Larry Keane, General Counsel for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, stating its position on FOX News on Friday, February 27, 2015, made an admirable case for stopping the rogue federal agency BATFE, in its outrageous attempt to ban ammunition to the American public, but like all mainstream firearms groups, there is a critical mistake in the proposals.

The unelected bureaucrats at BATFE have no legitimate power to ban ammunition. Arguing fine points about one type of ammunition or another misses the constitutional reality of the subject. They fall into the subterfuge trap set by the Obama administration’s headlong disdain for the U.S. Constitution and the rule of law.

Banning ammunition infringes upon the Second Amendment and is forbidden.

BATFE and Congress have no authority to act in this arena. Government is only legitimate if it acts with the consent of the governed. That consent is found in our Constitution. Elected and appointed officials are specifically prohibited from acting in this regard.

These out-of-control unelected bureaucrats should not just apologize, as Keane politely requests, or withdraw as others suggest. The people responsible for this travesty should be placed under arrest for attempting to grossly violate the specific enumerated Second Amendment rights of the people.

Murder is punishable by death.

Attempted murder is illegal with severe punishment.

Inchoate aggravated assault carries severe penalties.

The type of ammunition or weapons used is immaterial and of no consequence.

The ability to pierce a bullet-resistant garment is immaterial and without consequence.

Shooting at innocent officials is of no greater consequence than shooting at any innocent black person or innocent Jew or any other innocent human being.

Raising the penalty or consequence for shooting at one innocent person over another is immoral.

The government’s effort to ban accurate ammunition, leaving the public with only less-than-accurate ammunition, is a detestable affront to human decency, the right to protect life and limb, and the holy principles of the Second Amendment to the United States.

The so-called “news” media, in failing to even explore such fundamental and basic issues, betrays its duty to inform the American public.

Writing letters to rogue agency officials as BATFE beseeches us to do before they issue dictums is a fool’s errand and complete waste of time and energy.

This is the position of Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership, and should be the position of any right thinking human being.

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Message from Rabbi Dovid Bendory, Rabbinic Director, JPFO

We’re in the Hebrew month of Adar, by far the happiest month on the Jewish calendar. Rabbis debate what makes this month “happy,” and by far the best answer is that we celebrate Purim in the middle of the month, followed exactly one month later by Passover.

For supporters of Second Amendment rights, the story of Purim brings other reasons for joy—important lessons to be learned from Jewish history regarding the need to maintain the ability to defend ourselves.

Here is a brief history of Purim. It is the year 3404 on the Hebrew calendar, which is 357 BCE; the First Temple was destroyed decades prior and the Jewish people are dispersed throughout the world. Most of the Middle East (and parts of Asia) are dominated by the Persian Empire.

As recorded in the Book of Esther, Haman, royal vizier to King Ahashuerus (whom most historians identify as the Persian King Xerxes I), planned to kill all the Jews in the Persian Empire, young and old, including women and children. (Esther 3:13) So it was commanded by the King. This was to happen in the month of Adar. But how to carry out such a decree? Would not the Jews resist?

When the plot unravels later in the story, Haman is executed, along with his 10 sons, (though the Jews do not plunder any spoils) and the question of how his murderous plans were to be executed is revealed: the Royal Decree forbade the Jews from defending themselves.

This is revealed when Queen Esther convinces King Ahashuerus to allow the Jews the most basic human right of self-defense: “The King granted the Jews in every city to gather together and defend themselves against those [who would harm them].” (Esther 8:11)

Or in other words, Haman’s original plot placed the Jews in an impossible bind. First, he made a decree that the populace was to attack the Jews, then he added a decree that any Jew who resisted would be punished. (It’s unwritten, but presumably the punishment for defense was death, as that’s the only punishment we see for anyone throughout the story.) It is exactly the same “legal system” imposed by the Nazis millennia later.

