

THE Gun Owners

27 YEARS OF NO COMPROMISE – 1975-2002

GOA advancing Second Amendment rights



GOA lobbyist John Velleco (left) meets with Senator Bob Smith and Ellen Saracini, a widow of September 11.

Unseen self-defense stories

by Robert A. Waters

On September 11, after two jets crashed into the Twin Towers in New York, the major television networks were faced with a crucial decision. Should they show the frightful scenes of victims jumping to their deaths from upwards of eighty stories?

NBC, CNN, ABC, and CBS chose not to. Whether or not you agree with the networks, there is little doubt that their refusal to show all the news affected our attitudes about the attacks. Had those scenes been shown, American resolve to crush the terrorists might have dug even deeper.

The major networks affect opinion by what they don't show as much as by what does appear on our television screens. Nothing illustrates this more clearly than the unseen side of the gun issue.

For instance, when was the last time the networks interviewed someone who used a gun in self-defense? Since these cases are almost never shown in the national media, millions of viewers assume that they never happen.

School shootings, stories of employees going postal and gunning down co-workers, and even gang-related shootings

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GOA Pushing Concealed Carry Against Opposition

by John Velleco

(Washington) — Moving pro-gun legislation in Washington is often like rolling a rock uphill.

That's exactly what it's been like working to pass a bill that would allow for true concealed carry reciprocity among states.

Senator Bob Smith (R-NH) and Rep. John Hostettler (R-IN), two pro-gun stalwarts in the Congress, each introduced legislation last year to bring some sanity to laws governing carrying a firearm outside of one's home state.

S. 514 and H.R. 950, the Secure Access to Firearms Enhancement (SAFE) bills, remain stalled in the House and Senate Committees.

Both legislators, however, are intent on pushing the bills forward.

"There are literally millions of people who currently hold permits, and thousands more decent Americans are applying for permits on a weekly basis," Sen. Smith said. "If we don't streamline the process we could end up with a lot of innocent citizens inadvertently on the wrong side of the law."

The bills would make a valid permit issued by one state valid in all other states.

The legislation relies on the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the Article IV of the U.S. Constitution, which states that, "Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State; And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof."

Under this Clause, if states are not willing to recognize another state's acts (such as concealed carry licenses), then Congress has the authority to pass laws requiring states to recognize the other state's measures.

"Imagine the confusion a person would face driving across country without knowing if their driver's license was

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Inside:

- **Armed pilots beginning to take off (see pages 4-5)**
- **How did your Representative vote? (see page 5)**

How access to guns preserved the peace in one black community

by *Erich Pratt*

It has been a long, hard road for Condoleezza Rice.

Racism. Terrorism. Segregation. She experienced it all growing up in Birmingham, Alabama during the 1950s and 1960s.

But nothing in her childhood could ever match the horrors she — and the nation — witnessed on September 11, 2001.

It has been one year since radical terrorists hijacked planes and crashed them into American buildings. Rice, who has been serving as the National Security Advisor for President Bush, faced what was perhaps her most trying day on the job as she and others in the administration had to react to the tragic events.

Was she prepared for that day? Well, lost in the horrific aftermath was an in-depth article that was on the newsstands — an article that helped shed light on the tremendous character of the woman who was being called upon to help make crucial decisions for the country.

In the September 9 edition of *The Washington Post Magazine*, author Dale Russakoff explored the early life and experiences of Condoleezza Rice, the girl who would later grow up to become one of President Bush's most trusted advisors.

Oppressed by, but not disarmed against the KKK

The *Post* article is compelling in several respects — not the least of which is how a girl who grew up rubbing elbows with liberal anti-gunners rejected that ideology and became a believer in the Second Amendment rights of all individuals.

According to the article, Rice remembers being frightened by church bombings in the early 1960s:

“By this time, Birmingham was known to the world as Bombingham. One bomb devastated the home of the Rice's friend Arthur Shores, a prominent black lawyer for civil rights causes. A firebomb was tossed in Titusville, but didn't go off. Rice's father [John] went to police headquarters to demand



Birmingham Police Commissioner Bull Connor (pictured above) was known for his heavy-handed tactics. NSC adviser Condoleezza Rice (upper right) says she opposes gun control because of people like Connor, who could have used registration to confiscate guns from the southern blacks who were oppressed by the KKK in the 1950s and 1960s.

an investigation. “They didn't investigate,” she says. “They never investigated.”

