

Universities' Ego and Elitism Must Not Trump Your Rights and Safety



No Guns? No Funds!

VCDL calls on students, alumni, parents of students, faculty, and employees to stop donating money to schools that ban the right to self-defense.

In 2011, Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli issued two opinions affecting universities: 1) universities have no duty to protect students and 2) that a university regulation has the force of law, while a mere policy lacks authority to prohibit concealed handgun permit (CHP) holders from carrying guns on campus.

Now, some schools, which already threaten students and employees with expulsion or job termination for exercising their right to a means of self-defense, are scrambling to promulgate a regulation to codify restrictions on your rights and safety.

Why is this a Problem?

Where guns are banned, a victim rich environment is created, as only the law abiding will follow the rules. The fanciful "gun free zone" actually invites mayhem and murder.

There is nothing magical about the area in or around colleges and universities that makes them immune to crime. And CHP holders who carry

their firearms safely and responsibly everywhere else in society do not suddenly become less of an asset (or somehow dangerous) by crossing an imaginary line.



It's that easy.

Who are CHP holders?

Over a quarter million Virginians have concealed handgun permits (CHPs) issued by the circuit courts, and many carry their defensive sidearms everywhere they go. You pass them unawares every day in grocery and department stores, doctor's offices, churches, day care centers, banks, libraries, government buildings, on the sidewalks, and yes, on campus.

The permit holder is required to be at least 21 years old, trained in the safe and proper use of guns, have no felony or domestic violence convictions, no mental defects or disabilities, and must pass a criminal background check. They cannot be drunkards or addicted to drugs. Concealed handgun permit holders are among the most law-abiding citizens in the commonwealth, with a record of law compliance and safety that rivals or surpasses that of the police.

In 2006, at VCDL's request, Delegate C. Todd Gilbert patroned HB 1572 which would have ended the victim disarmament zones created by universities like Virginia Tech (VT). Unfortunately, the bill died in subcommittee, and on April 16, 2007, in two separate attacks at VT, 32 people were killed and 25 wounded in the deadliest shooting incident by a single gunman in U.S. history. Because of the school's disarmament policy, the killer had all the time in the world to stroll the halls killing his cowering, helpless victims.

VCDL calls upon students, employees, alumni and parents of students to withhold donations to any schools that have, or attempt to create a criminal-friendly environment that endangers the public. Further, we ask all of the above to contact everyone they know to encourage them in this campaign for safety, and to let the school know of your displeasure.

What others have to say

As a faculty member at Old Dominion University, I am ashamed that the institution suppresses the Bill of Rights. Crime does not stop at the campus boundary, and responsible adults - students and faculty alike should be able to defend themselves. **David Swain, PhD**

As an alumnus of James Madison University, I do not support any school policy which disarms and victimizes our future leaders.

Daniel R. Dales, B.S. 2009, M.S. 2011

I will no longer provide financial support to UVA until the governing board reverses course. This governing board is violating the rights and freedoms cherished so highly by Mr. Jefferson. **Brian Whited, class of 1978**

How can I support a school that doesn't allow students to protect their lives from dangerous criminals?" **William Barratt, UVA class of 2007**

I'm a mom of two students at VT. Tech's irrational ban of guns on campus endangers my children. Gun-free zones are defense-free zones. Shame on Tech. **Connie Stevens, Charlottesville**

I am an alumnus of Virginia Tech. Self-defense is an intrinsic human right. A student's right to defend oneself should be protected on-campus.

Wayne Chiang

As an alumnus of James Madison University, I cannot and will not support a school that does not allow students, faculty, staff, and guests with concealed handgun permits to protect themselves and others.

Sandy Tait Garst

As a 2009 graduate of GMU, I will not support the university as long as they continue to disarm law abiding citizens on campus who have concealed handgun permits.

Daniel T. McGovern

I am a 1984 graduate of GMU with a Masters in Nursing Administration. I have contributed to the Nursing Department each year since graduation. I support canceled carry on campus and will reconsider my contributions to the university.

Linda Layser

I am an alumnus of George Mason University School of Engineering (1994). I am concerned and alarmed that GMU is disarming students, faculty, staff, and guests who have concealed handgun permits. I will not send my son to GMU, nor will I make any contributions to the alumni fund until this dangerous policy is reversed. **Dwin M. Craig**

My daughter is a senior at JMU. After an unauthorized man entered and terrorized girls in the bathroom of her JMU dorm, she no longer felt safe. As a result, we got her an apartment in town where she can legally keep a firearm for self-protection. If JMU doesn't change its policy, we won't be sending our younger daughter to JMU as previously planned - she'll be attending a university where her Constitutional right to self-protection won't be infringed. **Shan Knox Wilkins**

As long as a law-abiding concealed-carry permit holder is considered a potential violent criminal by VCU, I will withhold my financial support and I encourage others to do the same.

Clayton Rhoades, VCU-School of Business (Class of 1997)

"... to disarm the people - that was the best and most effectual way to enslave them." **George Mason**

"(The Constitution preserves) the advantage of being armed which Americans possess over the people of every other nation...(where) the governments are afraid to trust the people with arms."

James Madison

"No freeman shall ever be debarred the use of arms."

Thomas Jefferson

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