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9 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
10 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
11 CIVIL DIVISION

12  
13 **VIRGINIA DUNCAN, RICHARD**  
14 **LEWIS, PATRICK LOVETTE,**  
15 **DAVID MARGUGLIO,**  
16 **CHRISTOPHER WADDELL, and**  
**CALIFORNIA RIFLE & PISTOL**  
**ASSOCIATION, INC., a California**  
**corporation,**

17 Plaintiffs,

18 v.

19 **ROB BONTA, in his official capacity as**  
20 **Attorney General of the State of**  
21 **California; and DOES 1-10,**

22 Defendants.

Case No. 17-cv-1017-BEN-JLB

**DECLARATION OF RANDOLPH ROTH**

Courtroom: 5A  
Judge: Hon. Roger T. Benitez  
Action Filed: May 17, 2017

1                                   **DECLARATION OF RANDOLPH ROTH**

2           I, Randolph Roth, declare under penalty of perjury that the following is true  
3 and correct:

4           1.     I am an Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of History and  
5 Sociology at The Ohio State University. I have personal knowledge of the facts set  
6 forth in this declaration, and if called upon as a witness, I could and would testify  
7 competently as to those facts.

8           2.     I have been retained by the California Department of Justice to render  
9 expert opinions in this case. I am being compensated at a rate of \$250 per hour.

10                               **BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS**

11           3.     I received a B.A. in History with Honors and Distinction in 1973 from  
12 Stanford University, where I received the James Birdsall Weter prize for the  
13 outstanding honors thesis in History. I received a Ph.D. in History in 1981 from  
14 Yale University, where I received the Theron Rockwell Field prize for the  
15 outstanding dissertation in the Humanities and the George Washington Eggleston  
16 prize for the outstanding dissertation in American history. I have taught courses in  
17 history, the social sciences, and statistics since 1978, with a focus on criminology  
18 and the history of crime. A true and correct copy of my curriculum vitae is attached  
19 as **Exhibit A** to this declaration.

20           4.     I am the author of *American Homicide* (The Belknap Press of the  
21 Harvard University Press, 2009), which received the 2011 Michael J. Hindelang  
22 Award from the American Society of Criminology awarded annually for the book  
23 published over the three previous years that “makes the most outstanding  
24 contribution to research in criminology over the previous three years,”<sup>1</sup> and the  
25 2010 Allan Sharlin Memorial Prize from the Social Science History Association for

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27           <sup>1</sup> See American Society of Criminology, Michel J. Hindelang outstanding  
28 Book Award Recipients, <https://asc41.com/about-asc/awards/michael-j-hindelang-outstanding-book-award-recipients/>.

1 outstanding books in social science history.<sup>2</sup> *American Homicide* was also named  
 2 one of the Outstanding Academic Books of 2010 by *Choice*, and the outstanding  
 3 book of 2009 by *reason.com*. The book is an interregional, internationally  
 4 comparative study of homicide in the United States from colonial times to the  
 5 present. I am a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of  
 6 Science, and I have served as a member of the National Academy of Sciences  
 7 Roundtable on Crime Trends, 2013-2016, and as a member of the Editorial Board  
 8 of the *American Historical Review*, the most influential journal in the discipline.

9       5. I am the principal investigator on the National Homicide Data  
 10 Improvement Project, a project funded by the National Science Foundation (SES-  
 11 1228406, [https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=1228406](https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1228406)) and  
 12 the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation to improve the quality of homicide data  
 13 in the United States from 1959 to the present. The pilot project on Ohio has drawn  
 14 on a wide range of sources in its effort to create a comprehensive database on  
 15 homicides (including narratives of each incident) based on the mortality statistics of  
 16 the Ohio Department of Health, the confidential compressed mortality files of the  
 17 National Center for Health Statistics, the F.B.I.'s Supplementary Homicide Reports,  
 18 death certificates, coroner's reports, the homicide case files of Cincinnati,  
 19 Cleveland, and Columbus, obituaries, and newspaper accounts.

20       6. I have published numerous essays on the history of violence and the  
 21 use of firearms in the United States, including a) "Guns, Gun Culture, and  
 22 Homicide: The Relationship between Firearms, the Uses of Firearms, and  
 23 Interpersonal Violence in Early America," *William and Mary Quarterly* (2002) 59:  
 24 223-240 ([https://www.jstor.org/stable/3491655#metadata\\_info\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/3491655#metadata_info_tab_contents)); b)  
 25 "Counting Guns: What Social Science Historians Know and Could Learn about  
 26

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27       <sup>2</sup> See Social Science History Association, Allan Sharlin Memorial Book  
 28 Award, [https://ssha.org/awards/sharlin\\_award/](https://ssha.org/awards/sharlin_award/).

1 Gun Ownership, Gun Culture, and Gun Violence in the United States,” *Social*  
 2 *Science History* (2002) 26: 699-708  
 3 ([https://www.jstor.org/stable/40267796#metadata\\_info\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/40267796#metadata_info_tab_contents)); c) “Why  
 4 Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem: The Relationship between Guns and Homicide  
 5 in American History,” in Jennifer Tucker, Barton C. Hacker, and Margaret Vining,  
 6 eds., *A Right to Bear Arms? The Contested Role of History in Contemporary*  
 7 *Debates on the Second Amendment* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution  
 8 Scholarly Press, 2019); and d) “The Opioid Epidemic and Homicide in the United  
 9 States,” co-authored with Richard Rosenfeld and Joel Wallman, in the *Journal of*  
 10 *Research in Crime and Delinquency* (2021)  
 11 ([https://www.researchgate.net/publication/348513393\\_The\\_Opioid\\_Epidemic\\_and](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/348513393_The_Opioid_Epidemic_and_Homicide_in_the_United_States)  
 12 [Homicide\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/348513393_The_Opioid_Epidemic_and_Homicide_in_the_United_States)).

13 7. I am also co-founder and co-director of the Historical Violence  
 14 Database. The web address for the Historical Violence Database is:  
 15 <http://cjrc.osu.edu/research/interdisciplinary/hvd>. The historical data on which this  
 16 declaration draws are available through the Historical Violence Database. The  
 17 Historical Violence Database is a collaborative project by scholars in the United  
 18 States, Canada, and Europe to gather data on the history of violent crime and  
 19 violent death (homicides, suicides, accidents, and casualties of war) from medieval  
 20 times to the present. The project is described in Randolph Roth et al., “The  
 21 Historical Violence Database: A Collaborative Research Project on the History of  
 22 Violent Crime and Violent Death.” *Historical Methods* (2008) 41: 81-98  
 23 ([https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.3200/HMTS.41.2.81-](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.3200/HMTS.41.2.81-98?casa_token=PfjkmSciOwAAAAA:1HrNKToUGfQT4T-L4wqloRc2DFsM4eRmKEc346vchboaSh-X29CkEdqIe8bMoZjBNdk7yNh_aAU)  
 24 [98?casa\\_token=PfjkmSciOwAAAAA:1HrNKToUGfQT4T-](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.3200/HMTS.41.2.81-98?casa_token=PfjkmSciOwAAAAA:1HrNKToUGfQT4T-L4wqloRc2DFsM4eRmKEc346vchboaSh-X29CkEdqIe8bMoZjBNdk7yNh_aAU)  
 25 [L4wqloRc2DFsM4eRmKEc346vchboaSh-X29CkEdqIe8bMoZjBNdk7yNh\\_aAU](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.3200/HMTS.41.2.81-98?casa_token=PfjkmSciOwAAAAA:1HrNKToUGfQT4T-L4wqloRc2DFsM4eRmKEc346vchboaSh-X29CkEdqIe8bMoZjBNdk7yNh_aAU)).  
 26 The only way to obtain reliable historical homicide estimates is to review every  
 27 scrap of paper on criminal matters in every courthouse (indictments, docket books,  
 28 case files, and judicial proceedings), every jail roll and coroner’s report, every diary

1 and memoir, every article in every issue of a number of local newspapers, every  
 2 entry in the vital records, and every local history based on lost sources, local  
 3 tradition, or oral testimony. That is why it takes months to study a single rural  
 4 county, and years to study a single city.<sup>3</sup>

5 8. I have provided expert witness testimony in *Miller v. Bonta*, No. 3:19-  
 6 cv-01537-BEN-JLB (S.D. Cal.).

7 9. My work on data collection and my research for *American Homicide*,  
 8 together with the research I have conducted for related essays, has helped me gain  
 9 expertise on the causes of homicide and mass violence, and on the role technology  
 10 has played in changing the nature and incidence of homicide and mass violence. I  
 11 hasten to add that the insights that my colleagues and I have gained as social  
 12 science historians into the causes of violence and the history of violence in the

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13 <sup>3</sup> It is also essential, in the opinion of historians and historical social scientists  
 14 involved in the Historical Violence Database, to use capture-recapture mathematics,  
 15 when multiple sources are available, to estimate the number of homicides where  
 16 gaps or omissions exist in the historical record. The method estimates the  
 17 percentage of the likely number of homicides that appear in the surviving records  
 18 by looking at the degree to which homicides reported in the surviving legal sources  
 19 overlap with homicides reported in the surviving non-legal sources (newspapers,  
 20 vital records, diaries, etc.). A greater degree of overlap means a higher percentage  
 21 in the surviving records and a tighter confidence interval. A lesser degree of  
 22 overlap, which typically occurs on contested frontiers and during civil wars and  
 23 revolutions, means a lower percentage and a wider confidence interval. See  
 24 Randolph Roth, "American Homicide Supplemental Volume: Homicide Estimates"  
 25 (2009) ([https://cjrc.osu.edu/sites/cjrc.osu.edu/files/AHSV-Homicide-](https://cjrc.osu.edu/sites/cjrc.osu.edu/files/AHSV-Homicide-Estimates.pdf)  
 26 [Estimates.pdf](https://cjrc.osu.edu/sites/cjrc.osu.edu/files/AHSV-Homicide-Estimates.pdf)); Roth, "Child Murder in New England," *Social Science History*  
 27 (2001) 25: 101-147  
 28 ([https://www.jstor.org/stable/1171584#metadata\\_info\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/1171584#metadata_info_tab_contents)); Roth and  
 James M. Denham, "Homicide in Florida, 1821-1861: A Quantitative Analysis,"  
*Florida Historical Quarterly* 86 (2007): 216-239; and Douglas L. Eckberg, "Stalking  
 the Elusive Homicide: A Capture-Recapture Approach to the Estimation of Post-  
 Reconstruction South Carolina Killings." *Social Science History* 25 (2001): 67-91  
 ([https://www.jstor.org/stable/1171582#metadata\\_info\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/1171582#metadata_info_tab_contents)).

United States stem from our tireless commitment to empiricism. Our goal is to gather accurate data on the character and incidence of violent crimes and to follow the evidence wherever it leads, even when it forces us to accept the fact that a hypothesis we thought might be true proved false. As my colleagues and I are fond of saying in the Criminal Justice Network of the Social Science History Association, the goal is not to be right, but to get it right. That is the only way to design effective, pragmatic, nonideological laws and public policies that can help us address our nation's problem of violence.

## OPINIONS

### I. SUMMARY OF OPINIONS

10. I have been asked by the California Department of Justice to provide opinions on the history of homicides and mass murders in the United States, with special attention to the role that technologies have played in shaping the character and incidence of homicides and mass murders over time, and the historical restrictions that local and federal authorities have imposed in response to new technologies that they deemed particularly lethal, prone to misuse, and a danger to the public because of the ways in which they reshaped the character and incidence of homicides and mass murders.

11. For the past thirty-five years, I have dedicated my career to understanding why homicide rates rise and fall over time, in hopes of understanding why the United States—which, apart from the slave South, was perhaps the least homicidal society in the Western world in the early nineteenth century—became by far the most homicidal, as it remains today. I discovered that the key to low homicide rates over the past 450 years has been successful nation-building. High homicide rates among unrelated adults—friends, acquaintances, strangers—coincide with political instability, a loss of trust in government and political leaders, a loss of fellow feeling among citizens, and a lack of faith in the justice of the social

1 hierarchy.<sup>4</sup> As a nation, we are still feeling the aftershocks of our catastrophic  
 2 failure at nation-building in the mid- and late-nineteenth century, from the political  
 3 crisis of the late 1840s and 1850s through the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the  
 4 rise of Jim Crow.

5 12. Our nation's homicide rate would thus be high today even in the  
 6 absence of modern technologies that have made firearms far more capable of  
 7 injuring multiple people over a short span of time than they were in colonial and  
 8 Revolutionary era. But the evidence also shows that the availability of guns and  
 9 changes in firearms technology, especially the emergence of modern breech-  
 10 loading firearms in the mid-nineteenth century, and of rapid-fire semiautomatic  
 11 weapons and extended magazines in the late twentieth century, have pushed the  
 12 homicide rate in United States well beyond what it would otherwise have been.

13 13. My opinion will address in turn: 1) firearms restrictions on colonists  
 14 from the end of the seventeenth century to the eve of the Revolution, when  
 15 homicide rates were low among colonists and firearms were seldom used in  
 16 homicides among colonists when they did occur; 2) the development during the  
 17 Founding and Early National periods of laws restricting the use or ownership of  
 18 concealable weapons in slave and frontier states, where homicide rates among  
 19 persons of European ancestry soared after the Revolution in large part because of

20 <sup>4</sup> See Randolph Roth, "Measuring Feelings and Beliefs that May Facilitate (or  
 21 Deter) Homicide," *Homicide Studies* (2012) 16: 196-217  
 22 ([https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1088767912442501?casa\\_token=dkP\\_nZZxCaYAAAAA:vL522E2inh9U2gr4X2qAhPnqRminWEjLv8nbwrNEhqNpRliTesFI\\_1SDY6tepvZbjwiRWPEom7M](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1088767912442501?casa_token=dkP_nZZxCaYAAAAA:vL522E2inh9U2gr4X2qAhPnqRminWEjLv8nbwrNEhqNpRliTesFI_1SDY6tepvZbjwiRWPEom7M)), for an introduction to the ways that social  
 23 science historians can measure the feelings and beliefs that lead to successful  
 24 nation-building. My research has shown that those measures have gone up and  
 25 down with homicide rates among unrelated adults in the United States from  
 26 colonial times to the present. In social science history, as in the non-experimental  
 27 historical sciences (geology, paleontology, evolutionary biology), correlations that  
 28 persist across wide stretches of time and space are not random. They reveal deep  
 patterns that are causal.



1 the increased manufacture and ownership of concealable percussion cap pistols and  
 2 fighting knives; 3) the spread of restrictions on carrying concealed weapons in  
 3 every state but Vermont by World War I, as homicide rates rose across the nation,  
 4 beginning around the time of the Mexican War of 1846-1848 and lasting until  
 5 World War I—a rise caused in part by the invention of modern revolvers, which  
 6 were used in a majority of homicides by the late nineteenth century; 4) the  
 7 difficulty that local and federal officials faced from the colonial era into the early  
 8 twentieth century in addressing the threat of mass murders, which, because of the  
 9 limitations of existing technologies, were carried out by large groups of individuals  
 10 acting in concert, rather than by individuals or small groups; and 5) the spread of  
 11 restrictions in the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries on new technologies,  
 12 including rapid-fire firearms and large capacity magazines, that changed the  
 13 character of mass murder, by enabling individuals or small groups to commit mass  
 14 murder.