“John Rice then did what black fathers all over Birmingham were doing — what Alma Powell remembers her own father doing then, when she happened to be home with her babies during her husband's tour in Vietnam: They got out their shotguns and formed nightly patrols, guarding the streets themselves.”

Guns in private hands are a tyrant's worst enemy

Apparently, this sight left a lasting impression on Condoleezza Rice. She has early memories of her dad networking with other moms and dads to form neighborhood militias that protected their families when the police would not.

If you ask Rice about her views on gun control, she'll unabashedly tell you she's against it. In fact, her opposition is so forceful that it has left some gun control advocates speechless.

According to *The Washington Post Magazine*:

“Russia expert Michael McFaul . . . remembers Rice telling him she opposed gun control and even gun registration because [Police Commissioner] Bull Connor could have used it to disarm her father and others who



patrolled Titusville in 1963.

“For me as a liberal, pro-gun control person, it really hit me over the head,” McFaul says. “I remember thinking, ‘Who are we as white liberals to respond?’”

Of course, Rice is absolutely correct. Gun control forces citizens to become the prey of villains and tyrants.

The nation recently saw this as unarmed pilots were powerless to stop hijackers from using planes to murder thousands upon thousands of Americans in September.

In Alabama, growing up with the threat of KKK violence, Condoleezza Rice learned how guns could keep a community safe.

Let's hope that officials in Washington quickly learn this lesson as well. Last year's September tragedy clearly shows that Gun Free Zones, such as airplanes, never stay “weapons free” for long. ■

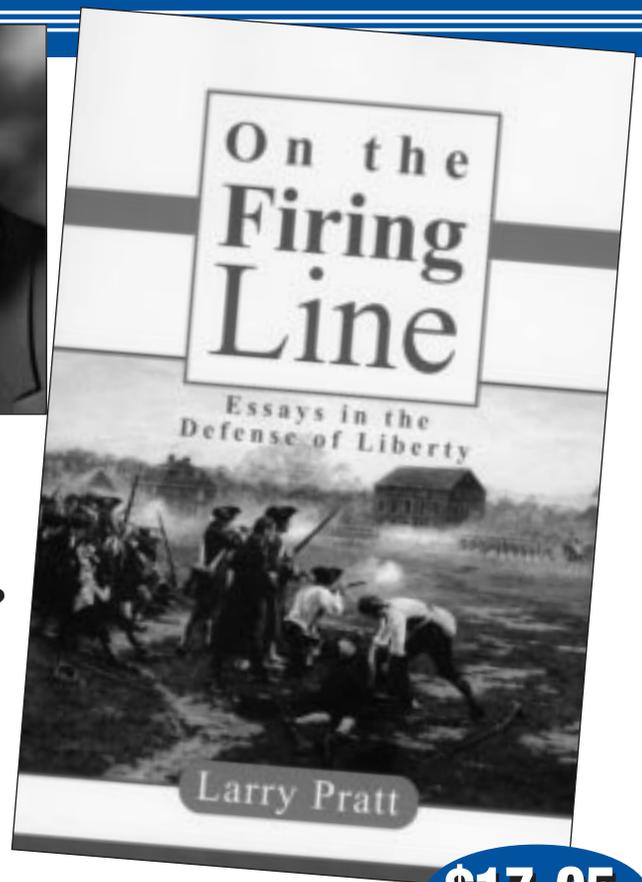
Condoleezza Rice on growing up with guns in the Deep South:

- “John Rice then did what black fathers all over Birmingham were doing . . . They got out their shotguns and formed nightly patrols, guarding the streets themselves.”
- “Russia expert Michael McFaul . . . remembers Rice telling him she opposed gun control and even gun registration because [Police Commissioner] Bull Connor could have used it to disarm her father and others who patrolled Titusville in 1963.”

On The Firing Line

by Larry Pratt

Does Gun Control Work? Can It Work?



- How do we keep guns out of the wrong hands?
- What kind of right does the Second Amendment protect — individual or collective?
- What has happened where gun control has been tried?

These probing questions — along with hundreds of others — are addressed honestly and forthrightly in Larry Pratt's *On the Firing Line*. This new book is a collection of columns and articles written over the past several years — essays addressing relevant issues that are still being debated today.

As most critical thinkers know, the real debate over guns is not about guns. The debate is really about control — who (or what) will control the lives of private citizens? Will it be the individuals themselves? Or will it be the government?

This mammoth collection of thought-provoking essays will help equip those who are eager to preserve individual liberty and those who want to arm themselves with rational and coherent information.

