



## ADL Presentation to the Platform Committees of the Democratic and Republican National Conventions – June 2004

ADL has submitted to the platform committees of both the Democratic National Committee and the Republican National Committee a statement of policy priorities on a range of international and domestic issues. The platform statement describes ADL's positions on the issues and outlines recommendations on policy direction that the League hopes the parties will adopt.

The platform committees meet every four years in advance of the national conventions, where they select a Presidential nominee.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL), founded in 1913, is a privately funded, non-partisan organization established to combat anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry. ADL's Charter indicates its "ultimate purpose is to secure justice and fair treatment to all citizens alike." In consistently fighting for freedom and equality for all, ADL has maintained that only when all members of a society enjoy the protection of the law, are Jews and other minorities safe from discrimination. The League welcomes this opportunity to address several areas of domestic and international affairs.

### **I. Domestic and International Terrorism**

Even before the horrifying events of September 11, the Anti-Defamation League has advocated for a recalibration between security and civil liberties. ADL continues to believe strongly that law enforcement must be appropriately empowered to prevent and punish such horrific acts of domestic terrorism and extremist violence.

It is well established that the government has the constitutional right – and the duty – to keep our nation from being used as a base for terrorist activity. Limiting access to the U.S. for individuals involved in terrorism, establishing sanctions on those nations that support terrorism, and banning fundraising and material support for foreign terrorist organizations in this country are important ways in which Congress and the Administration have attempted to prevent acts of terrorism before they occur.

In order to curb the power of extremists and terrorists who commit or threaten to commit violent acts motivated by hatred on American soil, the League calls on this Committee to affirm its commitment to fighting domestic terrorism and strengthening efforts to prevent and punish such despicable acts. The U.S. Attorney General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, for instance, must be able to employ all of their investigative authority



outlined in the applicable federal guidelines to enforce all appropriate law, with due regard to the constitutional and civil rights of those being investigated.

At the same time, we believe our government must maintain a balance in confronting terrorism – vigorously implementing the law while preserving due process rights of suspect.

## **II. International Extremism and Anti-Semitism**

In recent years, anti-Semitic violence and attitudes have surged around the globe. In France, Belgium, Great Britain, Canada and elsewhere, there have been scores of incidents where Jews and Jewish institutions have been violently attacked. Incidents include the firebombing of synagogues and Jewish schools, the physical and verbal abuse of Jews in the street, and cemetery desecrations.

At the same time, anti-Semitic propaganda is thriving in the Muslim and Arab world, and is then disseminated throughout the world . Anti-Semitic stereotypes of Jews seeking world domination, controlling industry, government, and the media, as well as ancient anti-Jewish canards such as the blood libel are regularly featured in print and broadcast media, in dramatic series and in popular fiction. These messages of hate are then transmitted everyday from the Middle East to homes throughout Europe, Africa, North and South America and Asia via satellite television and the Internet.

The Anti-Defamation League believes that U.S. leadership is crucial in speaking out against anti-Semitism and mobilizing international support to combat it. The U.S. must continue to urge European leadership to take strong legislative, judicial and educational action to fight anti-Semitism, and encourage these leaders to improve data collection of anti-Semitic hate crimes. The U.S. must make clear to leaders in the Arab and Muslim world that anti-Semitism will not be tolerated, and that they must condemn and combat the anti-Jewish propaganda in their media and popular culture.

The U.S. should enhance its own training of international law enforcement in the area of monitoring and responding to hate crimes. Domestic police officials have come to appreciate the law enforcement and community benefits of tracking hate crime and responding to it in a priority fashion. By compiling statistics and charting the geographic distribution of these crimes, police officials may be in a position to discern patterns and anticipate an increase in racial tensions in a given jurisdiction.

Finally, the Anti-Defamation League believes that the United States should support educational programs at home and abroad to diminish prejudice and to teach the universal lessons of the Holocaust and the need for condemnation of anti-Semitism and racism by political, religious, and communal leaders within those countries.



