NATIONWIDE

(2) 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT DOESN'T PROTECT RIGHT OF PERSONAL SELF-DEFENSE

(3) AMENDMENT PROTECTS MILITIA-RELATED INTERESTS

- (4) PROTECTION IT PROVIDES IS NOT ABSOLUTE
- (5) PERMISSIBLE LEGISLATIVE RESPONSE TO SERIOUS PROBLEM

(6) COURTS SHOULD USE AN INTEREST BALANCING TEST - INTERESTS OF SELF-DEFENSE VERSUS GOV'T INTERESTS IN SAFETY

(7) COURTS SHOULDN'T PRESUME CONSTITUTIONALITY OR UNCONSTITUTIONALITY

(8) D.C. LAW IS A PROPORTIONATE RESPONSE TO PROBLEM IN "CRIME-RIDDEN URBAN AREAS" LIKE D.C.

### **INCORPORATION . . . WAIT, WHAT?**

DOES THIS MAKE SENSE?

 $\bigstar$ 

**BILL OF RIGHTS APPLIES TO FEDERAL GOV'T** 14<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT APPLIES TO STATES  $\mathbf{\mathbf{x}}$ **IMPORTANT PROTECTIONS LEFT OUT** SCOTUS GOT CREATIVE SOME AMENDMENTS "INCORPORATED" TO **SOVEREIGN NOT MENTIONED IN AMENDMENT**  the process clause - "LIFE, LIBERTY, PROPERTY" | LIBERTY INTERESTS PROTECTED BY THE BILL OF RIGHTS

REVERSE INCORPORATION - APPLYING EQUAL PROTECTION TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

### **INCORPORATION TEST**



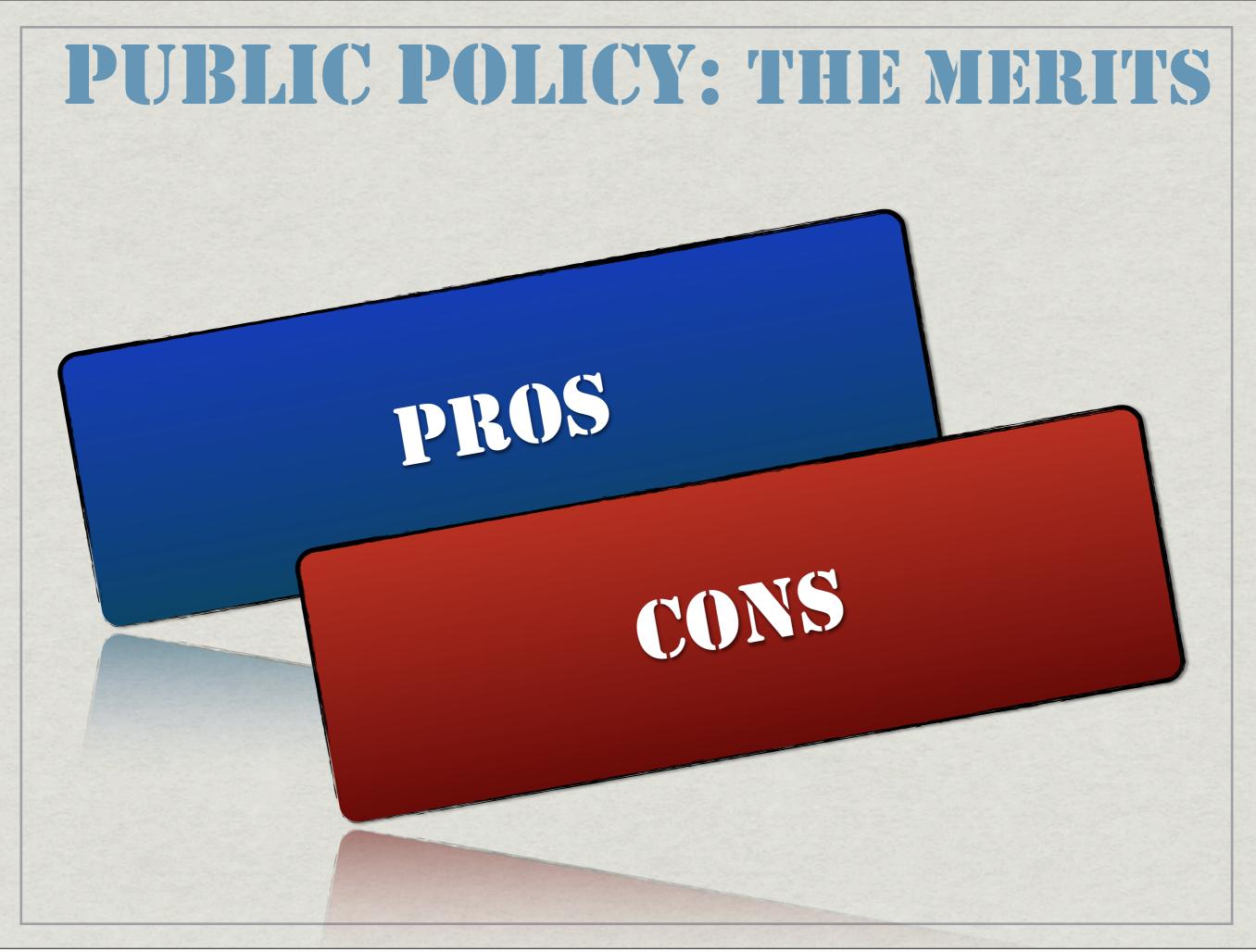
#### IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT INVOLVED? IS THE ONLY WAY TO PROTECT THAT RIGHT VIA INCORPORATION?