And even though the focus of these essays is firearms, virtually every single one of them touches on a wide range of other freedom-related issues. The book can be ordered at www.gunowners.com/bookst.htm or by mailing the reply coupon below with your payment.

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Armed Pilots Proposal M



House and Senate sponsors of legislation to arm pilots take a moment to pose for the camera. From left to right, they are Republican Senator Bob Smith of New Hampshire and Democratic Representative Peter DeFazio of Oregon.



Ellen Saracini, the wife of a United Airlines pilot who died on September 11, 2001, speaks out for arming pilots at a news conference this past summer.

by Mike Hammond

A year after the tragic events of 9/11, legislation to prevent another airline catastrophe by arming pilots appears likely to be enacted soon.

On July 10, the House, by a vote of 310 to 113, approved legislation to authorize virtually every commercial airline pilot to be deputized and allowed to carry a firearm.

This victory — achieved by adoption of an amendment by normally anti-gun Oregon Democrat Peter DeFazio — was a repudiation of efforts by House Transportation Committee Chairman Don Young (R-AK) and Aviation Subcommittee Chairman John Mica (R-FL) to limit the program to an experiment covering only 2% of commercial pilots. [See vote on pages 5 and 6]

The Young/Mica proposal could have also, at the discretion of the administration, automatically ended after only two years.

On the Senate side, legislation sponsored by Senator Bob Smith (R-NH) has thus far garnered 25 sponsors and cosponsors — fully one quarter of the Senate — including normally rabidly anti-gun senators such as California's Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Massachusetts' John Kerry (D-MA).

The Smith language would allow all commercial pilots to apply to be trained, deputized, and authorized to carry firearms. But, in addition, it would open the possibility that the training requirement could be satisfied by taking courses at private pro-gun schools and ranges.

Smith has been guaranteed that his amendment will be the first Republican amendment considered on legislation to create a new cabinet department for domestic security. This will probably make it the first issue the Senate considers when it returns from the August recess.

The domestic security legislation,

for better or worse, is strongly supported by the Bush administration, and is expected to be signed into law prior to the end of September.

So intense is the drumbeat of support for arming pilots that the chief Senate opponent to the proposal, Senator Ernest Hollings (D-SC), announced on July 30 that he had

The armed pilots proposal, which was drafted by Gun Owners of America in its original form, has become a legislative juggernaut with seemingly unstoppable momentum.

withdrawn his objections to the concept.

Going into the August congressional recess, the Bush administration, which was reconsidering its opposi-

oves Toward Realization

tion to arming pilots, remained the only significant opponent to the Smith legislation.

However, following the ouster of Clinton administration BATF Chief John Magaw from his position as Undersecretary of Transportation — partially as a result of his opposition to armed pilots — many observers believed the White House was on the verge of a switch in its position.

The armed pilots proposal, which was drafted by Gun Owners of America in its original form, has become a legislative juggernaut with seemingly unstoppable momentum.

Commercial airline pilots did carry firearms before they were subjected to metal detector searches in 1987. Had they been armed on 9/11, the “body count” would have consisted primarily of terrorists, rather than over 3,000 innocent Americans on the ground.

Ellen Saracini, widow of one of the



Senator Bob Smith speaks to reporters in July.

pilots killed on 9/11, believes that her husband would not have died, had he been allowed to carry a firearm. In written testimony prepared for a Senate Commerce Committee, which refused to allow her to testify in the end, Mrs. Saracini stated:

I am convinced that if my husband Victor had been armed on September 11th, he would be with us today.... [S]tepped up security and reinforced doors do *not* guarantee that terrorists, given the means, technology and time could breach the cockpit.... [A]n armed pilot may be the difference between a successful act of terror and the saving of thousands of lives.

Senator Smith, the Senate sponsor, put it this way: “An armed pilot is the airplane’s first line of deterrence and the last line of defense.”■



Pro-gun Rep. John Thune (R-SD)

House Votes to Arm Pilots

Because the White House has consistently opposed all efforts to arm pilots, the House of Representatives took up legislation in July to force the administration to put guns in pilots’ hands.

While Rep. Don Young introduced legislation to do this, his original bill would have applied to only two percent of the pilots and would have been in effect for just two years. Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), along with Rep. John Thune (R-SD), offered an amendment to eliminate the two percent cap and make the program permanent. The amendment passed 250-175 on July 10.

