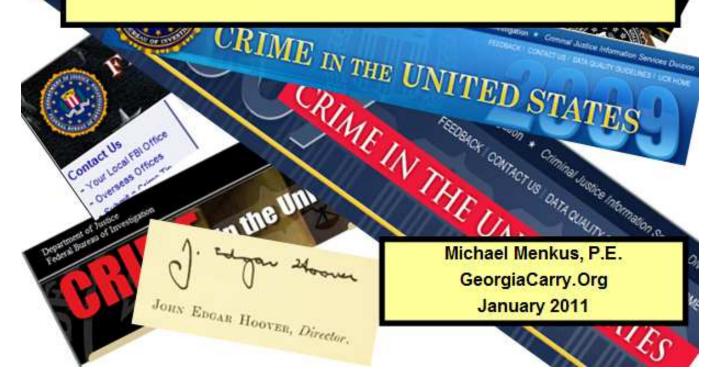


# GUNS GOOD BANS BAD

An Analysis of U.S. Department of Justice Crime Statistics



#### **Guns Good, Bans Bad**

An Analysis of U.S. Department of Justice Statistics

Michael Menkus, P.E. GeorgiaCarry.Org

#### Summary

Episodic trend analysis of crime statistics from the U.S. Department of Justice demonstrates that when guns are freely carried by Americans, Aggravated Assaults plus Robberies <u>decrease</u> by 8% to 47%.

Year - Where - Change	REDUCTION of Aggravated Assault + Robbery	Economic BENEFIT of the Right Of Self Defense *
2008 - Georgia - Expands Allowed Carry Locations	8%	\$ 0.7 B/yr
1996 - Texas - Concealed Carry Allowed	21%	\$ 4.9 B/yr
2001 - Michigan - Licensing Becomes Shall Issue	13%	\$ 1.1 B/yr
2006 - Utah Universities - Carry on Campus Allowed	40%	\$ 0.0 B/yr
2003 - Colorado State U Carry on Campus Allowed	47%	\$ 0.0 B/yr

<sup>\*</sup> against Aggravated Assault plus Robbery only

In the year following the Supreme Court decision to overturn Washington D.C.'s ban on firearms in District of Columbia homes, burglary rates **DECREASED** by 8%.

When government imposes anti-carry laws that violate our right of self-defense, Aggravated Assaults plus Robberies increase by 20% to 322%

Year - Where - Change	INCREASE of Aggravated Assault + Robbery	Economic COST of Gun Control *	
1994 - Georgia - Imposes 1000' University			
Defenseless Victim Zone	322%	\$ 0.0 B/yr	
1982 - Chicago - Handguns Banned	307%	\$ 5.7 B/yr	
1976 - Washington DC - Handguns & Loaded Guns			
Banned	27%	\$ 0.4 B/yr	
1966 - New Jersey - Nearly All Citizens Disarmed	97%	\$ 2.9 B/yr	
1990 - Maryland - Affordable Handguns Banned	20%	\$ 1.2 B/yr	

<sup>\*</sup> against Aggravated Assault plus Robbery only

After the New York Police Department (NYPD) reduced the number of issued carry permits by 77% between 1950 to 1965, aggravated assaults plus robberies **INCREASED** by 108%. In 1984, the NYPD made a highly visible example of Bernhard Goetz for having the audacity of defending himself. After his arrest, the downward trend of Aggravated Assaults plus Robberies sharply reversed and then **INCREASED** by 30% in the next 5 years.

These examples demonstrate that when Americans freely carry guns for self-defense, crime is significantly reduced for everyone. The economic **BENEFIT** of Constitutional Carry against Aggravated Assault plus Robbery for **Georgia is \$1.7 Billion per year**. For the **United States**, **the benefit is \$50.8 Billion per year**. "**Shall not be infringed**" means shall not be infringed for good economic reasons!

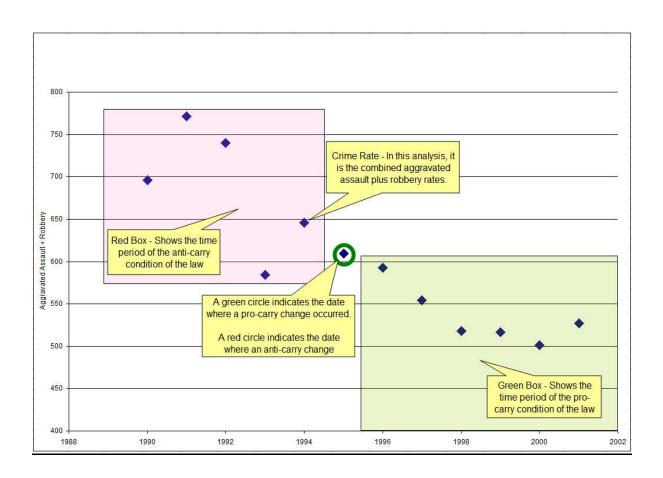
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#### **Methodology**

The trend analysis methodology utilized in this report is based on the Darvas Box Theory surrounding episodic changes in gun laws. In 1956, Nicolas Darvas created and utilized the theory to grow his stock investment portfolio from \$10,000 into \$2,000,000 in 18 months. The Darvas Box Theory is a trend analysis structure that organizes the variability of stock prices as a series of upward or downward stacked boxes, thereby highlighting long term structural trends and meaningful changes in price ranges. The theory continues to be successfully utilized by stock market technical analysts and investors today.

Instead of stock prices, this report uses crime rates measured as per 100,000 persons. The focal point is a specific change (episode) in carry and gun laws. The boxes are drawn to encompass the distribution of crime rates before and after the change (episode).