In the end, we see a victory—both for the Jewish people and for the most basic G-d-given freedom of all human beings to defend themselves from harm—when the Jews indeed gathered themselves together and stood in defense of their lives, killing 75,000 attackers. (Esther 9:16) Today, thank G-d, we are blessed to live in the most free country history has ever seen on the face of this Earth, a country in which the G-d-given right to self-defense is enshrined in our Bill of Rights, restricting our government from infringing on our right to arms, the necessary tools of defense. May we always remember our history and never give in to those who would take this right from us.

Model Laws

Many in the gun-rights-protection industry nationwide are heavily involved in fighting off the forces of darkness, counter-attacking as a barrage of anti-rights legislation and policy come crashing down on our borders and heads, it’s important to also keep an eye on pushing the freedoms frontiers forward, with proposals for model legislation that will give our enemies headaches and nausea, as we define where the boundaries of liberties should rightly set.

1) A court order of protection against an abusive individual shall include a tuition-free registration at a self-defense class offered at a state-funded school and a free loaner gun and training from the police department in which the person with the protective order resides.

2) Exercise of the right to keep and bear arms in public establishments shall receive the same protection against discrimination as that of any other protected class of people under civil-rights law protection, with similar relief against anyone who violates those protections.

“Be strong and resolute.” — Moses instructing Joshua before leaving Earth and leaving Joshua responsible for leading the Jewish people. Deuteronomy 31:7
Columbia Journalism School of Anti-Rights Shilling
Presents a workshop on Bloomberg propaganda – and you’re not invited.

By Jeff Knox

The prestigious Columbia Journalism School’s Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma is presenting a two-day workshop in Phoenix May 29 and 30 entitled Covering Gun Violence.

The workshop is billed as a regional program for reporters in the Southwest to “enhance the practical ability of journalists to report on guns and gun violence knowledgeably, ethically and effectively.” But there are serious questions about just how ethical the people teaching the ethics really are.

The timing and location of the workshop also looks suspicious, as related Bloomberg minions recently succeeded in getting a deceptive gun-transfer ban qualified for the 2016 ballot in Nevada, and they’ve announced plans for a similar initiative next year in Arizona. A regional program that “teaches” journalists how to report on such issues as “the implications of public policies like background check requirements,” seems just a bit too convenient—especially when sponsor Bloomberg’s draconian transfer ban is disguised as an innocuous background check.

In spite of harsh public criticism from rights advocates, and numerous suggestions for speakers and topics that would be truly useful to journalists reporting on guns and gun violence—such as actual firearm experts and presentations on how to drill into research to expose bias—the only result so far has been the tentative inclusion of Kopel. Offers of assistance from local, Arizona-based experts like author and media critic Alan Korwin and yours truly, have stirred disinterest from the Dart Center. True journalism expertise from the National Shooting Sports Foundation isn’t even a consideration.

The second biggest set of problems with modern reporting on guns and gun violence are ignorance of the subject matter and accompanying bias among journalists. So far, by ignoring these subjects in their plans, Dart is demonstrating they themselves suffer from the same ignorance and bias. Do they enjoy the second biggest participant sport in the nation themselves—bigger than golf—or even know what “all the good that guns do” even means?

The biggest problem though is the total absence of balance—any focus on the social utility of firearms, the lives saved, crimes prevented, peace preserved, and all the good that guns do, providing perspective against the small backdrop of misuse, with the enormous benefit of an armed society. This is nowhere to be found in this distorted journalistic presentation funded solely by the outspoken advocates of gun-rights infringement.

Journalists don’t need propaganda taught as enlightenment; they need to be taught discernment to recognize their own weaknesses and uncover the truth. Columbia and the Dart Center bring disgrace on their otherwise good name by propagating such a one-sided indoctrination and pretending it is ethical.