The Representatives listed below cast anti-gun votes by voting AGAINST the amendment.

Ackerman (D-NY)	Bishop (D-GA)	Cardin (D-MD)	Cummings (D-MD)
Allen (D-ME)	Blumenauer (D-OR)	Carson (D-IN)	Davis (D-IL)
Baldacci (D-ME)	Bono (R-CA)	Castle (R-DE)	Davis (D-FL)
Baldwin (D-WI)	Borski (D-PA)	Clay (D-MO)	Davis (D-CA)
Becerra (D-CA)	Brady (D-PA)	Clayton (D-NC)	DeGette (D-CO)
Bentsen (D-TX)	Brown (D-FL)	Clyburn (D-SC)	DeLauro (D-CT)
Bereuter (R-NE)	Burr (R-NC)	Conyers (D-MI)	Dicks (D-WA)
Berkley (D-NV)	Capps (D-CA)	Coyne (D-PA)	Dingell (D-MI)
Berman (D-CA)	Capuano (D-MA)	Crowley (D-NY)	

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Smith Hostettler CCW Bills Stalled in Committee

Continued from page 1

valid state to state, or if marriage licenses were not recognized by all states,” Rep. Hostettler said.

Currently, gun owners are often forced to leave their self-defense weapon at home when traveling out of their home state. This can have tragic consequences.

As reported in a previous TGO article, army veteran and avid sportsman

Sandy Javelle was one of four people killed by Michael McDermott in Wakefield, Massachusetts in 2000.

Mr. Javelle, who bravely confronted

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his attacker, had a valid New Hampshire carry permit but was unarmed at the time of the assault. Massachusetts

does not recognize carry permits from out of state.

The two bills have been stuck in the respective Senate and House Judiciary Committees. Senate Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and House Chairman James Sensenbrenner (R-WI) have refused so far even to hold hearings on these proposals.

“CCW holders are among the most responsible citizens in this country and should be encouraged to carry their self-defense firearms wherever they go. Instead, they are often disarmed, making them more susceptible to criminal predators,” Smith said. ■

House Votes

Continued from page 5

Doggett (D-TX)	Johnson (R-CT)	Meek (D-FL)	Sanders (I-VT)
Dooley (D-CA)	Jones (D-OH)	Meeks (D-NY)	Sawyer (D-OH)
Doyle (D-PA)	Kaptur (D-OH)	Menendez (D-NJ)	Schakowsky (D-IL)
Ehlers (R-MI)	Kennedy (D-RI)	Mica (R-FL)	Schiff (D-CA)
Eshoo (D-CA)	Kildee (D-MI)	Mill.-McDonald (D-CA)	Scott (D-VA)
Etheridge (D-NC)	Kilpatrick (D-MI)	Mink (D-HI)	Serrano (D-NY)
Evans (D-IL)	King (R-NY)	Moore (D-KS)	Sherman (D-CA)
Farr (D-CA)	Kirk (R-IL)	Moran (D-VA)	Skeen (R-NM)
Fattah (D-PA)	Kleczka (D-WI)	Morella (D-MD)	Slaughter (D-NY)
Ferguson (R-NJ)	Kucinich (D-OH)	Murtha (D-PA)	Smith (R-MI)
Filner (D-CA)	LaFalce (D-NY)	Myrick (R-NC)	Snyder (D-AR)
Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)	Langevin (D-RI)	Nadler (D-NY)	Solis (D-CA)
Frost (D-TX)	Lantos (D-CA)	Napolitano (D-CA)	Souder (R-IN)
Gephardt (D-MO)	Larsen (D-WA)	Neal (D-MA)	Spence (R-SC)
Gibbons (R-NV)	Larson (D-CT)	Oberstar (D-MN)	Spratt (D-SC)
Gonzalez (D-TX)	Lee (D-CA)	Obey (D-WI)	Stark (D-CA)
Goss (R-FL)	Levin (D-MI)	Osborne (R-NE)	Tauscher (D-CA)
Gutierrez (D-IL)	Lewis (D-GA)	Pallone (D-NJ)	Thornberry (R-TX)
Harman (D-CA)	Lipinski (D-IL)	Pascrell (D-NJ)	Tierney (D-MA)
Hinojosa (D-TX)	Lofgren (D-CA)	Pastor (D-AZ)	Towns (D-NY)
Hoeffel (D-PA)	Lowey (D-NY)	Payne (D-NJ)	Udall (D-CO)
Hoekstra (D-MI)	Lynch (D-MA)	Pelosi (D-CA)	Udall (D-NM)
Holt (D-NJ)	Maloney (D-NY)	Price (D-NC)	Velazquez (D-NY)
Honda (D-CA)	Maloney (D-CT)	Quinn (R-NY)	Visclosky (D-IN)
Hooley (D-OR)	Markey (D-MA)	Radanovich (R-CA)	Waters (D-CA)
Horn (R-CA)	Mascara (D-PA)	Rangel (D-NY)	Watson (D-CA)
Hoyer (D-MD)	Matsui (D-CA)	Rivers (D-MI)	Watt (D-NC)
Hyde (R-IL)	McCarthy (D-NY)	Rodriguez (D-TX)	Waxman (D-CA)
Inslee (D-WA)	McCarthy (D-MO)	Roemer (D-IN)	Weiner (D-NY)
Israel (D-NY)	McColum (D-MN)	Rogers (R-KY)	Weller (R-IL)
Jackson (D-IL)	McCrery (R-LA)	Rothman (D-NJ)	Wexler (D-FL)
Jackson-Lee (D-TX)	McDermott (D-WA)	Roybal-Allard (D-CA)	Wilson (R-NM)
Jefferson (D-LA)	McGovern (D-MA)	Rush (D-IL)	Woolsey (D-CA)
John (D-LA)	McKinney (D-GA)	Sabo (D-MN)	Wynn (D-MD)
Johnson (D-TX)	Meehan (D-MA)	Sanchez (D-CA)	Young (R-AK)