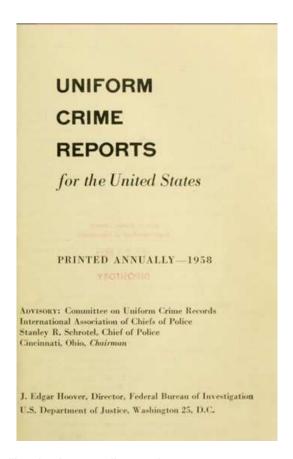
The graphics in this report are colored in red indicating a comparative anti-carry condition and green indicating a comparative pro-carry condition. The episode or change in carry laws is shown as a circle around the date that the change occurred. Red is used to show an anti-carry change and green is used to show a pro-carry change. If the change (episode) occurs in January, the circle is included in the box since a full year of effect is included in the statistic, otherwise the circle is outside either box, indicating a transition period when the full effect of the change is ramping up or down.



#### Source of Data

The source of the data is the <u>Crime in the United States Annual Uniform Crime Report</u> from the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States Department of Justice (UCR) for each of the years specified in the graphs.<sup>ii</sup> The reports from 1995 to 2010 are available at:

http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/ucr



Major public and university libraries have earlier versions.

#### **Consistent Inconsistency**

The Darvas Box Theory method is non-predictive, replicable, and effectively handles inconsistency in the data reporting. In some of the following charts, you will see outliers where it's clear that either the reporting was erroneous or something unique happened that year. The outliers are isolated outside the "Box".

Since we focused on one geographical unit's statistics over a limited time period (generally 5 years on either side of the episode), the collection/reporting methods are assumed to be consistently applied during that time period. Those collection/reporting methods may be different than other geographic units so we can not do a comparison of rates between geographic units. The FBI warns researchers of this on their web site:

The data user is, therefore, cautioned against comparing statistical data of individual reporting units from cities, metropolitan areas, states, or colleges or universities solely on the basis of their population coverage or student enrollment.

Another variable is the percentage of crimes which are reported. The data in the Uniform Crime Reports and this report are the offenses KNOWN to law enforcement. If people are discouraged from reporting crime, law enforcement fails to investigate crime<sup>iii</sup> or law enforcement lies about the

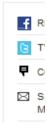
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reporting then the crime rates are lower than reality. This report tries to minimize that impact by limiting the focus within a geographic area, focusing on non-headline crime measurements (Aggravated Assault and Robbery), and limiting the analysis time frame. However, significant analysis risk exists in that the fudgers are not fudging consistently.

## Retired Officers Raise Questions on Crime Data

By WILLIAM K. RASHBAUM Published: February 6, 2010

More than a hundred retired New York Police Department captains and higher-ranking officers said in a survey that the intense pressure to produce annual crime reductions led some supervisors and precinct commanders to manipulate crime statistics, according to two criminologists studying the department.



New York Times - Feb. 6, 2010<sup>v</sup>

#### **Aggravated Assault PLUS Robbery**

The crime data used in this report is the addition of the Aggravated Assault and Robbery rates from the Uniform Crime Reports available from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This is a different approach than most crime studies which utilize the entire spectrum of violent crime including the breakouts of murder, rape, and man-slaughter.

We focused on Aggravated Assault PLUS Robbery since both involve high rates of stranger initiated violence (58% for Aggravated Assault and 80% for Robbery)<sup>vi</sup>. Since most violent criminals repeat their crimes several times before being captured, these crimes are the ones where a criminal is most likely to encounter an armed American, an event which dramatically alters the benefit/cost equation and decreases the attractiveness of that particular style of crime.

METRO ATLANTA / STATE NEWS 7:48 a.m. Tuesday, December 14, 2010





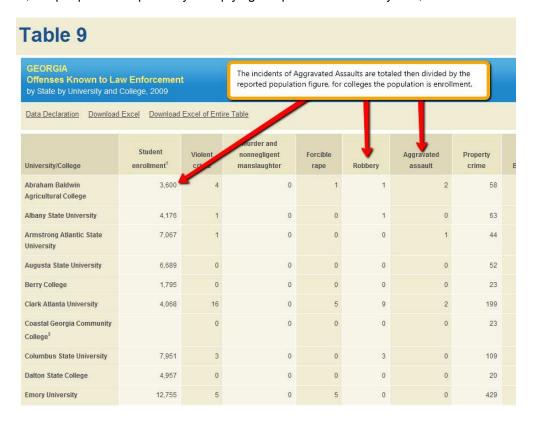
### Potential crime victims turning the tables, with sometimes fatal consequences

At least six other similar incidents have been reported around the metro area this year, and in each case, the gun owner was not charged.

- · One week before the Ingles shooting, a clerk at a Cobb County liquor store exchanged gunfire with two would-be robbers, killing one.
- · A Stone Mountain barber victimized by a string of burglaries shot one of two would-be thieves, holding the robber at gunpoint until police arrived.
- The owner of West End Tattoo parlor in Atlanta faced off against three armed intruders, killing one and causing the others to flee.
- · A DeKalb homeowner shot two burglars, killing one.
- . Three intruders were confronted by a Decatur homeowner who heard them kicking in his back door. All three young men, one of whom had been shot in the thigh, were captured by police.
- · With his two children asleep in their rooms, an Ellenwood father confronted three armed men, killing one and causing the others to flee on foot.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution - Dec. 14, 2010 VIII

Guns Good, Bans Bad 5 GeorgiaCarry.Org The data in the Uniform Crime Report is shown as a population figure for the geographical unit and a total number of incidents within that geographical unit. The incidents (Offenses Known to Law Enforcement) of Robbery and Aggravated Assault are totaled then divided by the population. A rate of per 100,000 people is computed by multiplying the prior calculation by 100,000.