### **SELECTIVE INCORPORATION**

1st Amendment	2nd Amendment	3rd Amendment
FULLY INCORPORATED RELIGION CLAUSE SPEECH CLAUSE PRESS CLAUSE ASSEMBLY CLAUSE PETITION CLAUSE	FULLY INCORPORATED INDIVIDUAL RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS MCDONALD CASE	UNCLEAR
4th Amendment	5th Amendment	6th Amendment
FULLY INCORPORATED SEARCH & SEIZURE EXCLUSIONARY RULE	TAKINGS CLAUSE SELF-INCRIMINATION DOUBLE JEOPARDY (SCOTUS REFUSED TO INCORPORATE GRAND JURY INDICTMENT)	FULLY INCORPORATED RIGHT TO COUNSEL PUBLIC TRIAL FAIR TRIAL CONFRONTATION IMPARTIAL JURY SPEEDY TRIAL

### **SELECTIVE INCORPORATION**

7 <sup>th</sup> Amendment	8 <sup>th</sup> Amendment
NOT INCORPORATED	<b>CRUEL &amp; UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT</b>
(SCOTUS REFUSED TO INCORPORATE JURY IN CIVIL CASES)	(UNCLEAR ON EXCESSIVE FINES & BAIL CLAUSE)
9 <sup>th</sup> Amendment	10 <sup>th</sup> Amendment
UNCLEAR	UNCLEAR



### **TOUGH QUESTIONS W/ PROF. C**

THINK DEEPLY

(1) DOES NATURAL LAW PROTECT GUN RIGHTS (RIGHT TO RESISTANCE & SELF-PRESERVATION)?

(2) IS SELF-DEFENSE A RIGHT OR PRIVILEGE THAT CAN BE REVOKED BY THE GOVERNMENT?

(3) IS 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT PROTECTION VS. TYRANNY? ISN'T THAT THE ANTHESIS OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY?

(4) WHAT OF THE CHASM BETWEEN A BAN ON HANDGUNS (UNCONSTITUTIONAL)& A BAN ON FELONS OR THE MENTALLY ILL WITH HANDGUNS(CONSTITUTIONAL)?

(5) SHOULD THE 2ND AMENDMENT HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED AGAINST THE STATES? WHY WOULD SOME CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT INCORPORATION HERE?

6) BOTH SIDES SAY THE ISSUE IS CLEAR . . . HOW?

### **TOUGH QUESTIONS W/ PROF. C**

THINK DEEPLY

(7) WHY IS D.C. SUBJECT TO  $2^{\text{ND}}$  AMENDMENT? HUGE ROLE IN D.C. CIRCUIT COURT OPINION . . .

(8) DOES HELLER HAD STANDING? NOT CHALLENGED BY D.C. ON APPEAL TO SCOTUS . . .

(9) WHAT ABOUT SELF-DEFENSE AGAINST AGGRESSIVE FAMILY MEMBERS IN ADDITION TO INTRUDERS?

(10) DOES THIS OPINION PROTECT BANS ON CONCEALED WEAPONS?

(11) HOW DOES <u>HELLER</u> AFFECT BUSINESS?

(12) THIS CASE CAME DOWN TO ONE VOTE? IS THAT OK ON AN ISSUE THIS IMPORTANT?

(13) WHAT ABOUT GUNS OUTSIDE THE HOME?

### **TOUGH QUESTIONS W/ PROF. C**

(14) WHAT ABOUT SUICIDES, ACCIDENTS, HARM TO FAMILY MEMBERS AFTER <u>HELLER</u>?

(15) SHOULD PEOPLE STILL BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A LICENSE? A BACKGROUND CHECK?

(16) WHAT ABOUT FEDERAL LAWS THAT INCREASE SENTENCES FOR GUN USE?

(17) DO WE REALLY WANT CITIZENS SHOOTING IT OUT WITH CRIMINALS?

THINK

DEEPLY

# next: 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment Privacy Issues [<u>Florida v. Harris</u>]

EST

AMENDMENT

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