Unseen Self-Defense

Continued from page 1

are regular fare on television news. But because stories of armed self-defense are unseen, the implication is that guns are only used for harmful or criminal purposes.

Here are a few examples of stories you never saw.

On March 14, in a case that seemed a natural for national news, a football star was gunned down while trying to hold up a liquor store. Derrick Breedlove, a talented tight end, had recently signed a scholarship to play for Hampton University in Virginia. Scouts were already touting him for an NFL career. But when he entered the liquor store wearing a ski-mask and brandishing a sawed-off shotgun, Breedlove was shot and killed by a clerk.

On April 2, Virginia "Sue" Devoe was attacked in her Clintonville, Ohio home. Her former boyfriend, James Ryan McVey, kicked in the front door, dragged her through the house by her hair, and repeatedly kicked her. Then he attempted to kidnap her. That's when Devoe's 91-year-old neighbor came to her aid.

Shirley Becraft drew his handgun and shot the intruder. McVey's death ended years of violent assaults on Devoe. A local investigator praised Becraft, saying, "It's hard to know where she would be now if he hadn't [shot McVey]."

On March 18, in Orange City, Florida, Robert Shockey waited inside

Blockbuster Video for his son, who worked there, to close the store. The store had been the scene of a violent armed robbery a month before. Shockey, who has a permit to carry a con-

his accomplice had dropped, Shockey shot him.

Police not only ruled the shooting self-defense, they stated that they planned to give Shockey a "good citizenship award."

And so it goes.

On March 5, Bethan Scutchfield, a 71-year-old invalid from Colville, Washington fatally wounded a stranger who broke into her house and knocked her to the floor.

On March 6, an 83-year-old San Antonio woman shot a teenager as he tried to break into her home.

On March 3, in Pembroke Pines, Florida, two robbers pointed semiautomatic weapons at businessman Corey Dacres but the victim pulled his own gun and shot both of them. Dacres, who has a permit to carry a concealed weapon, was not



The media made a conscious decision not to show Americans many images relating to the September 11 attacks. Likewise, says author Robert Waters, the media's refusal to report on self-defense stories negatively affects people's attitudes regarding guns.

cealed weapon, saw two ski-masked robbers burst through the doors. One carried a hunting rifle and threatened an

When was the last time the networks interviewed someone who used a gun in self-defense? Since these cases are almost never shown in the national media, millions of viewers assume that they never happen.

employee.

Shockey pulled his handgun and shot the gun-wielding assailant. When the second robber reached for the rifle that

injured.

Cases of armed self-defense occur thousands of times each year. What is the price we pay for the black-out of such stories by the networks? Like a shadow war, viewers who aren't shown both sides of the issue remain uninformed.■

Robert A. Waters is the author of "The Best Defense: True Stories of Intended Victims Who Defended Themselves with a Firearm" and is available from Gun Owners Foundation at www.gunowners.com/bookst.htm on the Internet. His second book, "Guns Save Lives: True Stories of American Defending Themselves with Firearms," is available at 1-888-886-GUNS.