### III. U.S. Support for Israel and the Peace Process

From the establishment of the State of Israel, the Anti-Defamation League has worked in support of a strong U.S. commitment to the State of Israel and its fundamental right to protect its citizens from terrorism, violence and harm, while promoting a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Since 2000, the State of Israel has been besieged by Palestinian terrorism. The Palestinian Authority leadership has not taken steps to impede terrorist operations or dismantle the terrorist infrastructure. To protect its population from the unceasing and unchecked Palestinian terrorism, Israel has been forced to undertake a number of defensive measures, including military action, and the construction of a security barrier. The Israeli government has made it clear that it remains committed to resuming negotiations so long as there is a viable Palestinian partner who does not engage in terrorism and violence. The U.S. must continue to support Israel's efforts to protect its citizens from terrorism, while encouraging efforts such as the Israel's plan to disengage from the Gaza Strip and areas of the West Bank.

It is important the U.S. maintain a central role in the promotion and facilitation of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. Serious negotiations can only be renewed with a consistent Palestinian Authority effort to end terrorism. Negotiations will involve serious and difficult compromises by both Israel and the Palestinians. A realistic final Israeli-Palestinian agreement will involve territorial compromise by Israel and the creation of a final border between Israel and a Palestinian entity that will follow current demographic realities, and not the pre-1967 border. In a final agreement, Palestinian refugees will go to the new independent Palestinian state, and not to Israel.

Enhanced security cooperation between the U.S. and Israel strengthens Israel's ability to take risks for peace as well as to reduce its dependence on U.S. economic assistance.

Jerusalem has always been the heart and soul of the Jewish people. Under Israeli sovereignty, Jerusalem has flourished as a Jewish city open to and respectful of all other religions for which it holds special significance. As Congress and successive Administrations recognize, every country has the right to designate its own capital and Israel has chosen Jerusalem. As peace talks on final status issues, including Jerusalem, proceed, we believe it is imperative that the American government recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and that the U.S. Embassy should be moved there from its current location in Tel Aviv.

While international focus remains on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the dangers posed to Israel by rogue nations and international terrorist organizations makes it imperative that Israel maintain its strategic edge. Iran and Syria have accelerated their weapons programs. Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the Tanzim and Hezbollah continue to challenge Israel's stability and security. International terrorist organizations, include Al Qaeda, call for the targeting of Israeli sites and the eventual destruction of State.



The U.S. must continue to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Israel and help ensure its security, and to minimize strategic as well as monetary costs of steps towards peace.

#### **IV. Support for Strong U.S. Leadership Worldwide**

The attacks of September 11, 2001, demonstrate the importance of U.S. engagement to promote tolerance, democracy, religious freedom and human rights world wide. In support of strong U.S. global leadership, ADL urges Congress to authorize the highest funding level possible for international affairs and vital humanitarian and peacekeeping programs. These programs are critical to combating terrorism, arms proliferation and other non-conventional threats.

#### **V. Bias Crimes**

The Anti-Defamation League regards combating prejudice and bigotry as one of its highest priorities. We take great pride in the educational and legal initiatives we have developed, most notably our award-winning "A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE" Institute – devoted to promoting greater tolerance and mutual understanding through anti-bias education – and our model hate crimes legislation. Forty-six states and the District of Columbia now have enacted hate crimes laws based on, or similar to, ADL's model. Yet, important legislation is still pending at the federal, state, and local levels and more can and must be done. The League supports the expansion of state laws to cover bias crimes based on sexual orientation, gender, and disability and new federal authority for the Department of Justice to improve coordination and cooperation between state and local officials and federal authorities in hate crime investigations and prosecutions. We also believe it is necessary for the federal government to have authority to investigate and prosecute crimes in which the bias violence occurs because of the victim's sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

When prejudice leads to criminal conduct, as is all too often the case, headlines result and communities are set on edge. The urgent national need for both tough law enforcement response as well as education and programming to confront violent bigotry has only increased following the September 11 terrorist attacks. In the immediate aftermath of 9/11, the nation witnessed a disturbing increase in attacks against American citizens and others who appeared to be of Muslim, Middle Eastern, and South Asian descent. Perhaps acting out of anger at the terrorists involved in the September 11 attacks, the perpetrators of these crimes irrationally lashed out at innocent people because of their personal characteristics – their race, religion, or ethnicity.

In addition to focusing on media exposure, education, and more effective law enforcement, ADL has made the enactment of legislation to collect hate crime data and to provide penalty enhancements for such crimes a high priority. Though ADL recognizes that prejudice and hatred cannot be legislated out of existence, hate crimes laws have proved to be useful tools for law enforcement.