## 15 **II. GOVERNMENT REGULATION OF FIREARMS IN RESPONSE TO HOMICIDE** 16 **TRENDS**

### 17 **A. Homicide and Firearms in the Colonial Era (1688-1763)**

18 14. In the eighteenth century, the use and ownership of firearms by Native  
 19 Americans and African Americans, enslaved and free, were heavily regulated.<sup>5</sup> But  
 20 laws restricting the use or ownership of firearms by colonists of European ancestry  
 21 were rare, for two reasons. First, homicide rates were low among colonists from  
 22 the Glorious Revolution of 1688-1689 through the French and Indian War of 1754-  
 23 1763, thanks to political stability, a surge in patriotic fellow feeling within the  
 24 British empire, and greater trust in government.<sup>6</sup> By the late 1750s and early 1760s,  
 25

26 <sup>5</sup> Clayton E. Cramer, “Colonial Firearms Regulation” (April 6, 2016).  
 27 Available at SSRN: [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2759961](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2759961).

28 <sup>6</sup> Randolph Roth, *American Homicide* (Cambridge: The Belknap Press of  
 (continued...)



1 the rates at which adult colonists were killed were roughly 5 per 100,000 adults per  
 2 year in Tidewater Virginia, 3 per 100,000 in Pennsylvania, and 1 per 100,000 in  
 3 New England.<sup>7</sup> Violence among colonists was not a pressing problem on the eve of  
 4 the Revolution.

5 15. Second, the impact of firearms on the homicide rate was modest, even  
 6 though household ownership of firearms was widespread.<sup>8</sup> Family, household, and  
 7 intimate partner homicides were rare, and only 10 to 15 percent of those homicides  
 8 were committed with guns.<sup>9</sup> And because the homicide rate among unrelated adults  
 9 was low, the proportion of nondomestic homicides committed with guns was  
 10 similarly low—never more than 10 to 15 percent.<sup>10</sup>

11 16. Firearm use in homicides was generally rare because muzzle-loading  
 12 firearms had significant limitations as murder weapons in the colonial era.<sup>11</sup> They

13 \_\_\_\_\_  
 14 Harvard University Press, 2009), 63, noting that “Fear of Indians and slaves, hatred  
 15 of the French, enthusiasm for the new colonial and imperial governments  
 16 established by the Glorious Revolution, and patriotic devotion to England drew  
 17 colonists together. The late seventeenth century thus marks the discernible  
 18 beginning of the centuries-long pattern linking homicide rates in America with  
 political stability, racial, religious, and national solidarity, and faith in government  
 and political leaders.”

19 <sup>7</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 61-63, and especially the graphs on 38, 39, and  
 20 91. By way of comparison, the average homicide rate for adults in the United  
 21 States from 1999 through 2016—an era in which the quality of emergency services  
 22 and wound care was vastly superior to that in the colonial era—was 7 per 100,000  
 per year. See CDC Wonder Compressed Mortality Files, ICD-10  
 (<https://wonder.cdc.gov/cmfi-cd10.html>, accessed September 8, 2022).

23 <sup>8</sup> Randolph Roth, “Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem: The Relationship  
 24 between Guns and Homicide in American History,” in Jennifer Tucker, Barton C.  
 25 Hacker, and Margaret Vining, eds., *Firearms and the Common Law: History and  
 Memory* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, 2019), 116.

26 <sup>9</sup> Roth, “Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem,” 116.

27 <sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, 116-119.

28 <sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, 117.

1 were lethal and accurate enough at short range, but they were liable to misfire, given  
 2 the limits of flintlock technology; and with the exception of a few double-barreled  
 3 pistols, they could not fire multiple shots without reloading.<sup>12</sup> They could be used  
 4 effectively to threaten and intimidate, but once they were fired (or misfired), they  
 5 lost their advantage: they could only be used as clubs in hand-to-hand combat.  
 6 They had to be reloaded manually to enable the firing of another shot, which was a  
 7 time-consuming process that required skill and experience.<sup>13</sup> And more important,  
 8 muzzle-loading firearms could not be used impulsively unless they were already  
 9 loaded for some other purpose.<sup>14</sup> It took at least half a minute (and plenty of elbow  
 10 room) to load a muzzle-loader if the weapon was clean and if powder, wadding, and  
 11 shot or ball were at hand.<sup>15</sup> The user had to pour powder down the barrel, hold it in  
 12 place with wadding, and drop or ram the shot or ball onto the charge.<sup>16</sup> The firing  
 13 mechanism also had to be readied, often with a fresh flint.<sup>17</sup> And muzzle-loading  
 14 guns were difficult to keep loaded for any length of time, because black powder  
 15 absorbed moisture and could corrode the barrel or firing mechanism or make the  
 16 charge liable to misfire.<sup>18</sup> The life of a charge could be extended by storing a gun  
 17 in a warm, dry place, typically over a fireplace, but even there, moisture from  
 18

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19 <sup>12</sup> Ibid.

20 <sup>13</sup> Harold L. Peterson, *Arms and Armor in Colonial America, 1526-1783*  
 21 (New York: Bramhall House, 1956), 155-225; Priya Satia, *Empire of Guns: The*  
 22 *Violent Making of the Industrial Revolution* (New York: Penguin Press, 2018), 9-  
 23 10; and Satia, “Who Had Guns in Eighteenth Century Britain?” in Tucker, Hacker,  
 and Vining, *Firearms and the Common Law*, 41-44.

24 <sup>14</sup> Roth, “Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem,” 117.

25 <sup>15</sup> Ibid.

26 <sup>16</sup> Ibid.

27 <sup>17</sup> Ibid.

28 <sup>18</sup> Ibid.

1 boiling pots, drying clothes, or humid weather could do damage.<sup>19</sup> That is why  
 2 most owners stored their guns empty, cleaned them regularly, and loaded them  
 3 anew before every use.<sup>20</sup>

4 17. The infrequent use of guns in homicides in colonial America reflected  
 5 these limitations. Family and household homicides—most of which were caused  
 6 by abuse or fights between family members that got out of control—were  
 7 committed almost exclusively with hands and feet or weapons that were close to  
 8 hand: whips, sticks, hoes, shovels, axes, or knives.<sup>21</sup> It did not matter whether the  
 9 type of homicide was rare—like family and intimate homicides—or common, like  
 10 murders of servants, slaves, or owners committed during the heyday of indentured  
 11 servitude or the early years of racial slavery.<sup>22</sup> Guns were not the weapons of  
 12 choice in homicides that grew out of the tensions of daily life.<sup>23</sup>

13 18. When colonists anticipated violence or during times of political  
 14 instability gun use was more common. When homicide rates were high among  
 15 unrelated adults in the early and mid-seventeenth century, colonists went armed to  
 16 political or interpersonal disputes,<sup>24</sup> so the proportion of homicides committed with  
 17 firearms was at that time forty percent and rose even higher in contested areas on  
 18 the frontier.<sup>25</sup> Colonists also armed themselves when they anticipated hostile  
 19 encounters with Native Americans, so three-fifths of homicides of Native  
 20

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21 <sup>19</sup> Ibid.

22 <sup>20</sup> Ibid.; and Herschel C. Logan, *Cartridges: A Pictorial Digest of Small Arms*  
 23 *Ammunition* (New York: Bonanza Books, 1959), 11-40, 180-183.

24 <sup>21</sup> Roth, “Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem,” 117.

25 <sup>22</sup> Ibid.

26 <sup>23</sup> Ibid. Contrary to popular belief, dueling was also rare in colonial America.  
 Roth, *American Homicide*, 45, 158.

27 <sup>24</sup> Roth, “Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem,” 118-119.

28 <sup>25</sup> Ibid., 116-117.

Americans by European Americans in New England were committed with firearms.<sup>26</sup> And slave catchers and posses kept their firearms at the ready, so ninety percent of runaway slaves who were killed in Virginia were shot.<sup>27</sup> Otherwise, however, colonists seldom went about with loaded guns, except to hunt, control vermin, or muster for militia training.<sup>28</sup> That is why firearms had a modest impact on homicide rates among colonists.

**B. The Rise in Violence in the South and on Contested Frontiers during the Early National Period, the Role of New Technologies and Practices, and Regulations on Concealable Weapons (1790s-1840s)**

19. The Founding Generation was zealous in its defense of the people's rights, and so enshrined them in the Constitution. At the same time, they recognized that some citizens could be irresponsible or motivated by evil intent and could thus threaten the security of the government and the safety of citizens.<sup>29</sup> The threats that such citizens posed to public safety could be checked in most instances by ordinary criminal statutes, drawn largely from British common law. But at

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<sup>26</sup> Ibid., 118-119 (reporting that "In New England, 57 percent of such homicides were committed with guns between the end of King Phillip's War in 1676 and the end of the eighteenth century").

<sup>27</sup> Ibid., 118 (reporting that "Petitions to the Virginia House of Burgesses for compensation for outlawed slaves who were killed during attempts to capture them indicate that 90 percent were shot").

<sup>28</sup> Ibid., 118-119.

<sup>29</sup> On the fears of the Founders that their republic might collapse because selfish or unscrupulous citizens might misuse their liberties, see Gordon S. Wood, *The Creation of the American Republic, 1776-1787* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1969), 65-70, 282-291, 319-328, 413-425, 463-467; Drew R. McCoy, *The Last of the Fathers: James Madison and the Republican Legacy* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1989), 42-45; and Andrew S. Trees, *The Founding Fathers and the Politics of Character* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003), 6-9, 60-65, 86-104, 113-114.

1 times those threats could be checked only by statutes that placed limits on basic  
2 rights.<sup>30</sup>

3 20. The Founders were aware that the rate at which civilians killed each  
4 other or were killed by roving bands of Tories or Patriots rose during the  
5 Revolution.<sup>31</sup> And they recognized that more civilians, expecting trouble with

6  
7 <sup>30</sup> On the Founders' belief that rights might have to be restricted in certain  
8 instances, see Terri Diane Halperin, *The Alien and Sedition Acts: Testing the*  
9 *Constitution* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2016), 1-8, on restraints  
10 on freedom of speech and the press during the administration of John Adams;  
11 Leonard Levy, *Jefferson and Civil Liberties: The Darker Side* (Cambridge: The  
12 Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1963), 93-141, on loosening restrictions  
13 on searches and seizures during the administration of Thomas Jefferson; and Patrick  
14 J. Charles, *Armed in America: A History of Gun Rights from Colonial Militias to*  
15 *Concealed Carry* (New York: Prometheus Books, 2018), 70-121, especially 108-  
16 109, as well as Saul Cornell, *A Well-Regulated Militia: The Founding Fathers and*  
17 *the Origins of Gun Control in America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006),  
18 39-70, and Jack N. Rakove, "The Second Amendment: The Highest State of  
19 Originalism," in Carl T. Bogus, ed., *The Second Amendment in Law and History:*  
20 *Historians and Constitutional Scholars on the Right to Bear Arms* (New York: The  
21 New Press, 2000), 74-116, on the limited scope of the Second Amendment. Jack N.  
22 Rakove, *Original Meanings: Politics and Ideas in the Making of the Constitution*  
23 (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996), 291, notes that "Nearly all the activities that  
24 constituted the realms of life, liberty, property, and religion were subject to  
25 regulation by the state; no obvious landmarks marked the boundaries beyond which  
26 its authority could not intrude, if its actions met the requirements of law." See also  
27 Rakove, "The Second Amendment: The Highest State of Originalism," *Chicago-*  
28 *Kent Law Review* 76 (2000), 157  
(<https://scholarship.kentlaw.iit.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=3289&context=cklawreview>): "[At] the time when the Second Amendment was  
adopted, it was still possible to conceive of statements of rights in quite different  
terms, as assertions or confirmations of vital principles, rather than the codification  
of legally enforceable restrictions or commands."

25 <sup>31</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 145-149; Holger Hock, *Scars of*  
26 *Independence: America's Violent Birth* (New York: Broadway Books / Penguin  
27 Random House, 2017), 308-322; Alan Taylor, *Divided Ground: Indians, Settlers,*  
28 *and the Northern Borderland of the American Revolution* (New York: Knopf,  
2006), 91-102; George C. Daughan, *Revolution on the Hudson: New York City and*  
(continued...)

1 neighbors, public officials, and partisans, were likely to go about armed during the  
 2 Revolution, which is why the proportion of homicides of European Americans by  
 3 unrelated adults rose to 33 percent in Virginia and 46 percent in New England.<sup>32</sup>  
 4 But the surge in violence ended in New England, the Mid-Atlantic states, and the  
 5 settled Midwest once the Revolutionary crisis was over. In those areas homicide  
 6 rates fell to levels in some instances even lower than those which had prevailed in  
 7 the early and mid-eighteenth century. By the 1820s, rates had fallen to 3 per  
 8 100,000 adults per year in Cleveland and Philadelphia, to 2 per 100,000 in rural  
 9 Ohio, and to 0.5 per 100,000 in northern New England. Only New York City stood  
 10 out, at 6 per 100,000 adults per year.<sup>33</sup> And the proportion of domestic and  
 11 nondomestic homicides committed with firearms was correspondingly low—  
 12 between 0 and 10 percent—because people once again generally refrained, as they  
 13 had from the Glorious Revolution through the French and Indian War, from going  
 14 about armed, except to hunt, control vermin, or serve in the militia.<sup>34</sup>

15 \_\_\_\_\_  
 16 *the Hudson River Valley in the American War for Independence* (New York: W. W.  
 17 Norton, 2016), 137-138; John B. Frantz and William Pencak, eds., *Beyond*  
 18 *Philadelphia: The American Revolution in the Pennsylvania Hinterland* (University  
 19 Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1998), 42-43, 141-145, 149-152; Francis  
 20 S. Fox, *Sweet Land of Liberty: the Ordeal of the American Revolution in*  
 21 *Northampton County, Pennsylvania* (University Park: Pennsylvania State  
 University Press, 2000), 25-27, 32, 64-65, 91-92, 114; and Fox Butterfield, *All  
 God's Children: The Bosket Family and the American Tradition of Violence* (New  
 York: Vintage, 1996), 3-18.

22 <sup>32</sup> Roth, “Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem,” 119-120.

23 <sup>33</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 180, 183-186; and Eric H. Monkkonen, *Murder*  
 24 *in New York City* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001), 15-16.

25 <sup>34</sup> For detailed figures and tables on weapons use in homicides by state, city,  
 26 or county, see Roth, “American Homicide Supplemental Volume: Weapons,”  
 27 available through the Historical Violence Database, sponsored by the Criminal  
 28 Justice Research Center at the Ohio State University  
 (<https://cjrc.osu.edu/sites/cjrc.osu.edu/files/AHSV-Weapons-10-2009.pdf>). On  
 weapons use in homicides in the North, see Figures 25 through 46.



21. The keys to these low homicide rates and low rates of gun violence in New England, the Mid-Atlantic states, and the settled Midwest were successful nation-building and the degree to which the promise of the democratic revolution was realized. Political stability returned, as did faith in government and a strong sense of patriotic fellow feeling, as the franchise was extended and political participation increased.<sup>35</sup> And self-employment—the bedrock of citizenship, self-respect, and respect from others—was widespread. By 1815, roughly 80 percent of women and men owned their own homes and shops or farms by their mid-thirties; and those who did not were often white-collar professionals who also received respect from their peers.<sup>36</sup> African Americans still faced discrimination and limits on their basic rights in most Northern states. But despite these barriers, most African Americans in the North were optimistic, after slavery was abolished in the North, about earning their own living and forming their own churches and voluntary organizations.<sup>37</sup>

22. That is why there was little interest among public officials in the North in restricting the use of firearms during the Early National period, except in duels. They took a strong stand against dueling in the wake of Alexander Hamilton's

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<sup>35</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 180, 183-186.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid., 180, 183-186.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid., 181-182, 195-196; Leon F. Litwack, *North of Slavery: The Negro in the Free States, 1790-1860* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1961); Joanne Pope Melish, *Disowning Slavery: Gradual Emancipation and "Race" in New England, 1780-1860* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998); Sean White, *Somewhat More Independent: The End of Slavery in New York City, 1780-1810* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1991); and Graham R. Hodges, *Root and Branch: African Americans in New York and East Jersey, 1613-1863* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1999).



