

Handguns In American Society

This is Page 340 which was found in the governor's "Master Set of Standards and Goals". Page 340 is a summary of Chapter 9, the Handgun Chapter of the book entitled: "A National Strategy to Reduce Crime." which was written by the "National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals." Senators Arlen Specter and Richard Lugar were members of this commission. They worked with the federal group called the "Law Enforcement Assistance Administration" (L.E.A.A.). L.E.A.A. entered California by way of a 1967 act in California called the "Deukmejian-Moretti Act. This Act anticipated the passage of the "Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968" (aka Gun Control Act of 1968). The L.E.A.A. put the state under federal dominance. The motto of the L.E.A.A. was "We seek a disarmed populace....there can be no right of privacy in regard to armaments." Director Dean Morris said: "The U.S. should move expeditiously to disarm the civilian population, other than police and security officers....no one should have a right to anonymous ownership or use of a gun. That is not a right we can safely allow anyone." Not until the L.E.A.A. had achieved the missions that were assigned to it did it disband in April of 1982, after having nine years to work the state over to achieve its assigned objectives.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Enforcement of Current Laws

The Commission recommends that existing Federal, State, and local laws relating to handguns be strenuously enforced. It further recommends that States undertake publicity campaigns to educate the public fully about laws regulating the private possession of handguns.

Penalties for Crimes Committed with a Handgun

The Commission urges enactment of State legislation providing for an extended prison term with a maximum term of 25 years for committing a felony while in possession of a handgun.

Stop-and-Frisk Searches

The Commission urges the enactment of State legislation providing for police discretion in stop-and-frisk searches of persons and searches of automobiles for illegal handguns.

Prohibiting the Manufacture of Handguns

The Commission urges the enactment of State legislation prohibiting the manufacture of handguns, their parts, and ammunition within the State, except for sale to law enforcement agencies or for military use.

Prohibiting the Sale of Handguns

The Commission urges the enactment of State legislation prohibiting the sale of handguns, their parts, and ammunition to other than law enforcement agencies or Federal or State governments for military purposes.

Establishing a State Gun Control Agency

The Commission urges the enactment of State legislation establishing and funding a State agency authorized to purchase all voluntarily surrendered handguns, and further authorized to register and modify handguns to be retained by private citizens as curios, museum pieces, or collector's items.

Prohibiting the Private Possession of Handguns

The Commission further urges the enactment of State legislation not later than January 1, 1983, prohibiting the private possession of handguns after that date.