JPFO Objects to Rabbi Margolin’s Proposal to Change Gun Laws for European Jews

Following the horrific muslim jihad assaults on cartoonists, journalists, Jews and others in France, Rabbi Menachem Margolin, General Director of the European Jewish Association has asked in an open letter, “that gun licensing laws are reviewed with immediate effect to allow designated people in the Jewish communities and institutions to own weapons for the essential protection of their communities, as well as receiving the necessary training to protect their members from potential terror attacks…”

Although Rabbi Margolin’s appeal is well intentioned, American-based Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership flatly rejects this approach to firearms ownership.

Asking government permission for a select group to bear arms or train for their own safety is a fundamental error, and reflects a common and understandable lack of information on the current state of affairs.

1. The Rabbi, like the public, is apparently uninformed, since

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WHY JEWS HATE GUNS

In our last issue, The Sentinel carried a groundbreaking article that got to the heart of why the American Jewish community, in general, works against gun rights, and often expresses vitriolic hatred and fear over guns themselves. It’s counterintuitive, puts them at grave risk, ignores the lessons of history, defies their own mantra of Never Again!... it just seems inexplicable. We diagnosed this and proposed 10 answers -- strong stuff -- it’s recommended reading at jpfo.org, and here are some readers’ reactions:

“Wonderful work. My heartiest congratulations.” – Larry

“Very interesting. How brave & good of you to send this out.” – Colette

“Great work Boys. I think there is an 11th reason as well. If they don’t have guns they are not obligated to defend others. They have an excuse for non action. Assuages the conscience! Peace,” – Don

“The source of this, World Net Daily, are a bunch of right-wing kooks.”

[The source of this, sir, is JPFO. You’re shooting a messenger.]

“What the IDF is doing, the Diaspora should be doing or at least knowing. Training for safety.” [We here at JPFO agree of course.]

“Bravo, cheers, hip-hip-hooray! And another hypothesis: Intellectuals tend to be anti-gun. Jews tend to be intellectuals. Therefore, Jews tend to be anti-gun.” – Craig

“Many years ago -- perhaps early 1990s -- Rabbi Rob Mermelstein (who’d been the handloading editor for Petersen) was interviewed on a gun-friendly radio programme. He was asked this very question, and he said because relatively few Jewish immigrants moved beyond the Euro urban areas, they were slow to assimilate and therefore retained their Euro viewpoints multi-generationally. Presumably that semi-isolation inoculated many from the US ‘virus’ of self defense.” – Barrett

[Reasonable, but the Diaspora is spread far and wide at this point, and the inoculation has worn off after a century or more. Other reasons dominate, in our opinion.]

“Insufficient study of what I see to be the real cause of the general Jewish left-wing pattern. Population distribution. Most people of the Jewish faith live in the most highly urbanized areas. The most highly urbanized areas are also the most reliably left leaning, politically.” – David

[We considered urbanization, but had to eliminate it. 90%+ of the U.S. population is urbanized, but 50% or more have guns or support RKBA. Big cities like Houston, Atlanta, Phoenix, many others are bristling with gun owners. Ghettolized areas are overwhelmingly liberal/democrat/statist for known reasons (largely government social programs), but the rest of cities are mixed. Exceptions outweigh or compete heavily with other rationales, and we believe our reasoning stands.]

“Thanks for the antisemitic press release, guys.” – Roni

[The Rabbi and I worked hard to avoid any hint of anti-Semitism, and researched the report thoroughly. What specifically do you find to be anti-Semitic?] Later:

“I should not have said that, it was an off the cuff remark. I’m just not sure where this is coming from, or why you sent it to me.” – Roni.

And: “I guess I don’t think Jews are monolithic in their opinions on anything, and generalizing about them as a group suggests they are.” – Roni.