1 death, because of the threat the practice posed for the nation's democratic polity  
2 and the lives of public men: editors, attorneys, military officers, and politicians.<sup>38</sup>

3 23. Laws restricting the everyday use of firearms did appear, however, in  
4 the early national period in a number of slave states,<sup>39</sup> where violence among  
5 citizens increased after the Revolution to extremely high levels. Revolutionary  
6 ideas and aspirations wreaked havoc on the status hierarchy of the slave South,  
7 where homicide rates ranged from 8 to 28 per 100,000 adults per year.<sup>40</sup> Poor and  
8 middle-class whites were increasingly frustrated by their inability to rise in a  
9 society that remained class-bound and hierarchical.<sup>41</sup> Prominent whites were  
10 subjected to the rough and tumble of partisan politics and their position in society  
11 was threatened by people from lower social positions.<sup>42</sup> African Americans  
12 despaired over the failure of the abolition movement in the South, and whites were  
13 more fearful than ever of African American rebellion.<sup>43</sup> As a result, impatience  
14 with restraint and sensitivity to insult were more intense in the slave South, and  
15 during this period the region saw a dramatic increase in the number of deadly  
16 quarrels, property disputes, duels, and interracial killings.<sup>44</sup> The violence spread to

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18 <sup>38</sup> Joanne B. Freeman, *Affairs of Honor: National Politics in the New*  
19 *Republic* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001); and C. A. Harwell, "The End  
20 of the Affair? Anti-Dueling Laws and Social Norms in Antebellum America,"  
21 *Vanderbilt Law Review* 54 (2001): 1805-1847  
(<https://scholarship.law.vanderbilt.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1884&context=vlr>).

22 <sup>39</sup> Clayton E. Cramer, *Concealed Weapons Laws of the Early Republic:*  
23 *Dueling, Southern Violence, and Moral Reform* (Westport, Connecticut: Praeger,  
24 1999); and Cornell, *Well-Regulated Militia*, 141-144.

25 <sup>40</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 180, 199-203.

26 <sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, 182.

27 <sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*

28 <sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid.*, 182, 199-203.

1 frontier Florida and Texas, as well as to southern Illinois and Indiana—wherever  
 2 Southerners settled in the early national period.<sup>45</sup> During the Early National period,  
 3 the proportion of homicides committed with firearms went up accordingly, to a  
 4 third or two-fifths, as Southerners armed themselves in anticipation of trouble, or  
 5 set out to cause trouble.<sup>46</sup>

6 24. Citizens and public officials in these states recognized that concealable  
 7 weapons—pistols, folding knives, dirk knives, and Bowie knives—were used in an  
 8 alarming proportion of the era’s murders and serious assaults.<sup>47</sup> They were used to  
 9 ambush both ordinary citizens and political rivals, to bully or intimidate law-  
 10 abiding citizens, and to seize the advantage in fist fights. As the Grand Jurors of  
 11 Jasper County, Georgia, stated in a plea to the state legislature in 1834 for  
 12 restrictions on concealable weapons,

13 The practice which is common amongst us with the young the middle  
 14 aged and the aged to arm themselves with Pistols, dirks knives sticks &  
 15 spears under the specious pretence of protecting themselves against  
 16 insult, when in fact being so armed they frequently insult others with  
 17 impunity, or if resistance is made the pistol dirk or club is immediately  
 18 resorted to, hence we so often hear of the stabbing shooting & murdering  
 19 so many of our citizens.<sup>48</sup>

21 <sup>45</sup> Ibid., 162, 180-183, 199-203; Roth and James M. Denham, “Homicide in  
 22 Florida, 1821-1861,” *Florida Historical Quarterly* 86 (2007): 216-239; John Hope  
 23 Franklin, *The Militant South, 1800-1861* (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard  
 24 University Press, 1961); and Bertram Wyatt-Brown, *Southern Honor: Ethics and  
 Behavior in the Old South* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1982).

25 <sup>46</sup> Roth, “American Homicide Supplemental Volume: Weapons,” Figures 51  
 through 57.

26 <sup>47</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 218.

27 <sup>48</sup> Ibid., 218-219. See also the concerns of the Grand Jurors of Wilkes  
 28 County, Georgia, Superior Court Minutes, July 1839 term.

1 The justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court echoed these sentiments—“unmanly”  
 2 men carried concealed weapons to gain “secret advantages” over their adversaries.<sup>49</sup>  
 3 These concealed weapons laws were notably difficult to enforce, however, and did  
 4 not address underlying factors that contributed to rising homicide rates.  
 5 Nevertheless, these laws represent governmental efforts at that time to address the  
 6 use of new weapons in certain types of crime.

7 25. The pistols of the early national period represented a technological  
 8 advance. Percussion-lock mechanisms enabled users to extend the life of a charge,  
 9 because unlike flint-lock mechanisms, they did not use hydroscopic black powder  
 10 in their priming pans; they used a sealed mercury-fulminate cap as a primer and  
 11 seated it tightly on a small nipple (with an inner diameter the size of a medium  
 12 sewing needle) at the rear of the firing chamber, which restricted the flow of air and  
 13 moisture to the chamber. Percussion cap pistols, which replaced flint-lock pistols  
 14 in domestic markets by the mid-1820s, could thus be kept loaded and carried  
 15 around for longer periods without risk of corrosion.<sup>50</sup> The new types of knives  
 16 available in this era also represented technological advances over ordinary knives  
 17 because they were designed expressly for fighting. Dirks and Bowie knives had  
 18 longer blades than ordinary knives, crossguards to protect the combatants’ hands,  
 19 and clip points to make it easier to cut or stab opponents.<sup>51</sup>

20 26. The violence in the slave South and its borderlands, and the  
 21 technological advances that exacerbated it, led to the first prohibitions against  
 22 carrying certain concealable weapons, which appeared in Kentucky, Louisiana,  
 23

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24 <sup>49</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 219.

25 <sup>50</sup> Roth, “Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem,” 117.

26 <sup>51</sup> Harold L. Peterson, *American Knives: The First History and Collector’s*  
 27 *Guide* (New York: Scribner, 1958), 25-70; and Peterson, *Daggers and Fighting*  
 28 *Knives in the Western World, from the Stone Age till 1900* (New York: Walker,  
 1968), 67-80.

1 Indiana, Arkansas, Georgia, and Virginia between 1813 and 1838. These laws  
 2 differed from earlier laws that restricted access to arms by Native Americans or by  
 3 free or enslaved African Americans, because they applied broadly to *everyone* but  
 4 also applied more *narrowly* to certain types of weapons and to certain types of  
 5 conduct. Georgia’s 1837 law “against the unwarrantable and too prevalent use of  
 6 deadly weapons” was the most restrictive. It made it unlawful for merchants

7 and any other person or persons whatsoever, to sell, or offer to sell, or to  
 8 keep, or have about their person or elsewhere . . . Bowie, or any other  
 9 kind of knives, manufactured or sold for the purpose of wearing, or  
 10 carrying the same as arms of offence or defence, pistols, dirks, sword  
 canes, spears, &c.

11 The sole exceptions were horseman’s pistols—large weapons that were difficult to  
 12 conceal and were favored by travelers. But the laws in the other five states were  
 13 also strict: they forbid the carrying of concealable weapons in all circumstances.  
 14 Indiana made an exemption for travelers.<sup>52</sup>

15 27. Thus, during the lifetimes of Jefferson, Adams, Marshall, and  
 16 Madison, the Founding Generation passed laws in a number of states that restricted  
 17 the use or ownership of certain types of weapons after it became obvious that those  
 18 weapons, including certain fighting knives and percussion-cap pistols, were being  
 19

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22 <sup>52</sup> Cramer, *Concealed Weapons Laws*, especially 143-152, for the texts of  
 23 those laws. Alabama and Tennessee prohibited the concealed carrying of fighting  
 24 knives, but not pistols. See also the Duke Center for Firearms Law, Repository of  
 25 Historical Gun Laws ([https://firearmslaw.duke.edu/search-](https://firearmslaw.duke.edu/search-results/?_sft_subjects=dangerous-or-unusual-weapons)  
 26 [results/?\\_sft\\_subjects=dangerous-or-unusual-weapons](https://firearmslaw.duke.edu/search-results/?_sft_subjects=dangerous-or-unusual-weapons), accessed September 9,  
 27 2022). Note that the Georgia Supreme Court, in *Nunn v. State*, 1 Ga. 243 (1846),  
 28 held that prohibiting the concealed carry of certain weapons was valid, but that the  
 state could not also prohibit open carry, which would destroy the right to bear arms.  
 That decision put Georgia in line with the five other states that had prohibited the  
 carrying of concealable firearms.

1 used in crime by people who carried them concealed on their persons and were thus  
2 contributing to rising crime rates.<sup>53</sup>

3 **C. Homicide, Concealable Weapons, and Concealable Weapons**  
4 **Regulations from the Mexican War through the Early**  
5 **Twentieth Century (1846-1920s)**

6 28. By the early twentieth century, every state except Vermont either  
7 banned concealed firearms or placed severe restrictions on their possession.<sup>54</sup> They  
8 did so in response to two developments: the nationwide surge in homicide rates,  
9 from the North and South to the Trans-Mississippi West; and the invention of new  
10 firearms, especially the revolver, which enabled the firing of multiple rounds in  
11 succession without reloading and made the homicide problem worse. Between the  
12 mid-nineteenth and the early twentieth century homicide rates fell in nearly every  
13 Western nation.<sup>55</sup> But in the late 1840s and 1850s those rates exploded across the

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14 <sup>53</sup> Cramer, *Concealed Weapons Laws*, 69-96; Cramer, *For the Defense of*  
15 *Themselves and the State: The Original Intent and Judicial Interpretation of the*  
16 *Right to Keep and Bear Arms* (Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Publishers, 1994);  
17 Don B. Kates, Jr., "Toward a History of Handgun Prohibition in the United States,"  
18 in Cates, ed., *Restricting Handguns: The Liberal Skeptics Speak Out* (Croton-on-  
19 Hudson, New York: North River Press, 1979), 7-30; and Philip D. Jordan, *Frontier*  
20 *Law and Order—10 Essays* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1970), 1-22.  
21 Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on July 4, 1826, John Marshall on July 6,  
22 1835, and James Madison on July 28, 1836. On the history of firearms regulations  
23 that pertained to African Americans, see Robert J. Cottrol and Raymond T.  
24 Diamond, "The Second Amendment: Toward an Afro-Americanist  
25 Reconsideration," *Georgetown Law Journal* 80 (1991): 309-361  
26 ([https://digitalcommons.law.lsu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&art](https://digitalcommons.law.lsu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1283&context=faculty_scholarship)  
27 [icle=1283&context=faculty\\_scholarship](https://digitalcommons.law.lsu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1283&context=faculty_scholarship)); Cottrol and Diamond, "Public Safety and  
28 the Right to Bear Arms" in David J. Bodenhamer and James W. Ely, Jr., eds., *The*  
*Bill of Rights in Modern America*, revised and expanded (Bloomington: Indiana  
University Press, 2008), 88-107; and Cramer, *For the Defense of Themselves and*  
*the State*, 74, 83-85, 97-140.

<sup>54</sup> Kates, "Toward a History of Handgun Prohibition," 7-30; and Jordan,  
*Frontier Law and Order*, 17-22.

<sup>55</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 297-300.

1 United States and spiked even higher during the Civil War and Reconstruction, not  
 2 only in the South and the Southwest, where rates had already risen in the early  
 3 national period, but in the North. Americans, especially men, were more willing to  
 4 kill friends, acquaintances, and strangers. And so, the United States became—and  
 5 remains today—by far the most murderous affluent society in the world.<sup>56</sup>

6 29. The increase occurred because America's heretofore largely successful  
 7 effort at nation-building failed catastrophically at mid-century.<sup>57</sup> As the country  
 8 struggled through the wrenching and divisive changes of the mid-nineteenth  
 9 century—the crises over slavery and immigration, the decline in self-employment,  
 10 and rise of industrialized cities—the patriotic faith in government that most  
 11 Americans felt so strongly after the Revolution was undermined by anger and  
 12 distrust.<sup>58</sup> Disillusioned by the course the nation was taking, people felt  
 13 increasingly alienated from both their government and their neighbors.<sup>59</sup> They  
 14 were losing the sense that they were participating in a great adventure with their  
 15 fellow Americans.<sup>60</sup> Instead, they were competing in a cutthroat economy and a  
 16 combative political system against millions of strangers whose interests and values  
 17 were antithetical to their own.<sup>61</sup> And most ominously, law and order broke down in  
 18

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19 <sup>56</sup> Ibid., 297-300.

20 <sup>57</sup> Ibid., 299-302, 384-385; and Roth, “American Homicide: Theory,  
 21 Methods, Body Counts,” *Historical Methods* 43 (2010): 185-192.

22 <sup>58</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 299-302, 384-385. See also Randolph Roth,  
 23 “Measuring Feelings and Beliefs that May Facilitate (or Deter) Homicide,”  
 24 *Homicide Studies* (2012) 16: 196-217  
 25 ([https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1088767912442501?casa\\_token=dkP\\_nZZxCaYAAAAA:vL522E2inh9U2gr4X2qAhPnqRminWEjLv8nbwrNEhqNpRliTesFI\\_1SDY6tepvZbjwiRWPEom7M](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1088767912442501?casa_token=dkP_nZZxCaYAAAAA:vL522E2inh9U2gr4X2qAhPnqRminWEjLv8nbwrNEhqNpRliTesFI_1SDY6tepvZbjwiRWPEom7M)).

26 <sup>59</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 300.

27 <sup>60</sup> Ibid.

28 <sup>61</sup> Ibid.



1 the wake of the hostile military occupation of the Southwest, the political crisis of  
2 the 1850s, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.<sup>62</sup>

3 30. The proportion of homicides committed with firearms increased as  
4 well from the Mexican War through Reconstruction, as it had during previous  
5 increases in nondomestic homicides during the Revolution, in the postrevolutionary  
6 South, and on contested frontiers.<sup>63</sup> Because the pistols, muskets, and rifles in use  
7 in the early years of the crisis of the mid-nineteenth century were still  
8 predominantly single-shot, muzzle-loading, black powder weapons, the proportion  
9 of homicides committed with guns stayed in the range of a third to two-fifths,  
10 except on the frontier.<sup>64</sup> Concealable fighting knives, together with concealable  
11 percussion-cap pistols, remained the primary murder weapons. But in time, new  
12 technologies added to the toll in lives, because of their lethality and the new ways  
13 in which they could be used.