These laws send an unmistakable message to both the victims and would-be perpetrators – and demonstrate the depth of society’s concerns. American communities have learned the hard way that failure to address bias crimes can sometimes cause and isolated incident to fester and result in widespread tension. Targeted groups feel especially vulnerable, and appropriate response to these crimes by public officials and law enforcement officers can enhance police-community relations.

## **VI. Hate on the Internet**

The Anti-Defamation League is one of the leading organizations worldwide engaged in monitoring and countering hate on the Internet. Across the United States and throughout the world, the Internet is changing the way people do business and live their lives. With the development of this electronic medium, however, come novel political and legal questions.

One area of particular concern to the League is how to effectively and legally combat hate on the Internet. The Internet, while an extraordinary educational tool, has also been exploited by extremists who have created attractive, well-designed web sites specifically targeted to promote intolerance, racism, and anti-Semitism, in some cases directly focusing on children and teenagers. The Internet has become the new frontier in international hate, ensnaring both inexperienced and savvy visitors to the World Wide Web. When most people venture onto the Internet, especially newcomers, they likely do not expect to encounter a swastika, or calls to support known terrorist groups, or a burning cross. So it is jarring and profoundly upsetting to go online and see such graphic examples of how hate has managed to migrate from leaflets on street corners to streaming audio/video, graphic photos on web sites and hate-filled chat rooms.

Funding should be made available to educate children about the dangers of prejudice—and resources should be devoted to identifying and disseminating best practices in teaching Internet critical thinking skills for teachers, librarians, parents and students.

Legislative and legal responses to hate on the Internet also must be studied. While the League has an abiding respect for free speech and the guarantees of the First Amendment, hate on the Internet cannot be entirely unregulated. Law enforcement officials, for instance, should actively police the web, preventing and punishing online crimes and torts such as threats, libel, and defamation. Internet providers and hosts of web sites should also be called upon to uphold the terms of their Terms of Service and Acceptable Use Policies that often include prohibitions against hateful materials. Companies have the right to choose who they do business with and if their rules preclude their hosting hate, providers and host, when informed these materials are on their servers, should act to ensure compliance with their rules.



## VII. Church-State Relations

In the realm of religious beliefs and practices, minorities are particularly susceptible to attack, alienation, and isolation. By ensuring governmental neutrality, each individual is free to worship, or not, according to the dictates of his or her conscience, without the fear of government interference or coercion. The preservation of this nation's pluralism necessitates that government and religion remain independent of one another.

While strongly supporting the rights of individuals to freely exercise their religion, ADL regards as detrimental and dangerous any movement toward a greater intrusion of religion into American public life which could send a message to adherents of minority religions that they are outsiders or second-class citizens.

With this and other concerns in mind, ADL urges this Committee to reaffirm its commitment to the separation of church and state, and thus ensure the preservation of religious freedom for all.

### A. Religion in Political Campaigns

The Anti-Defamation League is extremely concerned about the appropriate role of religion and attestations of a specific religious faith or tradition in the political election process.

As an organization rooted in the Jewish community, ADL clearly supports and respects the right of any candidate for public office to believe and to worship as he or she chooses. Freedom of religion is one of our nation's most cherished liberties, and safeguarding that freedom is one of ADL's highest priorities.

Candidates should feel comfortable explaining their religious convictions to voters. At the same time, however, we believe there is a point at which the emphasis on religion in a political campaign becomes inappropriate and even unsettling in a religiously diverse society such as ours.

ADL feels very strongly that appealing to voters along religious lines is contrary to the American ideal. Voters should be encouraged to make their decisions based upon their assessments of the qualifications and political positions of candidates, not their religiosity. Furthermore, voters should not be made to feel inferior or left out of the process, because they are part of a religious minority.

During the coming presidential and congressional campaigns, and throughout all other elections seasons, ADL urges this Committee and the entire Party to keep this in mind. This Committee must reaffirm its commitment to appealing to all voters and not seeking votes along potentially divisive religious lines. Public professions of specific religious beliefs should not become an elemental part of our political campaigns. No American should ever feel ostracized from the political process.



## B. “Charitable Choice” and the Faith-Based Initiative

The Anti-Defamation League appreciates the vital role religious institutions have historically played in addressing many of our nation's most pressing social needs, as a critical complement to non-sectarian government-funded programs. For decades, government-funded partnerships with religiously-affiliated organizations – such as Catholic Charities, Jewish Community Federations, and Lutheran Social Services – have helped to combat poverty and provided housing, education, and health care services for those in need. Separately incorporated from religious institutions, and observing mandatory constitutional safeguards, these successful partnerships have provided excellent service to communities free from concerns over religious coercion and bureaucratic entanglements between government and religion.

