

Preparing for Gun Violence Reduction Sabbath

Please wear orange on June 6th

May 30th, 2021

The Supreme Court's rulings do not prevent effective gun regulations. Far from it. In the District of Columbia v. Heller ruling, Justice Antonin Scalia wrote: "Like most rights, the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited...nothing in our opinion should be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibitions on the possession of firearms by felons and the mentally ill, or laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings, or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms."¹⁷ And, since Heller, courts nationwide have found a wide variety of firearms laws constitutional because they can help prevent gun deaths, injuries, and crimes in communities across the country.

In District of Columbia v. Heller, the Court ruled, for the first time, that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual right to possess a handgun in the home for self-defense.

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*Public Law 112-55, 125 Stat. 609; Sari Horwitz & James Grimaldi, NRA-Led Gun Lobby Wields Powerful Influence Over ATF, U.S. Politics, The Washington Post, December 15, 2010, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/12/14/AR2010121406045.html>.