



Written by [Patrick Krey](#) on March 9, 2020

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## **Exercising The Right**

### **Female Second Amendment Supporters**

The Republican consulting firm Republican Main Street Partnership released poll results last summer that reinforced a long known political reality: Women voters are big supporters of expanding gun-control laws, with 71 percent supporting making gun laws even stricter. But according to a news report from KTNV.com on January 23, there are a considerable number of women out there who support the Second Amendment. KTNV.com reported about the SHOT show (which stands for the Shooting, Hunting & Outdoor Trade show), which occurred at the Sands Expo Center in Las Vegas on January 21-24. Dianna Muller, who is the founder of a nonpartisan organization dedicated to gun rights called the DC Project, was also at the event, and she told KTNV, "We see the majority of women coming in because they want to be able to protect themselves.... Our world is becoming increasingly violent, and it's important for us to be able to protect ourselves, and a firearm is a great equalizer."

Karen Butler, president of the "Shoot Like a Girl" organization, discussed that women are also drawn to the exciting aspects of shooting. Butler told KTNV.com, "What we find is once [women] start shooting, they become recreational shooters, and we're excited because shooting is a fun sport. So, not only can you defend yourself if you needed, but you can also go to the range and have a lot of fun."

### **Anti-gun Politicians Target "Preemption Laws"**

While this column has touched on all sorts of gun-control measures proposed by opponents of the Second Amendment, we have never before discussed the effort to get rid of "preemption laws." The website NWgunnews.com, which reports on gun-related news in the American Northwest states of Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, Oregon, and Montana, posted about how "radical gun control groups like Moms Demand Action and Everytown For Gun Safety" have begun going after state "firearm preemption laws." Preemption laws refer to state-level legislation that prohibits local governments from passing any gun restrictions more onerous than what is permitted at the state level.

NWgunnews explained that anti-gun activists have been attacking these preemption laws for years, and now there is a formidable effort in the state of Washington to permit local municipalities to pass stricter gun-control measures. The proposed bill already has multiple legislators sponsoring it, and a public hearing has also been held. NWgunnews.com warned that repealing "Washington's firearm preemption would have devastating consequences on gun owners across the state. No longer would the firearm laws be the same no matter where you traveled in Washington, but there would be a patchwork of laws from city to city. Imagine a city like Seattle, with its rampant crime and dirty public property telling gun owners they can't carry a gun for self-defense!"

NWgunnews.com also warned about similar legislation in Idaho that would "let Idaho's cities and counties regulate how many rounds a citizen can carry onto public property. Not only is this type of policy illogical, it certainly isn't going to stop a determined criminal from harming innocent people."

This should serve as a reminder to us that our enemy never sleeps, and they will chip away at the Second Amendment every chance they get and try to attack it from the federal, state, and local level. We must be eternally vigilant!



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## Second Amendment Balkanization?

The term “Balkanization” was coined in the buildup to World War I and referred to the division of the Balkan Peninsula into smaller states. Over time, the term has become synonymous with the dissolution of nations into smaller entities due to ethnic and/or sectarian strife that made the formerly unified country no longer sustainable. The term now comes to mind when reviewing the widening divisions and political turmoil in Virginia, where what was once a Republican stronghold has completely morphed into a Democratic Party-controlled state. The situation in Virginia has gotten downright tense since Democrats took full political control of the state and announced their intention to enact a far-left policy of new gun-control laws, remove restrictions on abortion, and enact pro-LGBTQ measures. The backlash was swift, with numerous counties in the state proactively passing Second Amendment Sanctuary resolutions, and the fervor culminated in thousands of gun-rights activists marching on the state Capitol to signal their discontent.

The Associated Press reported on January 28 about how West Virginia Governor Jim Justice and Liberty University President Jerry Falwell, Jr. issued an urgent appeal to pro-Second Amendment Virginia counties to secede from Virginia and join the state of West Virginia. Governor Justice linked the Second Amendment to the sanctity of life in his message for counties seeking refuge from the Democrats. “If you’re not truly happy where you are, we stand with open arms to take you from Virginia or anywhere where you may be.... We stand strongly behind the Second Amendment and we stand strongly for the unborn,” Governor Justice said.

Jerry Falwell, Jr. echoed Governor Justice’s comments and deplored the future direction of the state: “Democratic leaders in Richmond, through their elitism and radicalism, have left a nearly unrecognizable state in their wake.”

West Virginia lawmakers are working on formal resolutions to invite parts of Virginia to join their state, but such a thing would ultimately need to be approved by both states and Congress. Even though most political observers view this as a long shot, others are taking it very seriously.

Falwell’s lawyers reportedly told him that “counties in Virginia would first need to conduct petition drives. Then a referendum would be held, and if successful, the proposal would go before Virginia’s General Assembly.” This is where it would ultimately stall, as the Assembly is currently controlled by Democrats, but who knows what the future may hold.

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