14 31. Samuel Colt's cap-and-ball revolvers, invented in 1836, played a  
15 limited role in the early years of the homicide crisis, but they gained popularity  
16 quickly because of their association with frontiersmen, Indian fighters, Texas  
17 Rangers, and cavalymen in the Mexican War.<sup>65</sup> They retained some of the  
18 limitations of earlier firearms, because their rotating cylinders—two of which came  
19 with each revolver—had to be loaded one chamber at a time. Users had to seat a  
20 percussion cap on a nipple at the rear of each chamber, pour powder into each  
21 chamber, secure the powder with wadding, and ram the bullet down the chamber  
22 with a rod or an attached loading lever. Thus cap-and-ball revolvers, like muzzle-

23  
24 <sup>62</sup> Ibid., 299-302, 332, 337, 354.

25 <sup>63</sup> Roth, "Why Guns Are and Aren't the Problem," 116-117.

26 <sup>64</sup> Roth, "American Homicide Supplemental Volume: Weapons," Figures 25  
27 through 46, and 51 through 57.

28 <sup>65</sup> Patricia Haag, *The Gunning of America: Business and the Making of American Gun Culture* (New York: Basic Books, 2016).



1 loaders, could not be loaded quickly, nor could they be kept loaded indefinitely  
 2 without risk of damaging the charge or the gun. But they were deadlier than their  
 3 predecessors, because they made it possible for a person to fire five or six shots in  
 4 rapid succession and to reload quickly with the second cylinder.<sup>66</sup>

5 32. Smith and Wesson's seven-shot, .22 caliber, breech-loading, Model 1  
 6 rimfire revolver, invented in 1857, appeared on the market when the homicide crisis  
 7 was already well underway. But it had none of the limitations of percussion-cap  
 8 pistols or cap-and-ball revolvers. It could be loaded quickly and easily because it  
 9 did not require powder, wadding, and shot for each round; and it could be kept  
 10 loaded indefinitely because its corrosive powder was encapsulated in the bullet.<sup>67</sup>  
 11 And it did not require a new percussion cap for each chamber, because the primer  
 12 was located in a rim around the base of the bullet, set to ignite as soon as it was hit  
 13 by the hammer.<sup>68</sup> As Smith and Wesson noted in its advertisements,

14 Some of the advantages of an arm constructed on this plan are:

15 The convenience and safety with which both the arm and ammunition  
 16 may be carried;

17 The facility with which it may be charged, (it requiring no ramrod,  
 18 powder-flask, or percussion caps);

19 Certainty of fire in damp weather;

21 <sup>66</sup> Edward C. Ezell, *Handguns of the World: Military Revolvers and Self-*  
 22 *Loaders from 1870 to 1945* (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Stackpole Books, 1981), 24-  
 23 28; Julian S. Hatcher, *Pistols and Revolvers and Their Use* (Marshallton, Delaware:  
 24 Small-Arms Technical Publishing Company, 1927), 8-11; and Charles T. Haven  
 25 and Frank A. Belden, *A History of the Colt Revolver and the Other Arms Made by*  
 26 *Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company from 1836 to 1940* (New York:  
 27 Bonanza Books, 1940), 17-43.

26 <sup>67</sup> Roy G. Jinks, *History of Smith and Wesson* (North Hollywood: Beinfeld,  
 27 1977), 38-57.

28 <sup>68</sup> *Ibid.*, 38-57.

1 That no injury is caused to the arm or ammunition by allowing it to  
2 remain charged any length of time.<sup>69</sup>

3 33. Smith and Wesson had created a near-perfect murder weapon. It was  
4 lethal, reliable, easy to carry and conceal, capable of multiple shots, and ready to  
5 use at any time.<sup>70</sup> Its only drawbacks were its small caliber and low muzzle  
6 velocity, which limited its ability to stop an armed or aggressive adversary on the  
7 first shot, and the difficulty and danger of reloading. The reloading problem was  
8 remedied by Colt's development in 1889 of the first double-action commercial  
9 revolver with a swing-out cylinder and Smith and Wesson's addition in 1896 of an  
10 ejector to push out spent cartridges.<sup>71</sup>

11 34. These new weapons were not the primary cause of the surge in  
12 violence that occurred in the United States from the Mexican War through  
13 Reconstruction. But they did contribute to the later stages of the crisis, as they  
14 superseded knives and black powder handguns as the primary weapons used in  
15 interpersonal assaults, not only because of their greater lethality, but because they  
16 were used in novel ways.<sup>72</sup> Easily concealed, they became the weapons of choice  
17 for men who stalked and ambushed estranged spouses or romantic partners, for  
18 suspects who killed sheriffs, constables, or police officers, and for self-styled  
19

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20 <sup>69</sup> Ibid., 39.

21 <sup>70</sup> Ibid., 38-57.

22 <sup>71</sup> Rick Sapp, *Standard Catalog of Colt Firearms* (Cincinnati: F+W Media,  
23 2011), 96; Jeff Kinard, *Pistols: An Illustrated History of Their Impact* (Santa  
24 Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2003), 163; and Jinks, *History of Smith and Wesson*, 104-170.

25 <sup>72</sup> Roth, "Why Guns Are and Aren't the Problem," 124-126 (recognizing that  
26 "Americans used the new firearms in ways they could never use muzzle-loading  
27 guns [. . .] The ownership of modern breech-loading [firearms] made the homicide  
28 rate worse in the United States than it would have been otherwise because it  
facilitated the use of *lethal* violence in a *wide variety of circumstances*." (emphasis  
added).

1 toughs who engaged in shootouts in bars, streets, and even churchyards.<sup>73</sup> And as  
 2 modern, breech-loading firearms replaced the muzzle-loading and cap-and-ball  
 3 gunstock from the late 1850s through World War I, the proportion of homicides  
 4 committed with firearms continued to climb even when homicide rates fell for a  
 5 short time, as they did at the end of Reconstruction.<sup>74</sup> Ominously, too, firearms  
 6 invaded families and intimate relationships, so relatives, spouses, and lovers were  
 7 as likely to be killed with guns as unrelated adults—something that had never  
 8 happened before in America’s history.<sup>75</sup> That is why the proportion of homicides  
 9 committed with firearms—overwhelmingly, concealed revolvers—reached today’s  
 10 levels by the 1920s, ranging from a median of 56 percent in New England and over  
 11 70 percent in the South and West.<sup>76</sup> And that is why every state in the Union  
 12 except one restricted the right to carrying certain concealable weapons. The lone  
 13 holdout was Vermont, the state with the lowest homicide rate.<sup>77</sup>

14 35. It is important to note that state legislators experimented with various  
 15 degrees of firearm regulation, as the nation became more and more violent. In  
 16 Texas, where the homicide rate soared to at least 76 per 100,000 adults per year  
 17 from June, 1865, to June, 1868,<sup>78</sup> the legislature passed a time-place-manner  
 18 restriction bill in 1870 to prohibit the open or concealed carry of a wide range of

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20 <sup>73</sup> Ibid., 124-125.

21 <sup>74</sup> Ibid., 125-127.

22 <sup>75</sup> Ibid., 125.

23 <sup>76</sup> Roth, “American Homicide Supplemental Volume: Weapons,” Figures 2  
 through 7.

24 <sup>77</sup> Roth, *American Homicide*, 184; and Horace V. Redfield, *Homicide, North*  
 25 *and South: Being a Comparative View of Crime against the Person in Several Parts*  
 26 *of the United States* (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2000).

27 <sup>78</sup> Roth, Michael D. Maltz, and Douglas L. Eckberg, “Homicide Rates in the  
 28 Old West,” *Western Historical Quarterly* 42 (2011): 192  
 ([https://www.jstor.org/stable/westhistquar.42.2.0173#metadata\\_info\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/westhistquar.42.2.0173#metadata_info_tab_contents)).

1 weapons, including firearms, on social occasions;<sup>79</sup> and it followed in 1871 with a  
 2 bill banning in most circumstances the carrying, open or concealed, of small deadly  
 3 weapons, including pistols, that were not designed for hunting or militia service.<sup>80</sup>

4  
 5 <sup>79</sup> Brennan Gardner Rivas, “Enforcement of Public Carry Restrictions: Texas  
 6 as a Case Study,” *UC Davis Law Review* 55 (2021): 2609-2610  
 7 ([https://lawreview.law.ucdavis.edu/issues/55/5/articles/files/55-5\\_Rivas.pdf](https://lawreview.law.ucdavis.edu/issues/55/5/articles/files/55-5_Rivas.pdf)). “Be it  
 8 enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas, That if any person shall go into  
 9 any church or religious assembly, any school room or other place where persons are  
 10 assembled for educational, literary or scientific purposes, or into a ball room, social  
 11 party or other social gathering composed of ladies and gentlemen, or to any election  
 12 precinct on the day or days of any election, where any portion of the people of this  
 13 State are collected to vote at any election, or to any other place where people may  
 14 be assembled to muster or perform any other public duty, or any other public  
 15 assembly, and shall have about his person a bowie-knife, dirk or butcher-knife, or  
 16 fire-arms, whether known as a six-shooter, gun or pistol of any kind, such person so  
 17 offending shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall  
 18 be fined in a sum not less than fifty or more than five hundred dollars, at the  
 19 discretion of the court or jury trying the same; provided, that nothing contained in  
 20 this section shall apply to locations subject to Indian depredations; and provided  
 21 further, that this act shall not apply to any person or persons whose duty it is to bear  
 22 arms on such occasions in discharge of duties imposed by law.” An Act Regulating  
 23 the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, 12th Leg., 1st Called Sess., ch. XLVI, § 1, 1870  
 24 Tex. Gen. Laws 63. See also Brennan Gardner Rivas, “The Deadly Weapon Laws  
 25 of Texas: Regulating Guns, Knives, and Knuckles in the Lone Star State, 1836-  
 26 1930” (Ph.D. dissertation: Texas Christian University, 2019)  
 27 (<https://repository.tcu.edu/handle/116099117/26778>).

28 <sup>80</sup> Rivas, “Enforcement of Public Carry Restrictions,” 2610-2611. Rivas,  
 quoting the law, says that “The first section stated, ‘That any person carrying on or  
 about his person, saddle, or in his saddle bags, any pistol, dirk, dagger, slung-shot,  
 sword-cane, spear, brass-knuckles, bowie knife, or any other kind of knife  
 manufactured or sold for the purposes of offense or defense, unless he has  
 reasonable grounds for fearing an unlawful attack on his person, and that such  
 ground of attack shall be immediate and pressing; or unless having or carrying the  
 same on or about his person for the lawful defense of the State, as a militiaman in  
 actual service, or as a peace officer or policeman, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor,  
 and, on conviction thereof shall, for the first offense, be punished by fine of not less  
 than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars, and shall forfeit to the county  
 the weapon or weapons so found on or about his person; and for every subsequent  
 (continued...)

offense may, in addition to such fine and forfeiture, be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not exceeding sixty days; and in every case of fine under this section the fines imposed and collected shall go into the treasury of the county in which they may have been imposed; provided that this section shall not be so construed as to prohibit any person from keeping or bearing arms on his or her own premises, or at his or her own place of business, nor to prohibit sheriffs or other revenue officers, and other civil officers, from keeping or bearing arms while engaged in the discharge of their official duties, nor to prohibit persons traveling in the State from keeping or carrying arms with their baggage; provided, further, that members of the Legislature shall not be included under the term "civil officers" as used in this act.' An Act to Regulate the Keeping and Bearing of Deadly Weapons, 12th Leg. Reg. Sess., ch. XXXIV, § 1, 1871 Tex. Gen. Laws 25. The third section of the act reads, 'If any person shall go into any church or religious assembly, any school room, or other place where persons are assembled for amusement or for educational or scientific purposes, or into any circus, show, or public exhibition of any kind, or into a ball room, social party, or social gathering, or to any election precinct on the day or days of any election, where any portion of the people of this State are collected to vote at any election, or to any other place where people may be assembled to muster, or to perform any other public duty, (except as may be required or permitted by law,) or to any other public assembly, and shall have or carry about his person a pistol or other firearm, dirk, dagger, slung shot, sword cane, spear, brass-knuckles, bowie-knife, or any other kind of knife manufactured and sold for the purposes of offense and defense, unless an officer of the peace, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, shall, for the first offense, be punished by fine of not less than fifty, nor more than five hundred dollars, and shall forfeit to the county the weapon or weapons so found on his person; and for every subsequent offense may, in addition to such fine and forfeiture, be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not more than ninety days.' Id. § 3." The law did not apply, however, 'to a person's home or business, and there were exemptions for "peace officers" as well as travelers; lawmakers and jurists spent considerable time fleshing out who qualified under these exemptions, and how to allow those fearing an imminent attack to carry these weapons in public spaces. Also, the deadly weapon law did not apply to all guns or firearms but just pistols. The time-place-manner restrictions, however, applied to any "fire-arms . . . gun or pistol of any kind" and later "pistol or other firearm," as well as "any gun, pistol . . . ."'

1 These laws were enforced with little or no racial bias until the 1890s, when white  
 2 supremacists disfranchised African Americans, legalized segregation, and took firm  
 3 control of the courts and law enforcement.<sup>81</sup>

4 36. California's legislature, recognizing that the homicide rate had reached  
 5 catastrophic levels (over 65 per 100,000 adults per year),<sup>82</sup> banned concealed  
 6 weapons in 1863, because, as the editor of the *Daily Alta Californian* declared,

7 During the thirteen years that California has been a State, there have been  
 8 more deaths occasioned by sudden assaults with weapons previously  
 9 concealed about the person of the assailant or assailed, than by all other  
 10 acts of violence which figure on the criminal calendar.... For many  
 11 sessions prior to the last, ineffectual efforts were made to enact some  
 12 statute which would effectually prohibit this practice of carrying  
 13 concealed weapons. A radical change of public sentiment demanded it,  
 but the desired law was not passed until the last Legislature, by a  
 handsome majority.<sup>83</sup>

14 37. But the legislature repealed the law in 1870, as public sentiment  
 15 veered back toward the belief that the effort to make California less violent was  
 16 hopeless, and that the only protection law-abiding citizens could hope for was to  
 17 arm themselves. And the legislature once again had the enthusiastic support of the

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18 <sup>81</sup> Rivas, "Enforcement of Public Carry Restrictions," 2609-2620. The study  
 19 draws on enforcement data from four Texas counties, 1870-1930: 3,256 total cases,  
 20 of which 1,885 left a record of final adjudication.

21 <sup>82</sup> Roth, Maltz, and Eckberg, "Homicide Rates in the Old West," 183. On  
 22 violence in California and across the Far West, see Roth, Maltz, and Eckberg,  
 23 "Homicide Rates in the Old West," 173-195; Clare V. McKanna, Jr., *Homicide,*  
*Race, and Justice in the American West, 1880-1920* (Tucson: University of Arizona  
 24 Press, 1997); McKanna, *Race and Homicide in Nineteenth-Century California*  
 25 (Reno: University of Nevada Press, 2002); and John Mack Faragher, *Eternity*  
*Street: Violence and Justice in Frontier Los Angeles* (New York: W. W. Norton,  
 26 2016); and Roth, *American Homicide*, 354.

27 <sup>83</sup> Clayton E. Cramer and Joseph Olson, "The Racist Origins of California's  
 28 Concealed Weapon Permit Law," Social Science Research Network, posted August  
 12, 2016, 6-7 ([https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2599851](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2599851)).