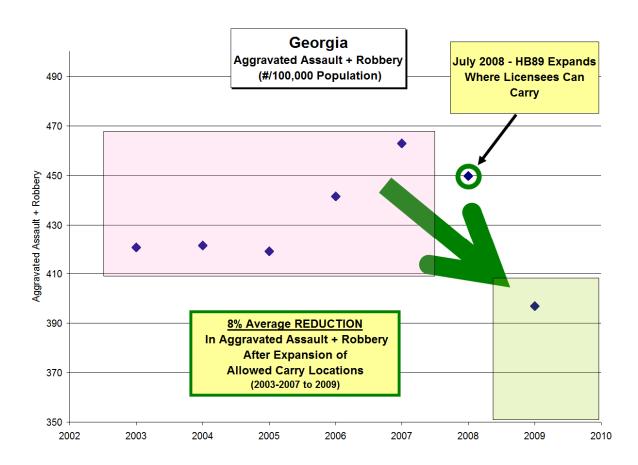
#### **Georgia - Expands Allowed Carry Locations**

In 2008, the Georgia Legislature enacted HB89 which was authored by Representative Tim Bearden and promoted by GeorgiaCarry.Org. HB89 decriminalized the carrying of firearms in restaurants that serve alcohol, in parks, and on public transit. It also eliminated restrictions on carrying firearms within motor vehicles, and restrained the Probate Judges who were refusing to issue carry licenses. Viii

At the time of HB89's passage, anti-Liberty politicians claimed there would be "*gun fights over dropped chicken wings*" and the public transit workers signed a petition to demand bullet proof enclosures to protect them from the gun fire of gun toting vigilantes. <sup>ix</sup> Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin said, "*The presumption needs to be, in order to have a safe city, that there are no concealed weapons.*" Robert Hiett, President of the Georgia Transit Association, claimed that HB89 would cause more people to feel less safe.<sup>x</sup>

Prior to the passage of HB89, Georgia's Probate Judges were issuing 58,000 licenses per year (new and renewals during the period of 2004-2007). After passage of HB89, the number of licenses issued jumped 67% to 97,000 per year (new and renewals during the years of 2008 and 2009)<sup>xi xii</sup>

In the first measurable year since the enactment of HB89 in July 2008, the combined Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rate throughout Georgia has decreased by 8%, while the number of Georgians being issued licenses to carry increased by 67%. Presently, 3.8% of Georgians have carry licenses.<sup>xiii</sup>



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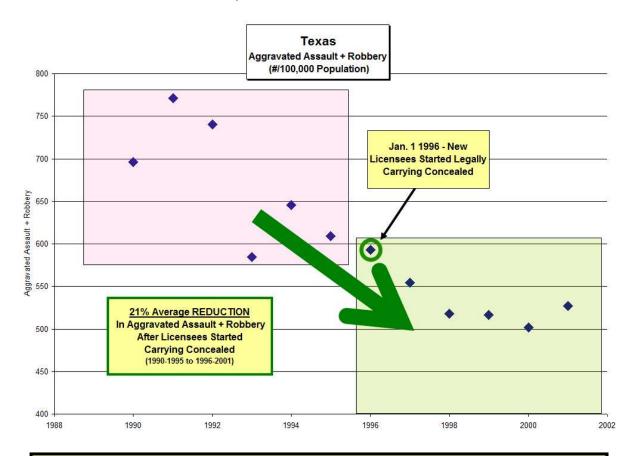
In 2010, Governor Sonny Perdue signed SB308 which repealed 140 years of gun control in Georgia. SB308, sponsored by Senator Mitch Seabaugh and championed by GeorgiaCarry.Org, eliminated the incomprehensible Public Gathering clause which severely limited where Licensees could legally carry their firearms. SB308 dramatically reduces the off limits locations to a limited list including government buildings, courthouses, jails and prisons, places of worship, mental health facilities, polling places, bars, and nuclear power plants. It eliminated the 1,000 feet university defenseless victim zone and removed the prohibition against drinking while carrying. The crime reducing impact of SB308 should start to be seen in the 2011 crime statistics (likely available in Sept. 2012).

In very large part, my motivation to carry a firearm as a matter of habit derives from one of my Lord's last recorded statements at the "last supper," that "whoever has no sword is to sell his coat and buy one." Luke 22:36. I believe that this injunction requires me to obtain, keep, and carry a firearm wherever I happen to be. This includes when I am attending regular worship services, as is also my habit.

Ed Stone, Plaintiff GeorgiaCarry.Org's Church Carry Lawsuit GeorgiaCarry.Org v. State of Georgia Oct. 2010 xiv

#### **Texas - Concealed Carry Allowed**

In 1995, Governor George Bush signed a bill that allowed the carrying of concealed firearms in Texas (open carry remains illegal). In the first year of the program, 114,000 licenses were issued. Three years later, the number of licensees possessing a carry license exceeded 200,000. Licensees started legally carrying on Jan. 1, 1996. **Texas has seen a 21% average reduction in Aggravated Assault plus Robbery crime rates since enactment of their concealed carry law**. Presently, 1.6% of Texans have concealed carry licenses.<sup>xv</sup>



"Count us <Amarillo Globe-News> as one of the early critics of a Texas concealed handgun-carry law that went into effect in 1995. We have changed our minds on the concealed-carry statute and what effect it have had on crime in Texas. ... it works"