Deadly Advice

Continued from page 8

memory, and the spirit, of the youngsters alive." Grandmother Mary Carpenter says: "Tephania wanted scenes of what they had done in their lives. She wanted something people could remember them by."

Grandmother Carpenter, a self-

trained artist, sketched the paintings design and then traced them on freshly painted hospital walls. Anna and Jessica filled in the colors, with a lot of help from their friends.

The Bible says in Proverbs 12:10 that "the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel." Well, amen! A case in point is the brutal murder of these two Carpenter children. Now two "precious children" — John William and Ashley

Daniel Carpenter — are dead. All because of the supposed concerns of people like Ann Landers, Mrs. Teddy Kennedy and their anti-gun, anti-self defense ilk who want all guns in the home unloaded and locked up.

How in the world Mrs. Kennedy can call her dangerous and deadly advice "common sense about kids and guns" is something I do not, and never will, understand.■



In Memoriam: Ann Landers Deadly Advice

by Larry Pratt

Ann Landers passed away this year after spending most of her life giving advice to countless Americans. While she may have helped many people, she unfortunately gave bad, dangerous and deadly advice about guns to millions of law-abiding citizens.

For example, in one column in the *Chicago Tribune* (11/20/01), Landers ran a letter from Sen. Edward Kennedy's wife, Victoria Reggie Kennedy, president of something called Common Sense About Kids And Guns. Some of the things Mrs. Kennedy said "all gun owners must" do are the following:

1. Unload and lock up guns.
2. Lock and store ammunition separately.
3. Keep keys and combinations where kids are unable to find them.

In her reply to Mrs. Kennedy's letter, Landers thanked her for giving this advice to spread adding: "I hope and pray that my readers will pay close attention to what you have written. The lives of precious children could depend on it."

Well, now. When I first read this, I thought: No, if you want to protect the lives of "precious children," or anybody else for that matter, never let them ride in a car driven by Teddy Kennedy!

But, seriously — and I am serious about never riding in any vehicle with the Hero Of Chappaquiddick at the wheel.

When it comes to advice about guns, however, I prefer the wisdom of Mary Carpenter who says, in a videotaped Public Service Announcement for Gun Owners Foundation:

When a crazed killer broke into my grandchildren's house, the 14-year-old sister was the oldest one at home. She knew how to use a gun but the guns were locked up. She was helpless to stop her little brother and sister from being stabbed to death with a pitchfork. I urge you to not lock up your safety.

So, to what exactly is Mary Carpenter alluding? Well, she's alluding to the horrible murders of two "precious children" because the guns that could have saved them were locked up in compliance with California law, something Mrs. Kennedy, with Ann Landers' approval, says "must" be done.

In late August of 2000, a naked maniac, John Bruce, broke into the Merced, California, home of John Carpenter and his family. He stabbed to death 7-year-old John William Carpenter and his sister 9-year-old Ashley Daniel Carpenter. Anna Carpenter (13) was wounded and escaped. Vanessa (11) and Jessi-

ca Carpenter (14) also escaped. The murderer Bruce was shot to death by sheriff's deputies.

The *Fresno Bee* (8/26/2000) quotes the Carpenter children's great uncle, the Rev. John Hilton, as saying: "If only [Jessica] had a gun available to her, she could have stopped the whole thing. If she had been properly armed, she could have stopped him in his tracks."

This article goes on to say that the murdered children's father, John Carpenter, "kept a gun in the home. His children had learned how to fire it. But he kept it locked away and hidden from his children." Why? Because California law effectively punishes parents for failing to do so.

The *Modesto Bee* (2/22/01) reports some new paintings are hanging on the walls of the Sutter Merced Medical Center. They show the murdered Ashley Carpenter clutching her books while her wide-eyed murdered younger brother John William is nearby with his dog.

Ashley is also shown dressed in armor, bearing a sword

Two precious children were murdered because the guns that could have saved them were locked up in compliance with California law, something Mrs. Kennedy, with Ann Landers' approval, says "must" be done.

and shield in her hand. This represents her fighting spirit when she fought off the murderer Bruce when he was attacking her older sister, Anna. Deputies and family members credit Ashley with saving Anna's life, and dying while trying to protect her little brother.

The purpose of these peaceful scenes — the idea of their mother, Tephania Carpenter — is said to be "to keep the

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THE Gun Owners

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