1 editor of the *Daily Alta Californian*, which then opined, “As the sovereignty resides  
 2 in the people in America, they are to be permitted to keep firearms and other  
 3 weapons and to carry them at their pleasure.”<sup>84</sup> A number of counties dissented,  
 4 however, and made it a misdemeanor to carry a concealed weapon without a  
 5 permit—ordinances that they enforced.<sup>85</sup> In 1917, the state made it a misdemeanor  
 6 to carry a concealed weapon in incorporated cities and required that gun dealers  
 7 register handgun sales and send the Dealer’s Record of Sale to local law  
 8 enforcement.<sup>86</sup> And in 1923, the state extended the licensing requirement to  
 9 unincorporated areas and prohibited non-citizens from carrying concealed  
 10 weapons.<sup>87</sup>

11 38. Other states, like Ohio, tried to have it both ways. The Ohio  
 12 legislature banned the carrying of concealable weapons in 1859, citing public  
 13 safety. But it directed jurors, in the same law, to acquit persons who carried such  
 14 weapons,

15 If it shall be proved to the jury, from the testimony on the trial of any  
 16 case presented under the first section of this act, that the accused was, at  
 17 the time of carrying any of the weapon or weapons aforesaid, engaged in  
 18 the pursuit of any lawful business, calling, or employment, and that the  
 19 circumstances in which he was placed at the time aforesaid were such as  
 20 to justify a prudent man in carrying the weapon or weapons aforesaid for  
 the defense of his person, property or family.<sup>88</sup>

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21 <sup>84</sup> Cramer and Olson, “Racist Origins of California’s Concealed Weapon  
 22 Permit Law,” 7-10.

23 <sup>85</sup> *Ibid.*, 11.

24 <sup>86</sup> *Ibid.*, 11-13.

25 <sup>87</sup> *Ibid.*, 13-15. Note that the title of the Cramer and Olson essay is  
 26 misleading. It does not refer to the origins of the laws discussed here or to the ways  
 in which they were enforced. It refers instead to an unsuccessful effort in 1878 and  
 a successful effort in 1923 to deny resident aliens the right to bear arms.

27 <sup>88</sup> Joseph R. Swan, *The Revised Statutes of the State of Ohio, of a General*  
 28 *Nature, in Force August 1, 1860* (Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co., 1860), 452.



1 The burden of proof remained with the person who carried the concealed weapon.  
 2 39. It is important to remember, however, that even when states enacted  
 3 different types of firearms restrictions, the fact remains that many jurisdictions  
 4 enacted statutory restrictions at that time to ensure the safety of the public and law  
 5 enforcement.

6 **III. ADDRESSING THREATS TO THE REPUBLIC AND ITS CITIZENS FROM**  
 7 **MASS MURDERERS FROM THE REVOLUTION INTO THE EARLY**  
 8 **TWENTIETH CENTURY**

9 40. The Republic faced threats not only from individual murderers, but  
 10 from groups of murderers. Mass murder has been a fact of life in the United States  
 11 since the mid-nineteenth century, when lethal and nonlethal violence of all kinds  
 12 became more common. But mass murder was a group activity through the  
 13 nineteenth century because of the limits of existing technologies.<sup>89</sup> The only way to  
 14 kill a large number of people was to rally like-minded neighbors and go on a  
 15 rampage with clubs, knives, nooses, pistols, shotguns, or rifles—weapons that were  
 16 certainly lethal but did not provide individuals or small groups of people the means  
 17 to inflict mass casualties on their own. Mass killings of this type were rare in the  
 18 colonial, Revolutionary, and Early National eras, outside of massacres of Native  
 19 Americans or irregular warfare among citizens seeking political power.<sup>90</sup> But from  
 20 the 1830s into the early twentieth century, mass killings were common.

21 <sup>89</sup> On the history of mob violence, including riots and popular protests that  
 22 led to mass casualties, see Paul A. Gilje, *Rioting in America* (Bloomington: Indiana  
 23 University Press, 1996); and David Grimsted, *American Mobbing: Toward Civil  
 War* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996).

24 <sup>90</sup> For examples of massacres of unarmed Native Americans, see the murder  
 25 in 1623 of six Massachusetts men by a party from Plymouth Colony, led by Captain  
 26 Miles Standish [Roth, *American Homicide*, 42]; and the massacre in 1782 of 96  
 27 pacifist Moravian Delaware Indians at Gnadenhutzen in present-day Ohio [Rob  
 28 Harper, “Looking the Other Way: The Gnadenhutzen Massacre and the Contextual  
 Interpretation of Violence,” *William and Mary Quarterly* (2007) 64: 621-644  
[https://www.jstor.org/stable/25096733#metadata\\_info\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/25096733#metadata_info_tab_contents)]. For

(continued...)

41. Examples include Nat Turner's rebellion in Southampton County, Virginia, in 1831, which claimed sixty-nine lives; the murder of seventeen Mormons, perpetrated by militia men and vigilantes at Haun's Mill, Missouri in 1838; Bloody Monday in Louisville, Kentucky, where an assault by nativist Protestants on Irish and German Catholics in 1855 left twenty-two people dead; and the murder of nineteen Chinese Americans by a racist mob in Los Angeles in 1871. Because these mass killings were almost always spontaneous and loosely organized, they were difficult for government to prevent. Worse, in some incidents, such as the Haun's Mill Massacre, state and local governments were complicit; and in others, state and local governments turned a blind eye to the slaughter, as was the case in the murder of Chinese farm workers in Chico, California, in 1877.<sup>91</sup>

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examples of political conflict among colonists that led to mass killings, see the confrontation in 1655 at Severn River in Maryland between opposed factions in the English Civil War [Aubrey C. Land, *Colonial Maryland: A History* (Millwood, New York: Kato Press, 1981), 49-54] and the slaughter in 1782 of rebel prisoners at Cloud's Creek, South Carolina, by Tory partisans under the leadership of William Cunningham [J. A. Chapman, *History of Edgefield County* (Newberry, South Carolina: Elbert H. Aull, 1897), 31-34]; see also Fox Butterfield, *All God's Children: The Bosket Family and the American Tradition of Violence* (New York: Vintage, 2008), 5-6.

<sup>91</sup> David F. Almendinger, Jr., *Nat Turner and the Rising in Southampton County* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2014); Patrick H. Breen, *The Land Shall Be Deluged in Blood: A New History of the Nat Turner Revolt* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015); Stephen B. Oates, *The Fires of Jubilee: Nat Turner's Fierce Rebellion* (New York: Harper and Row, 1975); Stephen C. LeSueur, *The 1838 Mormon War in Missouri* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1987), 162-168; Brandon G. Kinney, *The Mormon War: Zion and the Missouri Extermination Order of 1838* (Yardley, Pennsylvania: Westholme, 2011); Mary Alice Mairose, "Nativism on the Ohio: the Know Nothings in Cincinnati and Louisville, 1853-1855" (M.A. thesis, Ohio State University, 1993); W. Eugene Hollon, *Frontier Violence: Another Look* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1974), 93-95; Faragher, *Eternity Street*, 463-480; and Sucheng Chan, *The Bitter-Sweet Soil: The Chinese in California Agriculture, 1860-1910* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986), 372.

42. The Federal government did act during Reconstruction, however, to prevent mass murder when formally organized white supremacist organizations engaged in systematic efforts to deprive African Americans of their civil rights, which had been guaranteed by the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments. The Ku Klux Klan Acts of 1870 and 1871, meant to prevent assassinations and mass shootings and lynchings by white supremacist terrorists, were effective when enforced by the federal government and the U.S. Army.<sup>92</sup> But when federal troops were withdrawn, white supremacist mass killings resumed. In New Orleans, for example, an ultimately successful effort by white-supremacist Democrats to seize control of the city's government by violent means left dozens of Republican officials and police officers shot dead and scores wounded.<sup>93</sup> And the Klan Acts did nothing to prevent mass murders by spontaneous mobs and loosely organized vigilantes. Rioters and vigilantes remained a threat well into the twentieth century. In 1921 more than three hundred African American citizens were murdered in the Tulsa Race Massacre in Oklahoma.<sup>94</sup>

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<sup>92</sup> Alan Trelease, *White Terror: The Ku Klux Klan Conspiracy and Southern Reconstruction* (New York: Harper and Row, 1975).

<sup>93</sup> Dennis C. Rousey, *Policing the Southern City: New Orleans, 1805-1889* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1996), 151-158. See also LeeAnna Keith, *The Colfax Massacre: The Untold Story of Black Power, White Terror, and the Death of Reconstruction* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008); and Gilles Vandal, *Rethinking Southern Violence: Homicides in Post-Civil War Louisiana, 1866-1884* (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2000), 67-109.

<sup>94</sup> On the deadly race riots of 1919-1921, see William M. Tuttle, Jr., *Race Riot: Chicago in the Red Summer of 1919* (New York: Atheneum, 1970); Scott Ellsworth, *Death in a Promised Land: The Tulsa Race Riot of 1921* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1982); and Tim Madigan, *The Burning: Massacre, Destruction, and the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921* (New York: Thomas Dunne Books / St. Martin's Press, 2001).

1 **IV. ADDRESSING THREATS TO THE REPUBLIC AND ITS CITIZENS FROM**  
 2 **MASS MURDERERS FROM THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY TO THE**  
 3 **PRESENT**

4 43. The character of mass murder began to change in the late nineteenth  
 5 and early twentieth century with the invention and commercial availability of new  
 6 technologies that gave individuals or small groups of people the power to kill large  
 7 numbers of people in a short amount of time. These technologies proved useful to  
 8 criminal gangs, anarchists, and factions of the labor movement intent on killing  
 9 adversaries, public officials, and law enforcement officers. The technologies that  
 10 were most widely used by criminals and terrorists were dynamite, invented by  
 11 Alfred Nobel in 1866, and the Thompson submachine gun, invented in 1918 by  
 12 General John T. Thompson, who improved upon a pioneering German design.

13 44. The advantage of dynamite over nitroglycerin and other explosives  
 14 used in mining and construction was its power and its stability, which made  
 15 accidental explosions rare. The advantages of submachine guns over existing  
 16 machine guns as weapons of war were that they were light enough to be carried and  
 17 operated by a single individual, and they were capable of firing .45 caliber bullets  
 18 from 20-round clips or 50- or 100-round drum magazines at a rate of 600 to 725  
 19 rounds per minute.<sup>95</sup>

20 45. Criminals and terrorists quickly discovered how accessible and useful  
 21 these new technologies were. They could be purchased legally by private citizens.  
 22 In the 1920s, Thompson submachine guns were expensive. They sold for \$175 to  
 23 \$225 each, at a time when a new Ford cost \$440 (the rough equivalent of \$2996 to  
 24 \$3852 today, when a base model of the AR-15 semiautomatic rifle can be  
 25 purchased for less than \$400 and a 30-round magazine for as little as \$10).<sup>96</sup> That

26 <sup>95</sup> Herta E. Pauli, *Alfred Nobel: Dynamite King, Architect of Peace* (New  
 27 York: L. B. Fisher, 1942); and Bill Yenne, *Tommy Gun: How General Thompson's  
 28 Submachine Gun Wrote History* (New York: Thomas Dunne Books, 2009).

<sup>96</sup> Yenne, *Tommy Gun*, 86. Estimates vary on the purchasing power of 1919  
 (continued...)

1 is why Thompsons were favored by those with resources: law enforcement, the  
 2 Irish Republican Army, Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua, and bank robbers.  
 3 Dynamite, however, cost only 18 cents a pound (the rough equivalent of \$3.08  
 4 today), so it was favored by labor activists and anarchists.<sup>97</sup> Federal, state, and  
 5 local officials and law enforcement officers suddenly confronted novel threats to  
 6 their personal safety. Submachine guns were used most notoriously in gangland  
 7 slayings in Chicago during the Prohibition Era, such as the St. Valentine's Day  
 8 Massacre and the Kansas City Massacre.<sup>98</sup> Dynamite was used in a string of  
 9 anarchist bombings in 1919-1920. Those included the murder of 38 people and the  
 10 wounding of 143 in an attack on Wall Street, 36 dynamite bombs mailed to justice  
 11 officials, newspaper editors, and businessmen (including John D. Rockefeller), and  
 12

13  
 14 dollars in today's dollars, but \$1.00 in 1919 was worth roughly \$17.12 today. See  
 15 the CPI Inflation Calculator (<https://bit.ly/3CS5UNI>), accessed October 4, 2022.  
 16 The prices of AR-15 style rifles today are from guns.com  
 17 (<https://www.guns.com/firearms/ar-15-rifles?priceRange=%24250%20-%20%24499>), accessed October 4, 2022. The prices of 30-round magazines of  
 18 .233 caliber ammunition are from gunmagwarehouse.com  
 19 (<https://gunmagwarehouse.com/all-magazines/rifles/magazines/ar-15-magazines>),  
 20 accessed October 4, 2022.

21 <sup>97</sup> Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the*  
 22 *United States Manufactures: Explosives* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing  
 23 Office, 1922), 6. Note that a pound of dynamite would be far more expensive  
 24 today—potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars—because it would require the  
 25 purchase of a blasting license, a storage bunker, and an isolated plot of land for the  
 26 storage bunker. See U.S Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
 27 Firearms, and Explosives, Enforcement Programs and Services, *ATF Federal*  
 28 *Explosives Law and Regulations, 2012*  
 (<https://www.atf.gov/explosives/docs/report/publication-federal-explosives-laws-and-regulations-atf-p-54007/download>), accessed October 4, 2022.

<sup>98</sup> William Helmer and Arthur J. Bilek, *The St. Valentine's Day Massacre: The Untold Story of the Bloodbath That Brought Down Al Capone* (Nashville: Cumberland House, 2004); and Yenne, *Tommy Gun*, 74-78, 91-93.



1 a failed attempt to kill Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer and his family.<sup>99</sup>  
 2 Dynamite was also used effectively for malicious, private ends. For example,  
 3 Osage Indians were murdered by an individual in Oklahoma in an attempt to gain  
 4 their headrights and profit from insurance policies on them.<sup>100</sup>

5 46. Because of the threats these new technologies posed for public safety,  
 6 public officials widened their regulatory focus beyond concealed and concealable  
 7 weapons. Thirteen states restricted the capacity of ammunition magazines for  
 8 semiautomatic and automatic firearms between 1927 and 1934,<sup>101</sup> and Congress  
 9 passed the National Firearms Acts of 1934 and 1938, which restricted ownership of  
 10 machine guns and submachine guns (known today as automatic weapons) because  
 11 of their ability to fire rapidly from large-capacity magazines.<sup>102</sup> And the Organized  
 12 Crime Control Act of 1970 restricted ownership of a wide range of explosives,

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13 <sup>99</sup> Paul Avrich, *Sacco and Vanzetti: The Anarchist Background* (Princeton:  
 14 Princeton University Press, 1991), 140-156, 181-195; Beverly Gage, *The Day Wall*  
 15 *Street Exploded: A Story of American in Its First Age of Terror* (New York: Oxford  
 16 University Press, 2009); David Rapoport, *Waves of Global Terrorism: From 1879 to*  
 17 *the Present* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2022), 65-110. Consider also  
 18 the bombing of the office of the *Los Angeles Times* in 1910 by two union activists,  
 which killed 21 persons and injured 100 more, in Louis Adamic, *Dynamite: The*  
*Story of Class Violence in America* (New York: Viking, 1931).

19 <sup>100</sup> For this and other murders of Osage people see David Grann, *Killers of*  
 20 *the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* (New York,  
 Doubleday, 2017).

21 <sup>101</sup> Robert J. Spitzer, “Gun Accessories and the Second Amendment: Assault  
 22 Weapons, Magazines, and Silencers,” *Law and Contemporary Problems* 83 (2020):  
 23 238 (<https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/lcp/vol83/iss3/13>). In the same period,  
 24 five additional states restricted magazine capacity for fully automatic weapons, but  
 not semiautomatic weapons.