Amarillo Globe-News - June 29, 2008xvi

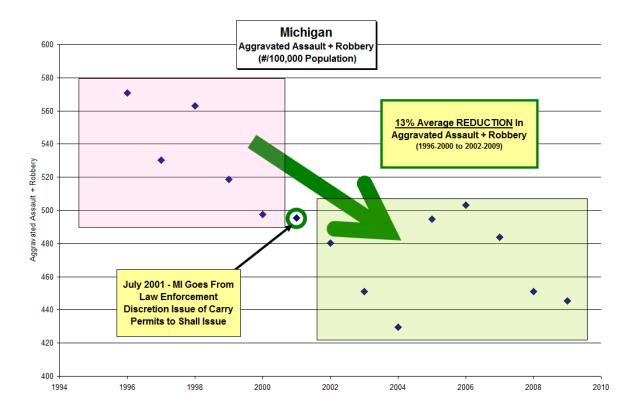
"... I was very outspoken in my opposition to the passage of the Concealed Handgun Act. I did not feel that such legislation was in the public interest and presented a clear and present danger to law abiding citizens by placing more handguns on our streets. Boy was I wrong. Our experience in Harris County, and indeed state-wide, has proven my initial fears absolutely groundless."

John Holmes, former Harris County Texas District Attorney - January 9, 2006<sup>xviii</sup>

#### Michigan - No More Begging For Permission to Exercise a Right

In 2001, Michigan reduced its draconian requirements to obtain a carry license. Prior to 2001, prospective licensees had to prove a valid need to carry a concealed weapon to a county licensing board. The licensing board consisted of a representative of the sheriff, prosecutor, and state police. There was very little right of appeal if denied. Under the 2001 law, the licensing board is required to issue a permit unless the applicant is not eligible, known as a Shall Issue law. XVIII

Since the rules made it easier to get a concealed carry license, the number of Michiganders licensed to carry has increased more than seven fold (25,000 to 190,000) and Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rates have decreased by 13% xix



"probably hasn't turned out as bad as I thought. I don't think I was wrong, but my worst fears weren't realized."

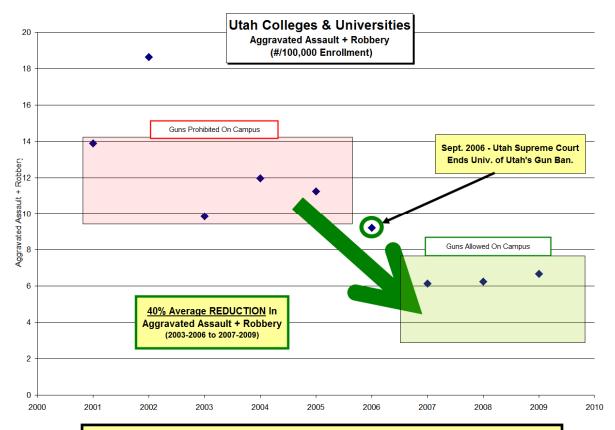
Kenneth Levin, an early critic of Michigan's change to Shall Issue Detroit Free Press - January 6, 2008<sup>xx</sup>

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#### **Utah Universities - Carry on Campus Allowed**

In 2004, Utah legislators enacted a law that prohibited government agencies from adopting gun bans on private and public property. Immediately afterward, the University of Utah challenged the law in State and Federal court claiming the law interfered with the University's autonomy guaranteed by the state Constitution. XXIII On September 8, 2006, the Utah Supreme Court ruled that the universities could not ban guns on their campuses. XXIIII After that ruling, guns were permitted everywhere on campus including university classrooms, buildings and dorms. XXIII

Aggravated Assault plus Robbery crime rate on campuses decreased by 40% once <u>armed students</u> were allowed on Utah campuses and <u>in dorms</u>.



"Last year, after Virginia Tech, I thought I'm not going to be a victim. My first thought was how tragic. But then I couldn't help but think it could've been different if they'd allowed the students the right to protect themselves"

A University of Utah Senior, CNN - Feb. 20, 2008<sup>xxv</sup>

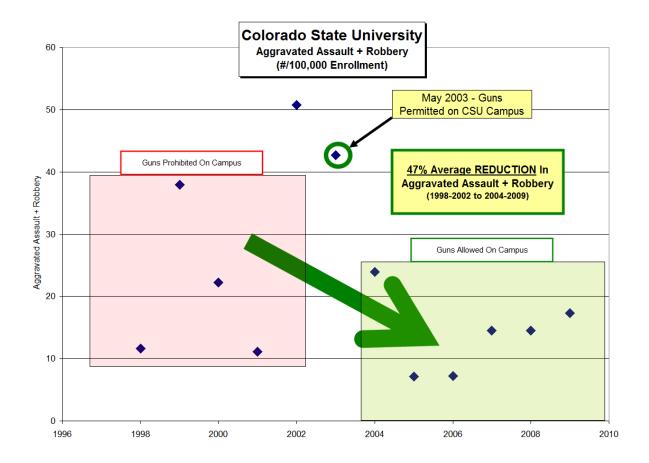
"There's plenty of evidence to suggest that more guns equals less crime."

Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff High Country News - February 18, 2002\*\*\*

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#### Colorado State University - Ft. Collins - Carry on Campus Allowed

In May 2003, Colorado preempted local governments and agencies from enacting and enforcing gun bans more restrictive than state laws. \*\*xxvii\*\* In response, Colorado State University repealed its gun ban and permitted licensed students and employees to carry on campus. \*\*Xxviii xxix\*\* Since then, Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rates have dropped by nearly one-half.



"It's unfortunate that the school <CSU> will be allowing guns on campus. It will be one of the few colleges in the nation to do so and will endanger the lives of students at the school."