“Interesting. In my limited experience, it seems to be mostly British and American Jews that have the problem. Back in the old country and several others, it is the opposite. Including one of our son-in-laws. Good work. thx” – Landis

“I shared your article with many Jewish people that are American. 100% disagree with your premise that Jews hate guns. Everyone of them, 24, own firearms. I live in Northeast Florida.” – Michael

[It’s nice to know such groups exist. If you search outside the circle of people you know though (a “self-selected set”) I think you’ll find our observations are correct. Visit some national or local Jewish groups and ask them who they would recommend for firearms training in your area. You will not get the same responses.]
“Attitudes toward personal violence are cultural. It’s all about what a culture considers ‘honorable.’ One of the great legends of Jewish culture is the siege of Masada. When faced with overwhelming odds, the Jews committed mass suicide (actually, mass mutual murder). Take that, you Roman soldiers -- let that be a lesson to you! The heroes of Masada are still much revered. In contrast, one of the great legends of ‘Western’ culture is the Spartans’ defense of the pass at Thermopylae. When faced with overwhelming odds, the Spartans fought until death, and killed a whole lot of Persians. The Spartans are just as dead, but Jews consider the Masada folks to have died more honorably. The Jewish culture holds that it is morally superior -- more civilized -- to let oneself be killed than to be drawn into the dishonor of violence. They probably are right. (‘Death before dishonor,’ right?) It’s not too practical, but religious faith is not about practicality.” –Mark

“Call when the lynch mob marches on your home. I’ll be there by your side with my Smith and Wesson.” –Bill

“Well written, sir. I believe if you removed or exchanged the specifically Jewish historical references you could apply that commentary to many other groups of people in our wonderful melting pot of a country.” –Marty

“Thanks for the information. I’ve discussed these issues with pro-gun Jews, and their contention is most American Jews have families who emigrated from the USSR, so it was part of their cultural heritage.” –George

“Hi Alan, I think the reason is the Senators mentioned (and others of their political leanings) are Jewish in name only, i.e., they are ‘culturally Jewish’ and have no real religious beliefs - RHINOes of their faith. It would be interesting to see how religiously conservative Jews view the 2nd Amendment.”

“Great job! If I had to choose the single best answer? 8. Adulterated religion -- Jews In Name Only (JINOs). Dennis Prager speaks of this. He’s found that the more religious Jews are, the less liberal they are.” –Jon

“I enjoyed your piece on ‘Why Jews Hate Guns,’ posted at Ammoland.com. I am 1/2 English, 1/4 Scotch, 1/4 German, and ZERO % Jewish. I did, however, grow up in suburban NJ from 1968-1986, and have lived in Richmond, VA ever since. It would seem to me that you may have missed one patently obvious piece of the puzzle. Location, location, location, as realtors say.

I grew up with a heavy Jewish populace, yet find it a rarity down here. If Jewish populations are heavily concentrated in the northeast, southern CA and other heavily urban settings, would geography not be a major symptom of their ‘plague’? I hope this doesn’t come off in any way anti-Semitic, if it does, my profound apologies.”

“The Jews who think that guns are bad are dummies. Only dangerous people are free. Ask the people I work with in Africa called the Zulus. The government still won’t touch them. I wish it were otherwise. I wish the lamb and the lion would lie together in peace. But it seems not to be happening.” –Sam

“It’s complicated, but part of the answer is that most Jews in the United States are liberal, live in the most liberal parts of the most liberal cities in the country, went to the most liberal schools in the country and are influenced by and influence their surroundings. And these days liberals define ‘right’ and ‘wrong’ by the persons involved, rather than the actions.” –Leon

[It is notable that the Jewish disdain of the right to self defense and its tools are shared by liberals, so maybe there is another paper in that. Do liberals hate guns, or do people who hate guns lean liberal for other complex reasons? A self-selected set perhaps.]

“Aren’t the Jews in Israel carrying Uzi submachine guns? Am I missing something?” –J

[Yup; we distinguished between Jews in this country and what goes on in Israel. A topic for another time.]

“As a Jew, and a gun owner since the age of seven, I cannot understand why so many Jews are hoplophobic. This report answers many of my questions. But I must say that I’m disgusted at the self-hating behavior of these Liberal Jews who somehow, regardless of their university degrees, cannot understand that an unarmed Jew is a dead Jew.” -Peter [He goes on to describe how buying a gun kept him safe, he’s now 60.]