25 <sup>102</sup> The National Firearms Act of 1934, 48 Statute 1236  
 26 ([https://homicide.northwestern.edu/docs\\_fk/homicide/laws/national\\_firearms\\_act\\_o](https://homicide.northwestern.edu/docs_fk/homicide/laws/national_firearms_act_of_1934.pdf)  
 27 [f\\_1934.pdf](https://homicide.northwestern.edu/docs_fk/homicide/laws/national_firearms_act_of_1934.pdf)); and the National Firearms Act of 1938, 52 Statute 1250  
 28 ([https://homicide.northwestern.edu/docs\\_fk/homicide/laws/national\\_firearms\\_act\\_o](https://homicide.northwestern.edu/docs_fk/homicide/laws/national_firearms_act_of_1938.pdf)  
[f\\_1938.pdf](https://homicide.northwestern.edu/docs_fk/homicide/laws/national_firearms_act_of_1938.pdf)).



1 building upon regulations that began in 1917 with the passage of the Federal  
 2 Explosives Act, which restricted the distribution, storage, possession, and use of  
 3 explosive materials during the time of war.<sup>103</sup>

4 47. Since 1970, public officials have continued to reserve the right to  
 5 regulate the sale, ownership, and control of new technologies that can be used by  
 6 individuals or small groups to commit mass murder. The Homeland Security Act  
 7 of 2002 improved security at airports and in cockpits to ensure that airplanes could  
 8 not be used by terrorists to commit mass murder. The Secure Handling of  
 9 Ammonium Nitrate Act of 2007 restricted access to large quantities of fertilizer to  
 10 prevent terrorist attacks like the one that killed 165 people in Oklahoma City in  
 11 1995.<sup>104</sup> And in the wake of the massacre of 58 people and wounding of hundreds  
 12 of others at a concert in Las Vegas in 2017, the Trump administration issued a  
 13 regulation that banned the sale or possession of bump stocks. It gave owners 90  
 14 days to destroy their bump stocks or turn them in to the Bureau of Alcohol,  
 15 Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.<sup>105</sup>

16 48. In recent decades, criminal organizations, terrorists, and lone gunmen  
 17 with an intent to commit mass murder have also discovered the effectiveness of  
 18 rapid-fire semiautomatic weapons with large capacity magazines. These weapons,  
 19 which were designed for offensive military applications rather than individual self-

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21 <sup>103</sup> The Organized Crime Control Act of 1970, 84 Statute 922; and the  
 22 Federal Explosives Act of 1917, 40 Statute 385.

23 <sup>104</sup> Public Law 107-296, November 25, 2002, “To Establish the Department  
 24 of Homeland Security” ([https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/hr\\_5005\\_enr.pdf](https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/hr_5005_enr.pdf)); and  
 25 6 U.S. Code § 488a - Regulation of the sale and transfer of ammonium nitrate  
 26 (<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/6/chapter-1/subchapter-VIII/part-J>). The  
 ammonium nitrate regulations were to be enforced no later than 90 days after  
 December 26, 2007. Accessed August 31, 2022.

27 <sup>105</sup> *New York Times*, December 18, 2018  
 28 (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/18/us/politics/trump-bump-stocks-ban.html>),  
 accessed October 4, 2022.

1 defense, emerged from technologies developed for military use during the Cold  
 2 War. The signature military firearm of that era—the M-16 rifle with a 30-round  
 3 magazine and a muzzle velocity of over 3,000 feet per second<sup>106</sup>—was capable of  
 4 firing 750 to 900 rounds per minute when set on fully automatic. But the M-16 was  
 5 used more often in combat—and more accurately, effectively, and sustainably as a  
 6 weapon for inflicting mass casualties—when set on semiautomatic, which was  
 7 standard military procedure. That is why the U.S. Army defines “rapid fire” as 45  
 8 rounds per minute, not 750 to 900.<sup>107</sup> And that is why in 1998 the U.S. Marine  
 9 Corps adopted the M-16A4, which replaced the “fully automatic” switch with a  
 10 three-round burst—an alteration that slows the potential rate of fire, conserves  
 11 ammunition, and improves accuracy.<sup>108</sup>

12 49. The muzzle velocity of semiautomatic handguns, like the Glock 17, is  
 13 far lower than that of an M-16 or its civilian counterparts: around 1,350 feet per  
 14 second. But technological advances have increased the speed at which  
 15 semiautomatic handguns can be fired. An expert can fire an entire 30-round clip  
 16 from a Glock 17 handgun in five seconds.<sup>109</sup> And they are affordable. A new  
 17  
 18

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19  
 20 <sup>106</sup> Muzzle velocity is the speed at which a round exits the barrel of a firearm.

21 <sup>107</sup> Sections 8-17 through 8-22 (Rates of Fire), Sections 8-23 and 8-24  
 22 (Follow Through), and Sections B-16 through B22 (Soft Tissue Penetration), in *TC*  
 23 *3-22.9 Rifle and Carbine Manual*, Headquarters, Department of the Army (May  
 24 2016). Available at the Army Publishing Directorate Site  
 ([https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR\\_pubs/DR\\_a/pdf/web/ARN19927\\_TC\\_3-22x9\\_C3\\_FINAL\\_WEB.pdf](https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR_pubs/DR_a/pdf/web/ARN19927_TC_3-22x9_C3_FINAL_WEB.pdf)), accessed October 4, 2022.

25 <sup>108</sup> See military-today.com (<http://www.military-today.com/firearms/m16.htm>), accessed October 4, 2022.

26 <sup>109</sup> See Jerry Miculek, “Dual Glock 17 Rapid Fire 60 Rounds in 5 Seconds!  
 27 660 RPM.” YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1H5KsnoUBzs>),  
 28 accessed September 1, 2022.

1 semiautomatic handgun can be purchased for less than \$200 and equipped with a  
2 33-round magazine for less than \$15.<sup>110</sup>

3 50. It did not take criminals, terrorists, and lone gunmen long to adopt the  
4 rapid-fire semiautomatic handguns and rifles with large capacity magazines that  
5 poured onto the domestic market in the 1970s and 1980s. These firearms can inflict  
6 mass casualties in a matter of seconds and maintain parity with law enforcement in  
7 a standoff.

8 51. Manufacturers soon discovered ways to increase the rate of fire of  
9 these new semiautomatic weapons even further. Some innovations, such as bump  
10 stocks and modification kits, allowed owners to transform semiautomatic rifles into  
11 fully automatic rifles. And in response to the Trump administration's regulatory  
12 ban on the production and sale of bump stocks and modification kits, the firearms  
13 industry has developed "binary" triggers that fire when pulled *and when released*—  
14 a modification that doubles the rate at which semiautomatic weapons can be  
15 fired.<sup>111</sup>

16 <sup>110</sup> See guns.com for the price of semiautomatic handguns  
17 ([https://www.guns.com/firearms/handguns/semi-](https://www.guns.com/firearms/handguns/semi-auto?priceRange=Less%20than%20%24250)  
18 [auto?priceRange=Less%20than%20%24250](https://www.guns.com/firearms/handguns/semi-auto?priceRange=Less%20than%20%24250)) and bymymags.com for the price of  
19 large capacity magazines (<https://www.buymymags.com/>), accessed October 4,  
20 2022.

21 <sup>111</sup> Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Office of  
22 Enforcement Programs and Services, Office of Field Operations, "Open Letter to  
23 All Federal Firearms Licensees," March 22, 2022  
24 ([https://www.atf.gov/firearms/docs/open-letter/all-ffls-mar-2022-open-letter-forced-](https://www.atf.gov/firearms/docs/open-letter/all-ffls-mar-2022-open-letter-forced-reset-triggers-frts/download)  
25 [reset-triggers-frts/download](https://www.atf.gov/firearms/docs/open-letter/all-ffls-mar-2022-open-letter-forced-reset-triggers-frts/download)), accessed October 4, 2022. The ATF has not banned  
26 the production, sale, or ownership of binary triggers, but the several states have  
27 done so, citing the threat they pose to the safety of the public and law enforcement.  
28 Those states include North Dakota, Hawaii, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland,  
Washington, California, D.C., Iowa, New York, Rhode Island, and Florida.  
(<https://lundestudio.com/are-binary-triggers-legal/>), accessed October 4, 2022. See  
also americanfirearms.org, "A Complete Guide to Binary Triggers,"  
(<https://www.americanfirearms.org/guide-to-binary-triggers/>), accessed October 4,  
2022.

52. Just as dangerous, however, were modifications that helped users fire more rapidly with semiautomatic firearms. The modifications included “fixes” as simple as stretching a rubber band from the trigger to the trigger guard of an AR-15—the civilian version of the M-16, which differs from the military model only in its lack of a switch for fully automatic. The band pushes the trigger forward more rapidly after each round and enables users to fire rapid semiautomatic bursts with help of the weapon’s natural recoil. The rubber band method works because manufacturers have increased the fire rate of semiautomatic weapons by decreasing the pressure it takes to pull the trigger.<sup>112</sup>

53. The threat to public safety and law enforcement posed by semiautomatic rifles—with or without dangerous modifications—is a modern phenomenon that has a direct correlation with mass murder and mass shootings. The danger these firearms pose is intrinsically different from past weaponry. In the same way that the Colt cap-and-ball revolvers and breech-loaded firearms resulted in increased deaths by firearms, the development of semiautomatic rifles and handguns dramatically increased the number killed or wounded in mass shootings from 1966 to the present (see Figure 1, below).

Figure 1

	Mass shootings with non-semiautomatic/non-automatic firearm	Mass shootings with semiautomatic handgun	Mass shootings with semiautomatic rifle	Mass shootings with automatic firearms
Average Killed	5.4	6.5	9.2	8.1
Average Wounded	3.9	5.8	11.0	8.1

<sup>112</sup> See “Rapid Manual Trigger Manipulation (Rubber Band Assisted),” YouTube ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PVfwFP\\_RwTQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PVfwFP_RwTQ)), accessed October 4, 2022.

Average Victims	9.3	12.3	20.2	16.2
Number of Mass Shootings	52	82	40	8

Note that mass shootings with semiautomatic rifles have been as deadly as mass shootings with fully automatic weapons.<sup>113</sup>

54. And the threat posed by semiautomatic rifles is amplified when they are used in conjunction with extended magazines (more than 10 rounds) (see figure 2, below).

Figure 2

	No extended magazine	Extended magazine
Mass shootings	10.3	26.4

<sup>113</sup> The data are from the Violence Project (<https://www.theviolenceproject.org/mass-shooter-database/>), accessed October 4, 2022. The Violence Project, which has compiled data on mass shootings from 1966 through 2021, defines a mass shooting as “a multiple homicide incident in which four or more victims are murdered with firearms—not including the offender(s)—within one event, and at least some of the murders occurred in a public location or locations in close geographical proximity (e.g., a workplace, school, restaurant, or other public settings), and the murders are not attributable to any other underlying criminal activity or commonplace circumstance (armed robbery, criminal competition, insurance fraud, argument, or romantic triangle).” The Violence Project database provides information on the weapons used in the shootings. It notes, for instance, that two shooters who possessed semiautomatic rifles at the times of their crimes did not use them, and that 8 shooters had illegal, fully automatic weapons. Those automatic weapons included 2 Uzi submachine guns, 3 machine pistols, 1 M-16, and 2 AK-47 rifles converted to automatic. I have not participated in Violence Project or in the collection of their data. In Figure 1, however, I have added the data from the six mass shootings that occurred from January through August, 2022, that fit the Violence Project’s definition of a mass shooting. Three were committed with semiautomatic rifles and three with semiautomatic handguns. The table does not include the Las Vegas shooting of 2017 (58 killed, 887 wounded).

with semiautomatic handgun		
Mass shootings with semiautomatic rifle	13.0	37.1

55. Without extended magazines, semiautomatic rifles cause an average of 40 percent more deaths and injuries in mass shootings than regular firearms, and semiautomatic handguns 11 percent more than regular firearms. But with extended magazines, semiautomatic rifles cause an average of 299 percent more deaths and injuries than regular firearms, and semiautomatic handguns 184 percent more than regular firearms. In combination, semiautomatic firearms and extended magazines are extraordinarily lethal.<sup>114</sup>

56. For these reasons, local governments have enacted bans on the sale of semiautomatic rifles with features that enhance their military utility, as the federal government did from 1994 to 2004. And local governments have banned the sale of large capacity magazines, because they allow mass murderers to prolong their attacks before citizens or law enforcement can intervene—usually when the shooter is reloading. For example, the shooter who wounded U.S. House Representative Gabby Giffords in Tucson, Arizona, in 2011 was able to fire 31 rounds with a Glock 19 semiautomatic handgun in a matter of seconds before bystanders could disarm him as he changed magazines. Every one of those rounds hit an individual, killing six and injuring twelve.<sup>115</sup>

## V. CONCLUSION

57. From the Founding Generation to the present, the people of the United States and their elected representatives have recognized that there are instances in

<sup>114</sup> The data are from the Violence Project.

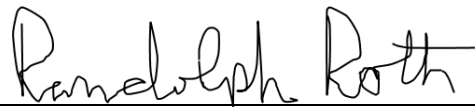
<sup>115</sup> “2011 Tucson Shooting,” Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011\\_Tucson\\_shooting](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_Tucson_shooting)), accessed September 2, 2022.



1 which the security of the republic and the safety of its citizens require government-  
2 imposed restrictions. That is why the majority of states passed and enforced laws  
3 against the carrying of concealable weapons, why the federal government passed  
4 the Ku Klux Klan Acts during Reconstruction, and why states, municipalities, and  
5 the federal government have passed and enforced laws since World War I to restrict  
6 ownership or control of modern technologies that enable criminals, terrorists, and  
7 malicious or delusional individuals to commit mass murder. Public officials are not  
8 required to pass such laws, of course, but historically, they have always retained the  
9 ability to do so. There is no evidence in the historical record to suggest that they  
10 took their decisions lightly when they imposed these restrictions on weapons and  
11 armed voluntary organizations. And mass murders by individuals, including mass  
12 shootings, are a recent phenomenon, caused by changes in technology that emerged  
13 in the late nineteenth through the late twentieth century. Public officials today are  
14 confronting a criminological problem that did not exist in the Founding Era, nor  
15 during the first century of the nation's existence.

16  
17 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of  
18 America that the foregoing is true and correct.