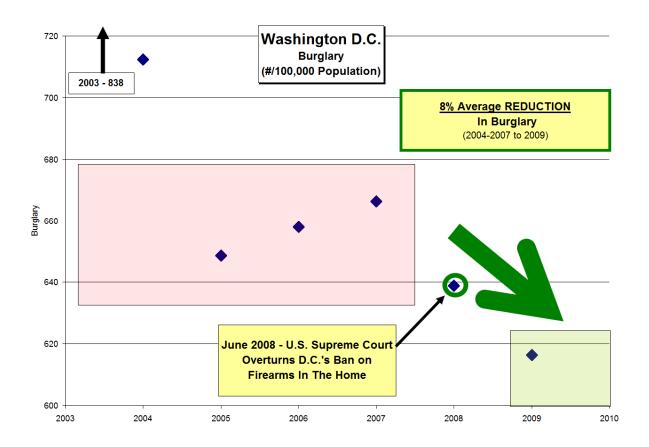
Daniel Vice, senior attorney at the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

The Tribune - May 5, 2010<sup>xxx</sup>

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#### Washington D.C. - Impact of Heller on Burglary

On June 26, 2008, the US Supreme Court ruled that one element of D.C.'s gun ban was unconstitutional. The court case was District of Columbia v. Heller and it overturned D.C.'s prohibition against keeping a firearm in one's house. **Since that decision, Burglary rates have decreased by 8%.** Burglary as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft which is the crime breakout most likely to be impacted by the prospect of armed American homeowners challenging criminals.



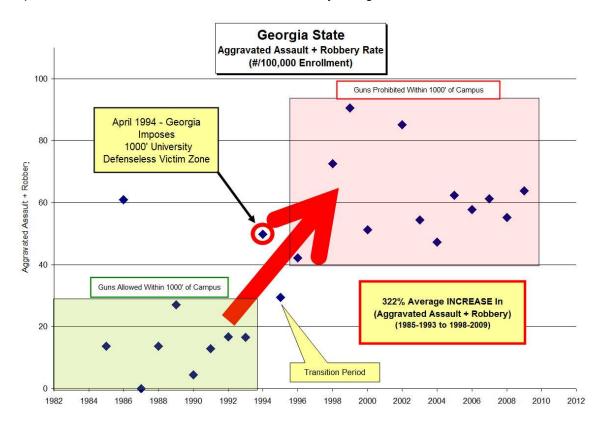
"I just hope that there's not a thought that allowing people to legally register guns is going to have a big impact on crime. It certainly hasn't here."

Cathy Lanier
District of Columbia Police Chief - June 2010<sup>xxxi</sup>

#### Georgia - Imposes 1000' University Defenseless Victim Zone

In April 1994, Georgia's School Safety and Juvenile Justice Reform Act was enacted that prohibited guns within 1,000 feet around universities, colleges, technical schools, and other post-secondary education institutions (School Safety Zone), even by licensed gun carriers. xxxii

Immediately after enactment of the school safety zones, violent crime on Georgia State University's campus skyrocketed. In four short years, the violent crime rate on Georgia State's campus increased over 4 times and has remained nearly as high since then.



During the hearings for SB308, the loudest defenders of the 1000 feet defenseless victim zone were Georgia's university community. The President of Georgia Tech claimed that allowing Licensees to carry on campus is a "recipe for disaster". Georgia Tech's Student Body President viewed allowing guns on campus to be explosive in the volatile atmosphere of a college campus. The President of the Young Democrats at the University of Georgia claimed that "when students are super stressed during finals, it would worry me to have guns around."

#### Ga Tech Student Beaten, Robbed Inside Dorm Room



Posted: 11:22 am EST December 21, 2010 Updated: 6:52 pm EST December 21, 2010

ATLANTA — 19-year-old Justin Myers answered the door to his dormitory apartment Monday night expecting friends. Instead, four men burst inside and pushed him to the floor.

"They pistol whipped me," Myers told Channel 2 Action News reporter Tom Regan.

"He hit me one time and I went to the ground," Myers said. "I wasn't trying to resist. One of them just held a gun to me the whole time, just hittiing and kicking me."

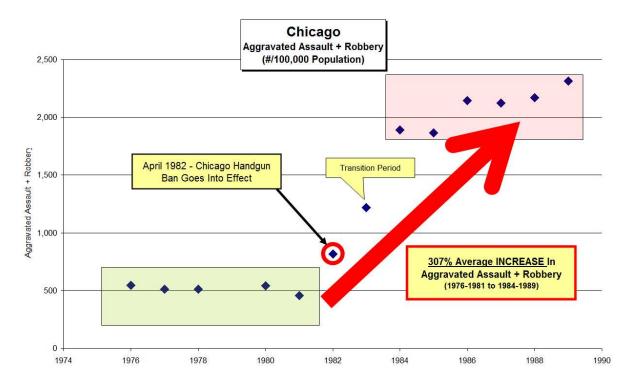
Myers showed Regan how the robbers ransacked his dormitory looking for anything of value. He said three of them were wearing Halloween style masks and dark clothes.

WSB TV - December 21, 2010 xxxv

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#### Chicago - Handguns Are Banned

In 1982, Chicago banned all handguns within its city limits. After the ban was enacted, Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rates nearly quadrupled in just 3 years (1981 to 1984).



In 2010, this ban was overturned by the Supreme Court in the case McDonald v. Chicago which applied the 2nd Amendment to the states.



At a news conference on May 20, 2010, Chicago Reader reporter Mick Dumke asked Chicago Mayor Daley about Chicago's gun ban's effectiveness,

" ... you've talked about all the gun violence that still has gone up. The gun ban here is still in effect in the city so how effective has it actually been?"

