

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE



"The Right to Bear Arms"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

The 2nd Amendment Substantiated by Modern Day Studies

The English Standard Bible is the most accurate modern day translation, "... And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one." (Luke 22:36)

Studies indicate the Lord's mandate prepares for the times in which we live. A new study, Crime, Deterrence, and Right-to-Carry Concealed Handguns, by John Lott, Jr., School of Law, University of Chicago; and David Mustard, Department of Economics, University of Chicago determined that "allowing citizens to carry concealed weapons deters violent crimes and it appears to produce no increase in accidental deaths." The study shows:

American citizens use these weapons in self-defense up to two and a half million times a year; with up to 400,000 of these citizens indicating that having the means to defend themselves had saved a life.

The study repeats the findings of surveys, in which convicted felons indicate that they have more fear of meeting an armed citizen during the commission of their crimes, than they have of running into the police. Many avoid late-night burglaries because of the danger of getting shot by a legally-armed citizen.

The study also seems to point to the fact that legally armed citizens are more familiar with guns, and therefore have fewer

accidents. The study concludes: "Allowing citizens, without criminal records or histories of significant mental illness, to carry concealed handguns deters violent crimes and appears to produce an extremely small and statistically insignificant change in accidental deaths."

For each additional year that a concealed handgun law is in effect

the murder rate declines by three percent, rape by two percent, and robberies by over two percent. (John R. Lott)

From a separate study: "One thing the national news media will always ignore is the practice of lawful self-defense. For example, most people are probably not aware of the fact that American citizens use a firearm to defend themselves more than 2.4 million

times every year. That is more than 6,500 times every day. This means that, each year, firearms are used 60 times more often to protect the lives of honest citizens than to take lives. Furthermore, of the 2.4 million self-defense cases, more than 192,000 are by women defending themselves against sexual assault. And in less than eight percent of those occasions is a shot actually fired. The vast majority of the time (92%), the mere presence of a firearm helps to avert a major crime from occurring." (http://www.akdart.com/gun3.html - updated November 27, 2012)

From an article in EIN News: Us Politics Today, by Ethel C Fenig (November 28, 2012) I came across this statement, "Gun-related violent crime in Virginia has dropped steadily over the past six years as the sale of firearms has soared to a new record, according to an analysis of state crime data with state records of gun sales. The total number of firearms purchased in Virginia increased 73 percent from 2006 to 2011. The total number of gun-related violent crimes fell 24 percent over that period, and when adjusted for population, gun-related offenses dropped from 79 crimes per 100,000 in 2006 to 57 in 2011."

These studies prove what Jesus taught should be the foundational truth to making laws for the people in a country with a motto, "In God We Trust."

Losing to Win



Sometimes you've got to lose to win; how often we discover this in life. We endure some discomfort as our baby teeth come out and the "grown-up" teeth begin to come in. In the same way, we might experience some pain in our lives as the Creator makes way for those traits that help us become spiritual "grown-ups". The path ahead may not always be clear to us, but we can have the courage to let God work His divine will. Visit your house of worship this week and get on the path to becoming a faithful and joyful spiritual being.

Weekly Scripture Reading						
Psalms 42	Psalms 43	Psalms 52	Psalms 55	Psalms 56	Psalms 57	Psalms 59
Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society						

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