

Key findings of the 1998 National Gun Policy Survey include:

- Three-fourths of gun owners support mandatory registration of handguns, as does 85 percent of the general public.

- Government regulation of gun design to improve safety gets support from 63 percent of gun owners and 75 percent of the general public.

- Two thirds of gun owners and 80 percent of the general public favor mandatory background checks in private handgun sales, such as gun shows.

The survey was conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research with funding from the Joyce Foundation. The third in a series of surveys of American attitudes toward gun policies, it shows a continuation of an upward trend in public support for more control over firearms and more attention to making all firearms safer.

Other key findings include:

- Three quarters of those surveyed want Congress to hold hearings to investigate the practices of the gun industry, similar to the hearings held on the tobacco industry..

- Sixty percent of Americans want licenses to carry concealed weapons to be issued only to those with special needs, e.g., private detectives. And 83 percent of the public believes that public places, including stores, theaters and restaurants, should be able to prohibit patrons from bringing guns on the premises.

- Americans strongly support measures to keep guns from lawbreakers. 90 percent favor preventing those convicted of domestic violence from buying guns, 81 percent would stop gun sales to those convicted of simple assault, and 68 percent to those convicted of drunk driving.

- People are willing to pay higher taxes for measures to reduce gun thefts and root out illegal gun dealers, and they express a willingness to pay higher prices for guns that are designed for greater safety.

- Sixty-nine percent of those surveyed opposed importing guns from a country where those guns could not be legally sold. A total of 55 percent are against all gun imports.

Nearly nine out of ten Americans believe that all new handguns sold should be childproof, that is, designed so that a child's small hands cannot fire them.

Eighty percent of the people asked say owners should be liable for injuries if a gun is not stored to prevent misuse by children.

When asked if there should be a mandatory background check and a five-day waiting period in order to purchase a gun, 82 percent of the people owning a gun, as well as 85 percent of the general public, agreed that position was a good idea.

Nearly one out of ten adults report having carried a handgun away from home during the last months. About half of those did not have a permit for doing so, and about half of the handguns were loaded.

Just under half of adults who own a handgun obtained the gun through a "less regulated source," defined as pawnshops, private sales, gifts and inheritances.

The data were collected in the fall of 1998, before the recent school shootings in Colorado and Georgia, but following similar highly publicized shootings in Arkansas, Kentucky and Oregon. The telephone survey of 1,200 U.S. adults has a margin of error of three percent. The final report is entitled "The 1998 National Gun Policy Survey of the National Opinion Research Center: Research Findings."

Affiliated with the University of Chicago, NORC has conducted national surveys in the public interest for over 55 years. As a pioneer in the field of survey research, NORC is noted for the high quality of its survey designs, methods, and data.

The Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research, established in 1995, is dedicated to preventing gun-related deaths and injuries. Located in The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, the Center applies a science-based, public health approach to gun violence. It provides accurate information on firearm injuries and gun policy; develops, analyzes, and evaluates strategies to prevent firearm injuries; and conducts public health and legal research to identify gun policy needs.

Based in Chicago with assets of \$947 million, the Joyce Foundation supports efforts to strengthen public policies in ways that improve the quality of life in the Great Lakes region. Since 1993, it has granted over \$13 million to support public health approaches to reduce gun violence.

Full results of the survey are posted on the NORC web site at: <http://www.norc.uchicago.edu/>

#### A LIFETIME OF TEACHING

- Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph A. Klingler as he retires after 36 years of service to the students and families of my hometown, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey. He served as a teacher, a principal, a mentor, and a leader in the educational field.

Throughout his thirty-one years, Dr. Klingler has shown unparalleled support and caring for his pupils. He provided each school he taught at with a unique personality that demonstrates caring, respect, interest in others, and academic challenge. He always encouraged his students to take an active role in school, whether academically, athletically, or through community activities. Because of his encouragement, staff members applied for mini-grants which contributed to the success of several middle school activities such as the Show Choir, FAYM, and the Drama Club. Dr. Klingler understands the importance of parents becoming involved in their children's school and has formed a close alliance with the PTA.

Dr. Klingler shaped our definition of a middle school, with mission statements, team concepts, and quality programs. He was active in local and national education associations. He chaired the FLOW area Regional Education Council several times, and participated in the national program for evaluating elementary schools. He is a member of Phi Delta Kappa, the National Professional Educational Fraternity, the American Association of School Administrators, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and the National Mathematics Teachers Association.

Dr. Klingler has served as a role model for community activities, coach-

ing baseball in the local recreation program, volunteering at the Bergen Community Regional Blood Center, participating in the Environmental Commission Clean-Up Day, and chairing the Franklin Lakes Juvenile Committee. He encouraged his students to take an active role in their community.

As one of his former students I was directly influenced by his teaching and leadership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Klingler for his years of service to all his students in Franklin Lakes. He will be dearly missed, but I am certain that the values he instilled in his students will live on.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ST. PHILOMENA SCHOOL: 1999 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

- Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the achievement of St. Philomena School of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, which was recently honored as a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School.

It is a highly regarded distinction to be named a Blue Ribbon School. Through an intensive selection process beginning at the state level and continuing through a federal Review Panel of 100 top educators, 266 of the very best public and private schools in the nation were identified as deserving this special recognition. These schools are particularly effective in meeting local, state, and national goals. However, this honor signifies not just who is best, but what works in educating today's children.

Now, more than ever, it is important that we make every effort to reach out to students, that we truly engage and challenge them, and that we make their education come alive. That is what St. Philomena School is doing. St. Philomena is a kindergarten through eighth grade school that emphasizes student achievement.

Since opening in 1953, much has changed for St. Philomena. For a brief time, it offered a comprehensive education from elementary through high school. But since the late 1960s, St. Philomena has focused exclusively on elementary education, and its students have benefitted from this wise decision. While the school has grown in size—adding four new buildings to its facilities, its administration and faculty have taken a personalized approach to each student's education.

Mr. President, St. Philomena is dedicated to the highest standards. It is a school committed to a process of continuous improvement not only for students but for teachers as well. Indeed, St. Philomena's teachers hone their skills as educators by continuously pursuing educational opportunities of their own.

Mr. President, the Blue Ribbon School initiative shows us the very