Chicago Mayor Daley picked up a rifle with a bayonet and said:

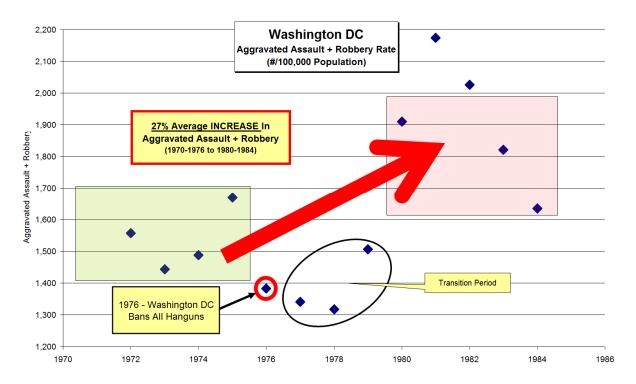
"It's been very effective, if I put this up your butt, you'll find out how effective it is. If we put a round up your, you know. ha ha"

Chicago Reader reporter Mike Dumke responds,

"Bad people still have guns!" xxxvi xxxvii xxxviii

#### Washington D.C. - Handguns & Loaded Guns Banned

In 1976, Washington D.C. banned all handguns and required long guns to be unloaded and rendered unusable, even in people's homes. Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rates decreased 5% in the two years after the ban was enacted. Once that transition period was over and **criminals learned who was disarmed by the law, the Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rate increase 27%** 



The statistics do show a soaring District crime rate. And the District's crime rate went up after the District adopted its handgun ban. But, as students of elementary logic know, after it does not mean because of it. What would the District's crime rate have looked like without the ban? Higher? Lower? The same? Experts differ; and we, as judges, cannot say.

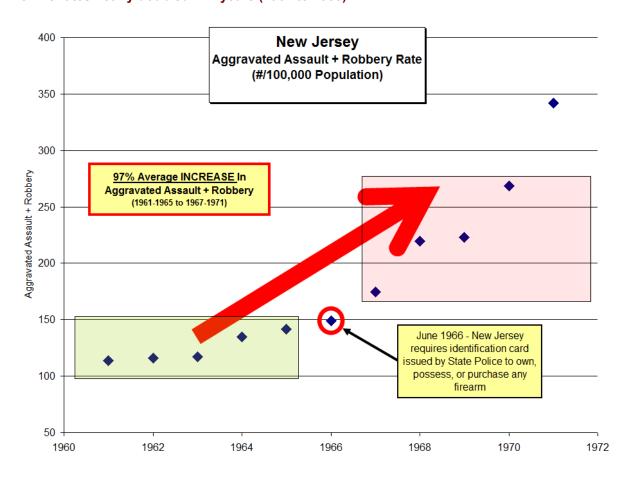
U.S. Supreme Court Justice J. Breyer - dissenting District of Columbia et. al. v. Heller June 2008<sup>xxxix</sup>

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#### **New Jersey - New Licensing Law Disarms Nearly All Citizens**

In 1966, New Jersey enacted a gun control regime that they hoped would form the model for federal law. The law required an identification card to buy, possess, or own a firearm. The state police was tasked with fingerprinting and investigating the character of the applicants. The police were able to reject "any person where the issuance would not be in the interest of the public health, safety, or welfare". The first arrest under the law was on Aug. 28, 1966. How Jersey issued 5,115 identification cards in 1966 and 8,254 in 1967 (approximately 0.1% of the population). His

After 99.9% of the population of New Jersey was disarmed, Aggravated Assault plus Robbery crime rates nearly doubled in 4 years (1964 to 1968)



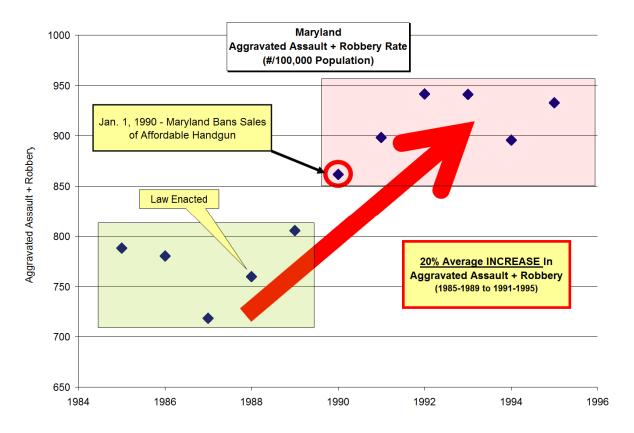
If gun laws in fact worked, the sponsors of this type of legislation should have no difficulty drawing upon long lists of examples of crime rates reduced by such legislation. That they cannot do so after a century and a half of trying — that they must sweep under the rug the southern attempts at gun control in the 1870-1910 period, the northeastern attempts in the 1920-1939 period, the attempts at both Federal and State levels in 1965-1976 — establishes the repeated, complete and inevitable failure of gun laws to control serious crime.

Senator Orrin Hatch Subcommittee on the Constitution - February 1982 \*\*\*

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#### Maryland - Affordable Guns Banned

In 1988, Maryland banned the sale of affordable firearms, which they gave the scary name of Saturday Night Specials. The law set up a Board to prepare and maintain a list of handguns that could be sold in Maryland. Any gun that was easily concealed or cheaply made was banned. The law went into full effect on January 1, 1990. Once affordable guns were no longer available, the Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rate went up 20%.



"This is indeed a great step for public safety," Sarah Brady said. "I can't think of a sweeter, more wonderful day."

> Sarah Brady - Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence New York Times - May 24, 1988<sup>xlv</sup>

#### New York City Police Department - A Century of Punishing Self Defense

In 1911, New York State enacted a gun licensing act which was pushed by NY State Senator Timothy Sullivan, a Tammany Hall politician with ties to the criminal underworld of gambling and prostitution and the Irish mob. xivi xivii

#### FAVOR SULLIVAN'S GUN BILL.

"Big Tim" Says a License Law Will Cut Down the Murder Record.