“You hit a pet peeve. Before condemning Jews for hypocrisy in forgetting their history, recognize that many religions similarly gloss over aspects of their sacred texts that don’t mix well with their modern sensibilities. How many Biblical literalists cleave to the elements of, say, Leviticus.” –Jon

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When A Lie Dons The Cloak of The Truth

Why does the 9th Commandment require that we “not bear false witness”?

It’s because truth is our societal glue. It is necessary to freedom and prosperity. It’s the reason that government workers and elected officials, or those who testify in court, are “on oath.” They can be prosecuted if they have lied under oath. Truth is necessary, and the newly promoted “background check” is a lie.

The big lie in the so-called “background check” issue is that performing the checks will keep criminals and the mentally unstable away from guns. What it will do, if enacted, is stop almost all private transfers of firearms, and create a registration of every single lawful transaction but NOT any unlawful ones. The law is meant to sew confusion and to discourage lawful acts, thereby discouraging gun ownership.

Criminals aren’t going through background checks any more than they will obey other laws. They steal their guns, buy them from other criminals, or engage in “straw” purchases by sending someone with a clean record to shop for them. A Pittsburgh police lieutenant made it clear at the Duquesne University gun symposium that drug dealers routinely send their young addicted dependent girls (she used a far sleazier term for these women) out to buy guns at retail, in exchange for getting fixes.

Stealing, straw buys and criminal scores are illegal in all 50 states. No laws are required to make it doubly or triply illegal. Making a straw purchase is a 10-year federal felony. Let me be very clear here: these vermin will simply avoid background checks, just like they do now.

Who then, will the proposals affect? You.

That’s because the biggest lie is this—these bills are not about background checks—they’re about transfers. Just handing your gun to someone else becomes a jailable felony offense under these proposed laws.

Forcing someone to go through a “background check,” in order to simply transfer lawfully held private property to another person, creates a registry of every transaction. It is also a “prior restraint” on what the Supreme Court called a “specific, enumerated right” (District of Columbia v. Heller, 554 U.S. 570, 628 n.27 (2008)). Your civil right to arms.

The anti-freedom bigots do not like your guns, because they are a tool of self-reliance, and “power to the people,” and that is anathema to folks like Mike Bloomberg, who “have a plan” for your activities. That plan does not include the means of self-defense or personal power. Now his question is—how to get you to separate yourself from such power and self-reliance in the most efficient way?

JPFO has documented (http://jpfo.org/filegen-a-m/ib.htm) that in every case where a government committed genocide in the 20th Century, the predicate act was victim disarmament, and that was preceded by registration. Lie about transfers, call it background checks for support, register everyone, done deal.

Jews like Bloomberg who ignore history are not “mistaken.” They are openly lying. Be very clear here—“background checks” are a way to get you to agree to surrender. It’s so much less messy than kicking your door down, isn’t it? Those who cloak lies in the truth, do evil. Will you support or reject the lie? Choose wisely.
THE JPFO POSITION ON BATFE DOCUMENT:

“ATF FRAMEWORK FOR DETERMINING WHETHER CERTAIN PROJECTILES ARE “PRIMARILY INTENDED FOR SPORTING PURPOSES” WITHIN THE MEANING OF 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(17)(C)”

Using complex legal reasoning in a 17-page document, BATFE plans to ban a certain type of 5.56 caliber ammunition, which it now claims has become armor piercing, and hence more dangerous, after having classified it not so, for decades.

That document addresses issues beyond the delegated powers of government, is outside the government’s legitimate authority to regulate, where it has no legal ability to legislate, regulate or make policy, and technically null and void.

If needed, Kosher policy in this field would be: “Penetrating the body armor of a person, using anything, with intent to do harm without justification, is a crime.”

