

The Libertarian Party would increase employment opportunities by slashing taxes and government red tape. We would also end the welfare system with its culture of dependence and hopelessness. Most important of all, we would promote low-cost private alternatives to the failed government school system.

Conclusion

The Libertarian Party's anti-crime plan would do what the Democrats and Republicans have not done:

- **Respect the victim's rights — and make criminals pay full restitution.**
- **Hold all criminals responsible for their actions.**
- **Double the police resources available for crime prevention without any additional government spending.**
- **Reduce the number of criminals at large on our streets.**
- **Defend the most effective crime deterrent available, the private ownership of guns.**
- **Create jobs, end welfare dependence, and improve education.**

This Libertarian program would help make America's streets safe again. Want to learn about other innovative Libertarian solutions to America's most pressing problems? Use the attached coupon to request more information — or to become a member of the Libertarian Party!

About the Libertarian Party

The Libertarian Party is America's third largest political party. Its platform advocates individual liberty and responsibility, respect for the Bill of Rights, free enterprise, free trade, and no meddling overseas.

YOUR NEW CHOICE IN POLITICS

JOIN THE
LIBERTARIAN
PARTY!



- YES!** I want to become a member of the Libertarian Party. I have enclosed \$25. I'll receive 12 monthly issues of *LP News* and a membership card. **The Libertarian Party is the party of principle.** To publicly affirm what we believe—and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles—we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:
- **I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.**

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP ONLY

- More information.** Please send me a complete information package about the Libertarian Party.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

HOME PHONE WORK PHONE

EMPLOYER OCCUPATION

Total payment enclosed \$

- Check/money order enclosed. (No corporate checks, please.)
Or: Please bill my Visa MasterCard.

ACCT. # EXPIRES

SIGNATURE FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Please make checks payable to:

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100 ♦ Washington DC 20037
Telephone: (202) 333-0008

To request an information package or to join immediately:

1-800-ELECT-US
www.lp.org

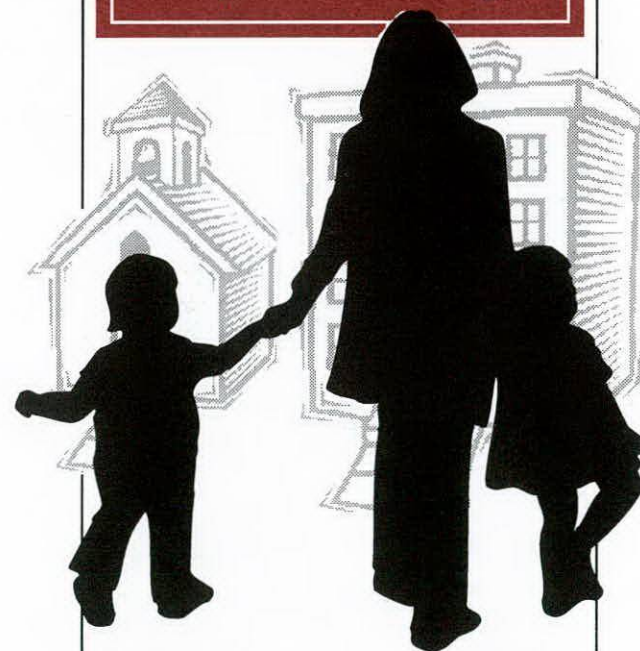
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SOURCE CODE: 01209



Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again

An approach to criminal justice
and crime control that is smart,
compassionate, and tough



A PUBLIC POLICY PROPOSAL FROM THE
LIBERTARIAN PARTY



The Solution to America's Violent Crime Problem

America suffers from an epidemic of violence and crime, victimizing one family out of four every year. There is a murder every half hour, a rape every five minutes, and a theft every four seconds.

Despite decades of tough talk, the anti-crime policies of the Republicans and Democrats have clearly failed. The Libertarian Party believes a fresh approach is needed. That's why we're offering this five-point plan for making America's streets safe:

Step 1. Protect Victims' Rights

Protecting the rights and interests of victims should be the basis of our criminal justice system. Victims should have the right to be present, consulted and heard throughout the prosecution of their case.

In addition, Libertarians would do more than just punish criminals. We would also make them pay restitution to their victims for the damage they've caused, including property loss, medical costs, pain, and suffering. If you are the victim of a crime, the criminal should fully compensate you for your loss.

Step 2. Get Tough on Real Crime

The Libertarian Party is the party of personal responsibility. We believe that anyone who

harms another person should be held responsible for that action. By contrast, the Democrats and Republicans have created a system where criminals can get away with almost anything.

For instance: Sentences seldom mean what they say. Fewer than one out of every four violent felons serves more than four years. Libertarians would dramatically reduce the number of these early releases by eliminating their root cause — prison over-crowding.

Since nearly six out of every 10 federal prison inmates are there for non-violent drug-related offenses, it's clear that drug prohibition is the primary source of this over-crowding. It has been estimated that every drug offender imprisoned results in the release of one violent criminal, who then commits an average of 40 robberies, seven assaults, 110 burglaries and 25 auto thefts. Early release of violent criminals puts you and your family at risk. It must stop.

Step 3. End Prohibition

Drug prohibition does more to make Americans unsafe than any other factor. Just as alcohol prohibition gave us Al Capone and the mafia, drug prohibition has given us the Crips, the Bloods and drive-by shootings. Consider the historical evidence: America's murder rate rose nearly 70% during alcohol prohibition, but returned to its previous levels after prohibition ended. Now, since the War on Drugs began, America's murder rates have doubled. The cause/effect relationship is clear. Prohibition is putting innocent lives at risk.

What's more, drug prohibition also inflates the cost of drugs, leading users to steal to support their high

priced habits. It is estimated that drug addicts commit 25% of all auto thefts, 40% of robberies and assaults, and 50% of burglaries and larcenies. Prohibition puts your property at risk.

Finally, nearly one half of all police resources are devoted to stopping drug trafficking, instead of preventing violent crime. The bottom line? By ending drug prohibition, Libertarians would double the resources available for crime prevention and significantly reduce the number of violent criminals at work in your neighborhood.

Step 4. Protect the Right to Self-Defense

We believe that the private ownership of firearms is part of the solution to America's crime epidemic, not part of the problem. Evidence: law-abiding citizens in Florida have been able to carry concealed weapons since 1987. During that time, the murder rate in Florida has declined 21% while the national murder rate has increased 12%.

In addition, evidence shows that self-defense with guns is the safest response to violent crime. It results in fewer injuries to the defender (17.4% injury rate) than any other response, including not resisting at all (24.7% injury rate). Libertarians would repeal waiting periods, concealed carry laws, and other restrictions that make it difficult for victims to defend themselves, and end the prosecution of individuals for exercising their rights of self-defense.

Step 5. Address the Root Causes of Crime

Any society that lets kids grow up dependent on government welfare, attending government schools that fail to teach, and entering an economy where government policy has crushed opportunity, will be a society that breeds criminals. No permanent solution to crime will be found until we address these root causes of crime.

Ending the prosecution of victimless crimes could save \$50 billion annually, and free up resources to protect your family from violent crime.