Special to The New York Times.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 25.—The manner in which "Big Tim" Sullivan presented the advantages of his bill requiring that no person shall possess a revolver or pistol without a license issued by a local Magistrate convinced the Senate to-day that it was a good measure, and it was advanced to the order of final passage.

New York Times, April 26, 1911xlviii

The Sullivan Law went into effect in September 1911. It created the misdemeanor crime of carrying a weapon without a permit. If the weapon was concealed the crime would be a felony. The permit fee was \$10 (equivalent to \$227 in 2010 dollars)<sup>xlix</sup> In addition to the fee, three character references and an affidavit detailing why a person needed to carry a gun were required.

The first conviction under the law was Marino Rossi, who was carrying a firearm for self defense against Italian gangsters in New York, known as the Black Hands. Mr. Rossi was traveling from his home in New Jersey to Connecticut for a job. A NYPD detective saw Mr. Rossi's .38 caliber revolver protruding from his hip pocket and arrested him. Mr. Rossi was sentenced to one year in Sing Sing Prison. Prison.

# FIRST CONVICTION UNDER WEAPON LAW

Judge Foster Gives Marino Rossi One Year for Arming Himself Against Black Handers.

AN HONEST WORKING MAN

Explained That He Was Carrying a
Revolver Because He Was In
Fear of His Life.

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At the time of his arrest Rossi was on his way to New Haven to take a job in that city. He was arrested at Twentyeighth Street and Sixth Avenue by a Headquarters detective, Picco, who noticed a .38 calibre revolver protruding Rossi explained from his hip pocket. that he was carrying the gun from fear of the Black Hand, and that his friends had warned him to do so in this city. He said that he was in fear of his life. had no intention of using it wrongfully, and he was an honest working man and desired to know why it was that Black Handers were not arrested for carrying guns as well as law-abiding people.

New York Times - September 28, 1911 liii

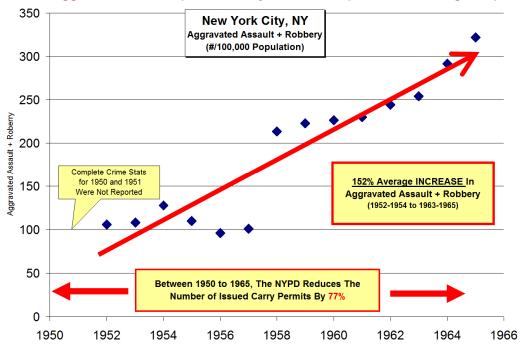
Just like we've seen with other carry bans, crime **INCREASED** following the enactment of the Sullivan Law.



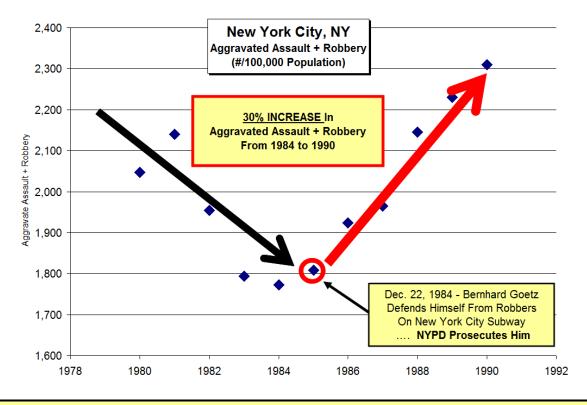
Though a Felony to Carry a Revolver, Deaths from Shooting Are Up to the Record.

New York Times - October 21, 1912 liv

Between 1950 to 1965, the NYPD reduced the number of issued carry permits by 77%. The result was that Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rates went up 2.5 times during that period.



In December 1984, Bernhard Goetz defended himself from 4 attackers on the New York Subway. In the aftermath of the shooting, the NYPD sought to make him an example to discourage acts of self-defense by others. After three years of highly publicized Grand Jury investigations and trials, Goetz was acquitted of attempted murder but he was found guilty of illegal possession of a firearm. Ivi Ivii



If I wasn't carrying a gun, nobody would have helped me.

Bernhard Goetz - Police Interview - December 1984 Iviii

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#### The Economic Benefit of the Right of Self Defense

Researchers at Iowa State University - Ames have studied the direct and hidden costs for five crimes: murder, rape, armed robbery, aggravated assault, and burglary. The direct costs include the victim's costs and society's criminal justice costs for investigation, arrest, adjudication, and incarceration. The hidden costs include reduced economic activity due to avoidant behavior and the fear of being victimized, crime prevention measures, insurance, etc. lix

	Direct Costs (Victim & Justice) (\$ / incident)	Hidden Costs (Avoidance & Prevention) (\$ / incident)	Total Costs (\$ / incident)	
Murder	5,020,124	12,232,532	17,252,656	
Rape	146,813	301,719	448,532	
Armed Robbery	44,771	290,962	335,733	
Aggravated Assault	51,738	93,641	145,379	
Burglary	4,405	36,883	41,288	

Murder by numbers: monetary costs imposed by a sample of homicide offenders
Matt DeLisi, Anna Koslosi, Molly Sween, Emily Hachmeister, Matt Moore, and Alan Drury,
Iowa State University - Ames - August 2010<sup>lx</sup>

Using the percentage change in Aggravated Assault plus Robbery rates and the number of incidents reported in the UCR from 2009, we can project the number of crimes per year that would or would not happen because of the change in gun laws (incremental annual crime). Multiplying the costs above with the incremental annual crime figure, we can compute the <u>annual savings</u> that resulted because of the Right of Self Defense or the <u>annual increased costs</u> as a result of the imposition of gun control.