Regulating ammunition as BATFE proposes violates the Second Amendment. The Constitution bars infringement in this regard. Congress has no authority in this field, and cannot delegate any power in this respect to any of its agencies. BATFE, by issuing this dictum is behaving as a rogue agency, its staff needs to be severely disciplined and, as we have called for in the past, disbanded, to prevent any more in a long line of usurpations, abuses and illegal activities.

Why Jews Hate Guns (continued from page 5)

“Well, this is ONE Jew who does NOT hate guns! I could never understand those Jews who do, and despise them. Despite all the theories about why American Jews do hate firearms, I’ve never been satisfied with any explanation, and my only answer is the quote by Santayana -- ‘Those who don’t remember history are doomed to repeat it’ -- paraphrased to the best of my recollection. Unfortunately, they doom us too!” –Paul

JPFO on Rabbi Margolin Letter (continued from page 3)

Nothing in current European law prevents Jews or others from immediate training in self-defense strategies, tactics, awareness and danger avoidance, without government involvement or interference.

Considering the ongoing global muslim jihad, such training is a sane policy and should begin without delay. Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership hereby offers Rabbi Margolin, without expense, training materials and support, for Jews who feel the need and desire for such materials and support.

2. Although European gun law is highly restrictive and oppressive by America’s freedom-based standards, nothing in current European law prevents Jews or others from applying for and receiving the firearms access the Rabbi begs to receive. See, The Worldwide Gun Owner’s Guide, http://www.gunlaws.com/WGOG.htm, available from JPFO. Rabbi Margolin and his congregants should begin the application process without delay.

3. Singling out Jews for special pro-rights firearms treatment, while perhaps commendable at first blush, sets a precedent for special anti-rights treatment as well, and is therefore a terrible policy choice. It can only be described as discriminatory, racist and intolerant.

4. Finally, Rabbi Margolin seeks “training by local authorities.” While this is certainly reasonable, it must be augmented by qualified private-sector instructors and in this case, trainers with experience from Israeli Defense Forces, to ensure the broadest possible spectrum of training for this population segment’s unique needs.

The Rabbi wisely points out an “urgent need to stop talking and start acting.” JPFO emphatically agrees. JPFO’s position is that Margolin’s “designated people in the Jewish communities” includes all who are willing and capable of keeping and bearing arms, lest we consign some to defenseless, less-than-human status, a position which has had devastating results in the past.

We agree with the Rabbi the arms are for “self-protection only,” as this is the only legal and justifiable use of force, under the laws of G-d and man.

Rabbi Margolin is 100% correct for Europe—and our own homeland in America—when he notes that, “the danger is that much greater as many Europeans travel abroad to be indoctrinated into radical Islam, before returning to their European homelands to use their militant training to devastating effect. We need to recognize (sic) the warning signs of anti-Semitism, racism, and intolerance that once again threaten Europe and our European ideals.”

The more and better trained armed individuals we have on our side, the better we can meet this very real, very deadly peril almost everyone recognizes is out there.

Modelled after the world-famous Doomsday Clock sponsored by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, JPFO will attempt to quantify how close America is coming to gun confiscation being promoted by evil anti-rights forces and hoplophobia sufferers in our midst. Some factors are already pushing the hands forward and back. Help us get it right:

**Tick Tick Tick...**

The hands move closer to midnight as laws and policies work to disarm the U.S. public—
- Mike Bloomberg demands: Disarm minorities!
- New York State: Arrest people with magazines over 7 rounds
- California: Put more people's guns on the banned list
- BATFE seeks to ban traditional 5.56 ammo by fiat
- State Dept. bans importing WWII M1 rifles from allies

**Reset, Reset, Reset...**

The hands move away from midnight as laws and policies enhance our right to arms—
- Constitutional carry enacted and introduced in more states
- “Guns everywhere” passes in Georgia and a Pop-tart law passes in Florida.
- All 50 states get discreet-carry laws of some kind.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK? HOW CLOSE ARE WE TO MIDNIGHT?**

Select Reader Responses will be featured in the next issue of the *Bill of Rights Sentinel!!*

**Respond to survey@jpfo.org!**