19 Executed on November 9, 2022, at Dublin, Ohio.

20  
21  
22   
23 Randolph Roth

## INDEX OF EXHIBIT

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## **EXHIBIT A**

Randolph Roth

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Curriculum Vitae

RANDOLPH ROTH

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## **Personal**

Marital Status:	Married	Allison Sweeney
Children:	Alexander	

## **Education**

1981, Ph.D. in History, Yale University (thesis, "Whence This Strange Fire? Religious and Reform Movements in Vermont, 1791-1843," David Brion Davis and Howard R. Lamar, advisors)

1973, B.A., with honors and distinction, in History, Stanford University (thesis, "Progressive Reform and Socialism in Berkeley, California, 1877-1924," Carl Degler and Barton Bernstein, advisors)

## **Academic Positions**

1985-present, The Ohio State University: College of Arts and Sciences  
Distinguished Professor of History and Sociology  
1978-1985, Grinnell College: Assistant Professor of History  
1978, University of Vermont: Instructor in History  
1974-1977, Graduate Teaching Assistant, Yale University

## **Honorary Positions**

2012, Wayne N. Aspinall Visiting Chair Professor, University of Colorado Mesa

## **Professional Honors and Awards for Scholarship**

2013-2016, Member, Roundtable on Crime Trends in America, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences

2012, Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science

2011, Michael J. Hindelang Award, American Society of Criminology, for the outstanding contribution to criminology over the previous three years

2010, Allan Sharlin Memorial Award, Social Science History Association, for an outstanding book in social science history

2010, Outstanding Academic Books, *Choice*

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1988, E. Harold Hugo Memorial Book Prize, Old Sturbridge Village Research Society, for distinguished work in the history of rural society

1982, Thorton Rockwell Field Prize, Yale University, for the outstanding dissertation in the Humanities

1982, George Washington Eggleston Prize, Yale University, for the outstanding dissertation in American history

1973, James Birdsdall Weter Prize, Stanford University, for the outstanding senior thesis in history

### **Professional Honors and Awards for Teaching**

2017, Rodica C. Botoman Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching and Mentoring, College of Arts and Humanities

2013, Outstanding Teaching Award, College of Arts and Sciences Student Council

2009, Ohio State University Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching

2007, Distinguished Teaching Award, Ohio Academy of History

1995, Clio Award, Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society, for Distinguished Teaching in History at Ohio State University

### **Grants**

2013-2014, Research Grant, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation

2012-2015, Research Grant, National Science Foundation (SES-1228406)

2000, Fellowship for University Teachers, National Endowment for the Humanities

1998-2000, Research Grant and Supplemental Research Grant, National Science Foundation (SBR-9808050)

1992, Fellow, Workshop on the Rhetoric of Social History, University of Iowa



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1989-1990, Research Fellowship, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation

1987, National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend

1983, Research Fellowship for Recent Recipients of the Ph.D., American Council of Learned Societies

1981, Fred Harris Daniels Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society

### **Bibliography and Research**

#### **Books**

*American Homicide* (an interregional study of violent crime and violent death in America from colonial times to the present). The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press (2009), 655 pp.

*The Democratic Dilemma: Religion, Reform, and the Social Order in the Connecticut River Valley of Vermont, 1791-1850*. Cambridge University Press (1987), 399 pp.

#### **Edited Volumes**

Co-founder and co-director, Historical Violence Database (on-line database on violent crime, violent death, and collective violence). Web address:  
[www.sociology.ohio-state.edu/cjrc/hvd](http://www.sociology.ohio-state.edu/cjrc/hvd)

American Homicide Supplementary Volume (on-line supplement to *American Homicide*, including detailed appendices on methods, supplemental tables, graphs, and statistical analyses), approx. 750 pp. Web address:  
<http://cjrc.osu.edu/researchprojects/hvd/AHsup.html>

#### **Essays on Historical Subjects**

“Homicide and the Opioid Epidemic: A Longitudinal Analysis,” co-authored with Richard Rosenfeld and Joel Wallman. *Homicide Studies* (forthcoming).

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"Why Are We Still Vermonters? Vermont's Identity Crisis and the Founding of the Vermont Historical Society," *Vermont History* (1991) 59: 197-211.

### **Works in Progress**

*Child Murder in America*. An interregional study of murders of and by children from colonial times to the present (in manuscript through early 20<sup>th</sup> century)

"How Scientific Is Environmentalist History? The Rhetoric and Politics of Speaking for Nature" (essay in manuscript)

### **Editorial Boards**

2014-2017, *American Historical Review*  
2012-2016, 1995-2005, *Historical Methods*  
2011- , *Homicide Studies*  
2004- , *Crime, History, and Societies*

### **Invited Lectures**

"The History of Police Involved Homicides in the United States," Mary Immaculate College & the University of Limerick, Ireland, October 26, 2021.

"Firearms and Homicide in the United States: A History," British Crime Historians Symposium, Leeds University, Great Britain, Scheduled for September 2-3, 2021.

"The History of Cross-National Homicide Rates: What We Can Learn from the Available Historical Data, and Why We Have to Worry about Learning the Wrong Lessons," Bielefeld University, Germany, scheduled for April 29, 2020. Postponed.

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“The History of Gun Violence in America,” Shasta Seminar, Wesleyan University, October 28, 2017.

“Why Guns Are and Aren’t the Problem,” Ashland University Center for the Study of Nonviolence, Ashland University, April 1, 2017.

“Firearms and Violence in American History,” Aspen Institute, September 15, 2016, Washington, D.C.

“Homicide in the United States: The Long History and Recent Trends,” The Donald and Margaret Sherman Violence Prevention Lecture, Jerry Lee Center of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania, April 10, 2015.

“The History of Child Murder,” Andrew Young School of Public Policy, Georgia State University, January 28, 2014.

“The Causes of Homicide,” National Institute of Justice, December 2, 2013.

“Biology, History, and the Causes of Homicide,” School of Law, University of Buffalo, October 10, 2013.

“Bio-Historical Co-Evolution and the Biology of Social Behavior: The Prospects for a New Institute on History and the Sciences,” Max Planck Institutes, Berlin, Germany, June 27, 2013.

“Deterrence, Judicial Tolerance, and the Homicide Problem in America,” Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Justice, University of Minnesota, April 26, 2013

“Child Murder in America: A History,” Population Studies Center and Department of History, University of Michigan, April 8, 2013

“America’s Homicide Problem,” Northwestern University School of Law, November 16, 2012

“American Homicide,” Aspinall Lecture, Colorado Mesa University, April 5, 2012

“Quantitative Analysis of the History of Crime and Violence: Achievements and Prospects,” Keynote Address, Conference on “Making Sense of Violence,” University of Bern, September 8, 2011

“Can We Learn to Play Well with Others? Enlisting the Humanities, the Sciences,



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“Homicide on Florida’s Antebellum Frontier,” Robert and Rose Stahl Criminal Justice Lecture, Lawton M. Chiles Center for Florida History, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida, March 25, 2010

“Homicide in the American Backcountry, 1717-1850,” Keynote Address at the “From Borderland to Backcountry Conference: Frontier Communities in Comparative Perspective” at the University of Dundee, Scotland, July 7, 2009

“Research Strategies for Studying the History of Crime and Violence,” Seminar on Crime and Criminal Justice, Northwestern University School of Law, Nov. 15, 2007

“American Homicide: Its History,” Ohio State University at Newark, Nov. 6, 2007

“American Homicide: A Political Hypothesis” and “The Case for Social Science History,” Northern Illinois University, April 4-5, 2007

“What Historians Can and Might Learn from Legal Sources.” Seminar in Early American History, Northwestern University, Jan. 31, 2007

“Why Is America a Homicidal Nation? A Political Hypothesis,” lecture in the Historical Approaches in the Social Sciences series, State University of New York at Binghamton, Oct. 12, 2006

“The History of American Homicide,” Winter College, Ohio State University, Sarasota, Florida, February 24, 2006

“The Role of Small Arms in American History,” Small Arms Working Group, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, Columbia University, June 2005

“Why is the United States So Homicidal Compared to Other Western Democracies? A Political and Psychological Hypothesis,” Center for Historical Research and Documentation on War and Contemporary Societies, Belgian Ministry of Scientific Research, Brussels, Belgium, December 2004

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"The History of American Homicide," Center for Law, Policy, and Social Science, Moritz College of Law, Ohio State University, November 2004

"Peaceable Kingdoms? Harmony and Hostility in the Early American Family," Plenary Session, Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, July 22, 2004

"American Homicide," Department of History, Miami University, March, 2004

"Slavery, Freedom, and the History of African-American Homicide." School of Law and Department of History, University of Chicago, January, 2003

"American Homicide," School of Law, Stanford University, February, 2003

Workshop of the Study of the History of Homicide, Department of History, Stanford University, February, 2003

"American Homicide," Social Science Faculty Seminar, Stanford University, February, 2003

"American Homicide," School of Law, Northwestern University, September, 2003

"American Homicide," School of Law, University of Chicago, November, 2002

"Twin Evils?: The Relationship between Slavery and Homicide," Department of History, Yale University, May, 2002

"The Puzzle of American Homicide," School of Law, Northwestern University, November, 2001

"Why Northern New Englanders Seldom Commit Murder: An Interregional History of Homicide in America," and "The Historical Database Project on Crime and Violence in America," two lectures presented at the Charles Warren Center, Harvard University. May, 2000

"Understanding Homicide in America: An Interregional Approach," presentation to the Early American History Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, October, 1999

"Can Faith Change the World?" Keynote address, Conference on Reform in Antebellum Vermont, Vermont Historical Society, September, 1999

"Why Northern New Englanders Seldom Commit Murder," presentation to the

Randolph Roth

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Center for Research on Vermont, the University of Vermont, and the Vermont Council on the Humanities. The presentation was televised in Vermont. It also made the evening news in Burlington and an AP wire story on my presentation was printed widely in newspapers in New Hampshire and Vermont, April, 1999

**Papers Delivered at Professional Meetings (recent)**

“The Difficulty of Counting the Number of Children Killed in Homicides in the United States, 1959-Present.” Social Science History Association, November 23, 2019, Chicago.

“Police Involved Homicides in Ohio, 1959-1988,” American Society of Criminology, November 13, 2019, San Francisco, with Wendy Regoczi and Rania Issa.

“Can Criminologists and Historians of Crime Work Together More Fruitfully in the Future?” Social Science History Association, November 3, 2017, Montreal.

“Comparing Data Sources on the Police Use of Lethal Force,” American Society of Criminology, November 15, 2017, Philadelphia, with Wendy Regoczi and Rania Issa.

“The History of Mass Murder,” American Historical Association, January 6, 2017, Denver.

“The Historians’ Role in Criminal Justice Research,” American Society of Criminology, November 16, 2016, New Orleans

“Police and Security Guard Involved Homicides in Ohio, 1959-1988,” American Society of Criminology, November 18, 2016, New Orleans

“Why History and Biology Matter to One Another: The Epigenetics of Social Behavior,” American Historical Association, New York City, January 4, 2015

“The National Homicide Data Improvement Project, 1959-Present: Why Research in Multiple Sources Changes Dramatically Our Understanding of the Incidence and Character of Homicides in the United States,” American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, November 19, 2014

"The Relationship between Guns, Homicides, and Suicide in American History," Organization of American Historians, Atlanta, April 4, 2014

“Situating Crime in Macro-Social and Historical Context,” Presidential Panel, American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, November 22, 2013

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“Has Violence Declined since the Middle Ages?” Presidential Panel, American Society of Criminology, Chicago, November 15, 2012

“The Sudden Appearance of Sexual Serial Killers in Late-Nineteenth Century America,” Organization of American Historians, Houston, March 20, 2011

“The Biology of Social Behavior” at the annual conference of the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, Philadelphia, July 15, 2011

“Measuring Feelings and Beliefs that May Facilitate (or Deter) Homicide,” at the American Society of Criminology meeting in Washington, D.C., November 16, 2011

“Measuring Feelings and Beliefs that May Facilitate (or Deter) Homicide,” at the Social Science History Association meeting in Boston, November 20, 2011

“Author Meets Critics” session on *American Homicide* at the European Social Science History conference in Ghent, Belgium, April 13, 2010. Discussants: Manuel Eisner, Peter King, and Pieter Spierenburg

“The Relationship between Guns and Homicide in American History,” American Society of Criminology conference in San Francisco, November 18, 2010

“Author Meets Critics” session on American Homicide at the Social Science History Association conference in Chicago, November 20, 2010. Discussants: Richard McMahon, Douglas Eckberg, Donald Fyson, and John Carter Wood

“Does Honor Hold the Key to Understanding Violence in the Early Republic,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Springfield, Illinois, July 2009.

“The Difficulty of Reconciling the Homicide Counts in the National Center for Health Statistics Mortality Data and the FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports,” Social Science History Association, Long Beach, California, November, 2009

“Homicide in American History,” Ohio Academy of History, Dayton, Ohio, April 12, 2008

“Quantification and Social Theory in the Study of Crime and Violence,” in the Presidential Panel on “History in the Social Science History of Association: Disciplinary Developments,” Social Science History Association, Chicago, Nov. 15-18, 2007

“Are Modern and Early Modern Homicide Rates Comparable? The Impact of

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Non-Emergency Medicine,” Social Science History Association, Chicago, Nov. 15-18, 2007

“How Homicidal Was Antebellum Florida?” Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, Pensacola, Florida, Oct. 6, 2006

"Probability and Homicide Rates: Why We Can Be Certain the Nineteenth-Century West Was Violent." Social Science History Association convention in Minneapolis, Nov. 2-5, 2006

“The Historical Violence Database: A Collaborative Research Project on the History of Violent Crime and Violent Death.” Social Science History Association convention in Minneapolis, Nov. 2-5, 2006

“Big Social Science: What Could We Learn about Violent Crime If We Had Enough Money to Study It Properly? Possibilities for Collaborative Research Projects,” Social Science History Association, Portland, Oregon, November 3-6, 2005

## Reviews

T. Cole Jones, *Captives of Liberty: Prisoners of War and the Politics of Vengeance in the American Revolution* (American Historical Review, 2021).

Chris Murphy, *The Violence Inside Us: A Brief History of an Ongoing American Tragedy* (Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books, 2020).

Jeffrey S. Adler, *Murder in New Orleans: The Creation of Jim Crow Policing*. (Punishment and Society, 2020).

Heidi J. Osselaer, *Arizona’s Deadliest Gunfight: Draft Resistance and Tragedy at the Power Cabin, 1918*. (Western Historical Quarterly, 2020).

Iain McGilchrist, *The Master and His Emissary: The Divided Brain and the Making of the Western World*. (Journal of Interdisciplinary History, 2011).

Heather Cox Richardson, *Wounded Knee: Party Politics and the Road to an American Massacre*. (Journal of the Civil War Era, 2011).

Bill Neal, *Sex, Murder, and the Unwritten Law: Gender and Judicial Mayhem, Texas Style*. (New Mexico Historical Quarterly, 2010).

Gordon Morris Bakken and Brenda Farrington, *Women Who Kill Men: California Courts, Gender, and the Press*. (Pacific Northwest Quarterly, 2010).

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Jack D. Marietta and Gail S. Rowe, *Troubled Experiment: Crime, Justice, and Society in Pennsylvania, 1682-1800*. (William and Mary Quarterly, 2010).

Mark R. Pogrebin, Paul B. Stretesky, and N. Prabha Unnithan, *Guns, Violence, and Criminal Behavior: The Offender's Perspective*. (Criminal Justice Review, 2010)

Nicole Rafter, *The Criminal Brain: Understanding Biological Theories of Crime*. (Journal of Interdisciplinary History, 2009.)

Laura Browder, *Her Best Shot: Women and Guns in America* (Winterthur Portfolio 2007).

Paul M. Searls, *Two Vermonts: Geography and Identity, 1865-1910* (Vermont History, 2006).

Anu Koskivirta, *The Enemy Within: Homicide and Control in Eastern Finland in the Final Years of Swedish Rule, 1748-1808* (English Historical Review 2005).

Irene Quenzler Brown and Richard D. Brown, *The Hanging of Ephraim Wheeler: A Story of Rape, Incest, and Justice in Early American* (H-SHEAR, 2003).

T. D. S. Bassett, *The Gods of the Hills* (New England Quarterly, 2001).

Karen Halttunen, *Murder Most Foul: The Killer and the American Gothic Imagination* (H-SHEAR, 1999).

Charles E. Clark, *The Meetinghouse Disaster* (Journal of American History, 1999).