#### The Annual Economic Benefit of the Right of Self Defense

	% REDUCTION of Aggravated Assault + Robbery Incidents	Reduced # of Aggravated Assualt Incidents Per Year	Reduced # of Robbery Incidents Per Year	Direct Savings	Hidden Savings (Avoidance & Prevention) (\$M / Year)	Total SAVINGS (\$M /Year)
2008 - Georgia - Expands Allowed Carry Locations	8%	1,953	1,168	153	523	676
1996 - Texas - Concealed Carry Allowed	21%	15,544	7,987	1,162	3,780	4,941
2001 - Michigan - Licensing Becomes Shall Issue	13%	4,170	1,603	288	857	1,144
2006 - Utah Universities - Carry on Campus Allowed	40%	3	1	0	0	1
2003 - Colorado State U Carry on Campus Allowed	47%	2	0	0	0	0

In the first measurable year after passage, **Representative Tim Bearden's HB89 saved Georgians \$676,000,000**. Texas' concealed carry law signed by then Governor George W. Bush saved Texans nearly \$5 billion in 2009 alone.

#### The **Annual** Economic Cost of Gun Control

	% INCREASE of Aggravated Assault + Robbery Incidents	Increased # of Aggravated Assualt Incidents Per Year	Increased # of Robbery Incidents Per Year	Increased Direct Costs (Victim & Justice) ( \$M / Year)	Increased Hidden Costs (Avoidance & Prevention) (\$M / Year)	Total INCREASED COSTS (\$M /Year)
1994 - Georgia - Imposes 1000' Defenseless Victim Zone	322%	3	11	1	3	4
1982 - Chicago - Handguns Banned	307%	11,863	11,976	1,150	4,595	5,745
1976 - Washington DC - Handguns & Loaded Guns Banned	27%	720	933	79	339	418
1966 - New Jersey - Nearly All Citizens Disarmed	97%	6,953	5,731	616	2,319	2,935
1990 - Maryland - Affordable Handguns Banned	20%	3,337	2,001	262	895	1,157

Every year, Chicago's gun ban costs residents nearly six billion dollars and New Jersey nearly three billion dollars. DC's gun ban costs it's residents \$418 million each year.

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#### The Achievable Economic Benefit of Constitutional Carry

Constitutional Carry is where Americans can carry firearms openly or concealed <u>without licenses</u> <u>everywhere without restriction</u>. "Shall not be infringed" means shall not be infringed.

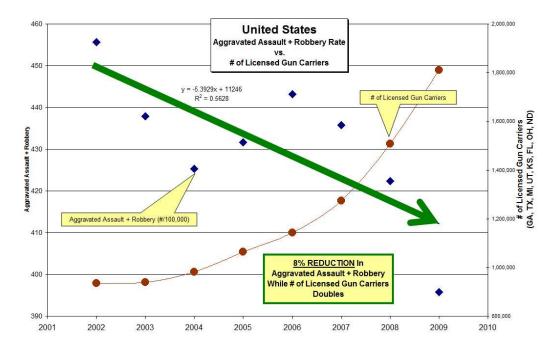
To get a sense of the achievable economic benefit from Constitutional Carry, we should look at the crime reduction which occurs after guns are allowed on university campuses. University campuses are an ideal environment to measure the impact of changes in gun laws because of the static nature of the demographic and economic conditions on campus. The demographics of the students and faculty are carefully managed to assure stability, the economic environment is shielded from the business cycle, and the geographic condition of the campus is relatively unchanged.

When guns were allowed on campus in Utah and at Colorado State University, Aggravated Assaults plus Robbery rates fell by 40% and 47%. If we conservatively assume that the impact of Constitutional Carry will reduce Aggravated Assault plus Robbery by one-half of that lower figure, 40%, that would be a 20% reduction. 20% is very similar to the 21% reduction that Texas experienced after allowing concealed carry thus validating the 20% figure.

The 20% reduction in Aggravated Assault plus Robbery would save our nation \$50.9 Billion annually. Georgia would save \$1.7 Billion EVERY YEAR. This is the economic benefit of Constitutional Carry.

Achievable Savings of Constitutional Carry to:	Assumed % REDUCTION of Aggravated Assault + Robbery Incidents	Reduced # of Aggravated Assualt Incidents Per Year	Reduced # of Robbery Incidents Per Year	Direct Savings	Hidden Savings (Avoidance & Prevention) (\$M / Year)	Total ACHIEVABLE SAVINGS (\$M /Year)
Georgia	20%	4,882	2,921	383	1,307	1,690
Kansas	20%	1,655	357	102	259	361
Wisconsin	20%	1,686	970	131	440	571
The United States	20%	161,369	81,643	12,004	38,866	50,870

Several states report the number of carry licenses issued each year. Combining the issued numbers from eight states that have complete data spanning the period between 2002 to 2009, we can get a proxy measure of the numbers of Americans carrying firearms. As shown on the graph below, the number of valid carry licenses has doubled while at the same time Aggravated Assault plus Robbery nationwide has decreased by 8%. This final example demonstrates that more guns carried by Americans results in less crime, or said another way ....... GUNS GOOD, BANS BAD.



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#### **Author Notes:**

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He is a member of GeorgiaCarry.Org and WisconsinCarry.Org. Michael was on the Board of GeorgiaCarry.Org and its first Treasurer from the organization's founding to 2010. Mike's other interests include stock market investing, strength training, and practical shooting competitions (USPSA and Steel Challenge)

His prior research effort was documenting the racist origins of Georgia's gun laws. You can read that report at the tinyurl redirect address:

#### http://tinyurl.com/2hp256

A direct link to the report is:

http://www.georgiacarry.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2007/11/racist-roots-of-ga-gun-laws.pdf

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#### **Revision History:**

January 4, 2011 - New

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