Nicholas N. Kittrie and Eldon D. Wedlock, Jr., *The Tree of Liberty: A Documentary History of Rebellion and Political Crime in America* (Journal of the Early Republic, 1998).

Robert E. Shalhope, *Bennington and the Green Mountain Boys: The Emergence of Liberal Democracy in Vermont, 1790-1850* (Reviews in American History, 1997).

Daniel Doan, *Indian Stream Republic: Settling a New England Frontier* (Journal of the Early Republic, 1997).

Thomas H. Jeavons, *When the Bottom Line is Faithfulness: Management of Christian Service Organizations* (American Historical Review, 1996).

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N. Prabha Unnithan, *The Currents of Lethal Violence: an Integrated Model of Suicide & Homicide* (Justice Quarterly, 1995).

Edward Jarvis, *Traditions and Reminiscences of Concord, Massachusetts, 1779-1878* (Journal of the Early Republic, 1995).

Charles Hoffman and Tess Hoffman, *Brotherly Love: Murder and the Politics of Prejudice in Nineteenth-Century Rhode Island* (American Historical Review, 1994).

Richard Bushman, *The Refinement of America: Persons, Houses, Cities* (Pennsylvania History, 1994).

Michael Bellisiles, *Revolutionary Outlaws: Ethan Allen and Vermont's Struggle for Independence* (William and Mary Quarterly, 1994).

David G. Hackett, *The Rude Hand of Innovation: Religion and Social Order in Albany, New York, 1652-1836* (American Historical Review, 1992).

Nat Brandt, *The Congressman Who Got Away With Murder* (New York History, 1992).

Tamara Plakins Thornton, *Cultivating Gentlemen: The Meaning of Country Life Among the Boston Elite, 1785-1860* (American Historical Review, 1991).

George M. Thomas, *Revivalism and Cultural Change: Christianity, Nation Building, and the Market in the Nineteenth-Century United States* (Pennsylvania History, 1991).

Richard D. Brown, *Knowledge is Power: The Diffusion of Information in Early America, 1700-1865* (The History of Education Quarterly, 1990).

William J. Gilmore, *Reading Becomes a Necessity of Life: Material and Cultural Life in Rural New England, 1780-1865* (Vermont History, 1990).

Ruth Alden Doan, *The Miller Heresy, Millennialism, and American Culture* (Journal of the Early Republic, 1988).

William Lynwood Montell, *Killings: Folk Justice in the Upper South* (International Journal of Oral History, 1987).

David R. Kasserman, *Fall River Outrage: Life, Murder, and Justice in Early Industrial New England* (Journal of American History, 1987).

Robert J. Wilson III, *The Benevolent Diety: Ebenezer Gay and the Rise of*



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*Rational Religion in New England* (New England Quarterly, 1985).

### **Languages**

German  
Spanish  
French (reading)

### **Quantitative Skills**

Probability and Statistics (including econometric techniques of political analysis,  
exploratory data analysis, and log-linear and logit analysis)  
Calculus and Analytical Geometry  
Linear Algebra and Nonlinear Dynamics  
Differential and Series Equations  
Abstract Algebra

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**Teaching****Graduate**

History 7000	Topics in American History to 1877
History 7003	Readings in the Early Republic and Antebellum America
History 7650	Studies in World History
History 7900	Colloquium in the Philosophy of History, Historiography, and the Historian's Skills
History 8000	Seminar in Early American History

**Undergraduate**

History 2001	American Civilization, 1607-1877 (and Honors)
History 2015	History of American Criminal Justice
History 2650	World History since 1914
History 2800	Introduction to Historical
History 3164	World History since 1914: Readings
History 3193	Individual Studies / Research Internships in History
History 3700	American Environmental History
History 4650	History of Violence: Readings in World / Global / Transnational History
History 4675	Global History of Violence: Research Seminar
History 5900	Introduction to Quantitative Methods in History
History 598	Religious and Reform Movements (Senior Colloquium)
History 598	Research Seminar on Violent Crime and Death in the U.S.
History 557.02	Jeffersonian and Jacksonian Democracy, 1800-1840 Thought
History 282	American Religious History

**Publications on Teaching**

Founder and contributor to *Retrieving the American Past*, Department of History and Pearson Publishing, a flexible, problem-oriented publication for teaching classes in American History. Author of modules on "Violent Crime in Early America," "Marriage in Colonial America," and "Growing Up in Nineteenth-Century America."

**Ph.D Students Supervised**

Daniel Vandersommers, "Laboratories, Lyceums, and Lords: Zoos, Zoology, and the Transformation of Humanism in Nineteenth-Century America," August 2014. Recipient of a Presidential Fellowship, 2013-2014, the most prestigious

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University fellowship for senior graduate students. Assistant Professor of History, University of Dayton.

Michael Alarid, ““Caudillo Justice: Intercultural Conflict and Social Change in Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1837-1853,” June 2012. Assistant Professor of History, University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

Matthew Foulds, “Enemies of the State: Methodists, Secession and Civil War in Western Virginia, 1844-1865,” December 2011. Former Assistant Professor of History, Shepherd University

Jeanette Davis Mantilla, “Hush, Hush Miss Charlotte: Twenty-Five Years of Civil Rights Struggles in San Francisco, 1850-1875,” April 2000. Administrator in Charter School Division of the Department of Education, State of Ohio

Ken Wheeler, “The Antebellum College in the Old Northwest: Higher Education and the Defining of the Midwest,” January 1999. Professor of History, Reinhardt College. Author of *Cultivating Regionalism: Higher Education and the Making of the American Midwest* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2011)

Ross Bagby, “The Randolph Slave Saga.” July 1998. Librarian and independent scholar

Marianne Holdzkom, “Parody and Pastiche Images of the American Revolution in Popular Culture, 1765-1820,” May 1995. Professor of Social and International Studies, Southern Polytechnic State University

David Thomas, “Religion in the Far West: Oregon’s Willamette Valley, 1830-1850,” November 1993. Professor of History, Union College

#### **Recent Senior Honors Thesis Students Supervised (recently)**

Maggie Seikel, “The Great Depression in More Ways than One: Why Do Americans Commit Suicide More Often during Economic Crises?” (Anticipated 2021).

Margo Hertzner, “Police Involved Homicides in Ohio, 1959-1988.” (Anticipated 2021).

Laura Janosik, “Homicides Involving Women in Ohio, 1959-1988.” (2020). Prospective applicant to graduate school in history.

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Ben St. Angelo, “How Labor Disputes Led to Violence: Personalities, Paternalism, and Power at Republic Steel in Youngstown, Ohio: 1937.” (2017). Ph.D. student in History at Ohio State University.

Sarah Paxton, “The Bloody Ould Sixth Ward: Crime and Society in Five Points, New York” (2012). Ph.D. candidate in criminal justice history J.D. candidate at the Moritz School of Law at Ohio State University (twin degree program).

Kristen Gaston, “Restoration of the Cuyahoga River” (2012). Ph.D. candidate in Environmental History at the University of Cincinnati.

Alexandra Finley, “Founding Chestnut Ridge: The Origins of Central West Virginia’s Multiracial Community” (2010). Ph.D. candidate in early American history at the College of William and Mary. Recipient of the first Annual Prize at Ohio State for the outstanding senior honors thesis in the Department of History.

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## **Service**

### **Service in Professional Organizations**

2018-present, Allen Sharlin Book Prize Committee, Social Science History Association

2013-present, Grant Review Board, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation

2008-present, Editorial Board, *Crime, History, and Societies*.

2011-present, Editorial Board, *Homicide Studies*.

2014-2017, Board of Editors, *American Historical Review*

2014-15, 2016-17, Program Committee, American Society of Criminology

2014-2017, Research Awards Committee, Ohio Academy of History.

2011-2014, Chair, Distinguish Teaching Award Committee, Ohio Academy of History

2010-2011, Allan Sharlin Memorial Prize Committee, Social Science History Association

2010- ,Ohio Violent Death Reporting System Advisory Board

2010-2013, Advisory Board, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic

2008- , Society for the Scientific Detection of Crime, Columbus, Ohio

2009-2011, Youth Violence Prevention Advisory Board (Columbus)

2003, Nominating Committee, Social Science History Association

2002- , Co-founder and co-director, Historical Violence Database

1995-1997, ABC-Clio America: History and Life Award Committee, Organization of American Historians

1987-1993, Chair, Methods and Theory Network, Social Science History Association

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1987, Program Committee, Social Science History Association

### **Reviews of Manuscripts**

American Historical Review  
Journal of American History  
William and Mary Quarterly  
Journal of the Early Republic  
Social Science History  
Journal of Interdisciplinary History  
Historical Methods  
Journal of Women's History  
Journal of the Family  
Crime, History, and Societies  
European Journal of Criminology  
American Journal of Sociology  
Sociological Quarterly  
Criminology  
Criminal Justice Review  
Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology  
Law and Social Inquiry  
Homicide Studies  
International Criminal Justice Review  
International Journal of Law, Crime, and Justice  
Law and Society Review  
City and Community  
Eras Review  
Western Historical Quarterly  
Canadian Journal of Sociology  
Journal of the Gilded Age

### **Memberships in Professional Organizations (current)**

American Historical Association  
Organization of American Historians  
Social Science History Association  
European Social Science History Association  
American Society of Criminology  
Homicide Studies Working Group  
American Association for the Advancement of Science

### **Service at Ohio State University**

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**Department**

2006-2010, 2018-present, Undergraduate Placement / Enhancement Officer

1994-2015, 2018-present, Undergraduate Teaching Committee

2017-2018, Chair of Grievance Committee

2015-2017, 1991-1993, Chair of Graduate Studies

2012-2013, Chair of Undergraduate Studies

2011-2013, Advisory Committee and Salary Committee

1987-1991, History Department Promotion & Tenure Committee

**College of Humanities**

2007-2009, Curriculum Committee, College of Humanities

2002-2005, College of Humanities Computing Advisory Committee

1996-1997, College of Humanities Committee on the Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing, 1996-7; Affiliated Faculty Member, 2000-

**College of Arts and Sciences**

2006-2009, Alternate, Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate

2006- , Advisory Board, Criminal Justice Research Center, Department of Criminology and Sociology

2004- , Fellow, Center for Law, Policy, and Social Science, Moritz College of Law

2000- , Fellow, Criminal Justice Research Center, College of Social and Behavior Sciences

**Graduate School**

2018- , Graduate Awards Review Committee



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### **Ohio Department of Higher Education**

2020- , Transfer Assurance Guide Review Panel, Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network

### **Service at Grinnell College**

Chairman, African-American Studies Committee

Rosenfield Program on Public Affairs Committee

Faculty-Trustee Committee

### **Community Service**

2001-2008, Chair, Community Services Advisory Commission, City of Dublin: advises City Council on all matters concerning utilities, policing, transportation, parks, recreation, waste management, etc.,

2004-present, Green Team, environmental projects volunteer organization, City of Dublin

2003-12, Committee to create an Indian burial mound and pioneer historic park at the Wright-Holder earthworks, City of Dublin

1997-present, Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 299, Dublin / Citizenship Merit Badge Counselor / Eagle Scout Association / Philmont Staff Association / Distinguished Service Award, 2014 / Meritorious Service Award, 2006 / Bridge Builder Award, 2002

1997-2003, Good Schools Committee, Dublin City Schools, campaign committee for school bond and levy issues

1995-2005, President, Citizens for Dublin, city-wide association of civic association officers and city commission members

1995-1998, Vice-Chair, Transportation Task Force, City of Dublin

1995-1997, Community Plan Steering Committee, City of Dublin

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1988-present, President / Vice President / Trustee, East Dublin Civic Association

1987-present, Nature Conservancy / Volunteer Service Awards / Volunteer Crew Leader

### **Outreach / Media Appearances**

Testimony to Oversight Committee of the Ohio Senate, December 22, 2020, on so-called “Stand Your Ground” laws.

B.R.E.A.D. (an interfaith organization dedicated to Building Responsibility Equality and Dignity), January 13, 2020, on gun violence in central Ohio.

Testimony to Federalism Committee of the Ohio House of Representatives, June 12, 2019, on concealed carry laws.

Worthington Senior Citizen Center, Inequality in the U.S., April 15, 2019

Canfield Residence Hall, Discussion of History of Criminal Enterprise in the U.S. with Undergraduate Students, April 10, 2019

“Gun Ownership in Decline,” *Columbus Dispatch*, December 11, 2017.

“How the Erosion of Trust Leads to Murders and Mass Shootings,” invited editorial, *Washington Post*, October 6, 2017

“Mass Murder in American History,” CSpan-3, April 2, 2017

All Sides with Ann Fisher, WOSU Radio, “Mass Murder and Terrorism,” December 9, 2015 and June 13, 2106; “The Recent Rise in Homicide in the United States,” March 14, 2017.

Consultant for the TLC Channel, “Who Do You Think You Are Anyway?” 2013-2014

Appeared on the CSPAN Book Channel on September 1, 2012 (<http://www.c-span.org/LocalContent/Columbus/>)

Appeared on the History Channel, “Seven Deadly Sins,” January 3, 2009 (A&E Home Video)

“It’s No Mystery: Why Homicide Declined in American Cities during the First Six Months of 2009,” History News Network, November 22, 2009

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(<http://cjrc.osu.edu/researchprojects/hvd/AHSV/It's%20No%20Mystery%2011-22-2009%205-2010.pdf> and <http://cjrc.osu.edu/researchprojects/hvd/AHSV/It's%20No%20Mystery%20Further%20Thoughts%201-1-2010%205-2010.pdf>)

Radley Balko, editor of reason.com, named *American Homicide* the best book of 2009 (<http://reason.com/archives/2009/12/30/the-year-in-books>)

“American Homicide,” address to Columbus Rotary Club, October 24, 2011

Radio interviews: Execution Watch with Ray Hill on KPFT Houston, Texas, and WPFW Washington, D.C., Nov. 10, 2009; Focus 580 with David Inge, WILL, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, December 7, 2009; RadioWest with Doug Fabrizio, KUER and XM Public Radio Channel 133, Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 17, 2009; The Mark Johnson Show of the Radio Vermont Group, WDEV, Waterbury, Vermont, Dec. 30, 2009; The Current with Anna Maria Tremonti on the CBC, Toronto, Canada, January 6, 2010; The Marc Steiner Show on WEAA in Baltimore, January 26, 2010; by ABC Radio, Sydney, Australia, interviewed on March 3, 2010 for broadcast the week of March 8, 2010; by the Extension with Dr. Milt Rosenberg on WGN Radio 720 AM Chicago, broadcast December 9, 2010; the Gil Gross Show, KKSF Radio 910 AM, San Francisco, July 27, 2012; and The Marc Steiner Show on WEAA in Baltimore, December 17, 2012; *American Homicide* was the subject of an editorial by op-ed writer Gregory Rodriguez in the *Los Angeles Times*, Sunday, April 12, 2010 (<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-rodriguez12-2010apr12,0,3217212.column>)

*American Homicide* was the subject of an editorial by Raina Kelley in *Newsweek*, Nov. 5, 2009 (<http://www.newsweek.com/id/221271>).

*American Homicide* was cited favorably in the *New York Times Sunday Magazine* in an article by Jeffrey Rosen, "Prisoners of Parole," January 10, 2010; and in the *Washington Post*, Nov. 22, 2009

Newspaper articles: quoted and/or reviewed in the *Washington Post*, the *Washington Times*, the *National Review*, the *Economist*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New York Times*, *New York Newsday*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and the *Columbus Dispatch*, which ran a front-page article on Roth's work in a Sunday edition