Proponents of religious freedom in America long have recognized that government and religion make poor bedfellows. Existing “charitable choice” laws and proposals to expanding these programs fly in the face of this hard-earned lesson.

The Anti-Defamation League opposes “charitable choice” measures and the Faith-Based Initiative because we believe that they are unconstitutional, bad public policy, and fundamentally bad for religion. First, such programs plainly violate the First Amendment’s prohibition against government funding that promotes religious beliefs. Allowing sectarian institutions to take the place of government as the provider of essential services in a community will likely result in the kind of coercion that the Establishment Clause was designed to prevent. Indeed, “charitable choice” threatens to subject a large segment of American society to religious coercion – at taxpayer’s expense. Needy citizens may be directed to religious institutions where they may feel pressured to participate in religious practices in order to receive their benefits.

In addition “charitable choice” explicitly creates, for the first time, the possibility of federally funded employment discrimination on the basis of religion. Since religious institutions are exempt from the nondiscrimination requirements of Title VII and other anti-discrimination laws, “charitable choice” essentially amounts to a form of government-subsidized religious discrimination. Finally, “charitable choice” threatens the health of American religious institutions themselves by creating unhealthy and divisive competition among religious groups while subjecting them to the prospect of intrusive government regulation, such as audits, reporting requirements, and compliance reviews. Therefore, ADL will continue to oppose “charitable choice” measures and the Faith-Based Initiative and encourages this Committee to do the same.

## C. Vouchers



The Anti-Defamation League, like most Americans, believes that improving our system of education should be a top priority for government at the local, state, and federal levels. ADL does not believe, however, that vouchers for private and religious schools are the antidote to the ills of the American education system.

Superficially, school vouchers might seem a relatively benign way to increase the options poor parents have for educating their children. In fact, vouchers pose a serious threat to values that are vital to the health of American democracy. Most often, vouchers would be used in schools whose central mission is religious training. These programs subvert the constitutional principle of separation of church and state and threaten to undermine our system of public education.

While the Supreme Court has upheld school vouchers in the *Zelman v. Simmons-Harris* case, vouchers have not been given a green light by the Court beyond the narrow facts of this case. This decision also does not disturb the bedrock constitutional idea that no government program may be designed to advance religious institutions over non-religious institutions.

Implementation of voucher programs sends a clear message that we are giving up on public education. Undoubtedly, vouchers would help some students. However, other students may be effectively barred from voucher programs because private schools are permitted to discriminate on a variety of grounds including academic achievement and disciplinary issues. The glory of the American system of public education is that it is for all children, regardless of their religion, their academic talents, their mental or physical disabilities, or their ability to pay a fee. This policy of inclusiveness has made public schools the backbone of the American democracy.

These facts help explain why, when offered the opportunity to vote on voucher-like programs, the public has consistently rejected them. Now, ADL urges this Committee to join with the League and these voters and reject all voucher initiatives.

#### D. Creationism & Intelligent Design

Recently, individuals committed to breaching the wall separating church and state have attempted to remove the instruction of evolution from public school curriculum and/or introduce the teaching of creationism, creation science or intelligent design into the classroom. ADL consistently has opposed these troubling initiatives – and the League calls on this Committee and this Party to unequivocally reject these unconstitutional efforts.

Creationism, creation science and intelligent design theory are three religious theories of creation offered to explain the origins of the universe and are based on varying interpretations of the Bible. Consequently, any attempt to supplant or





supplement the teaching of evolution, a theory supported by overwhelming scientific evidence, in public schools in order to accommodate students' beliefs in creationism, creation science or intelligent design would have a religious purpose. By advocating the right of students to learn science uninfluenced by religious doctrine, this Committee would be honoring the purpose and the promise of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitutions.

#### E. Posting the Ten Commandments on Public Buildings and Property

The Anti-Defamation League believes that the increasing call for the government to post the Ten Commandments in schools, government buildings, courts and other public places – while often well intentioned – is both unconstitutional and bad policy. The U.S. Supreme Court long has held that the government may not take any action that endorses a specific religious belief.

ADL believes that posting the Ten Commandments in public schools and other public facilities is false fix for some of society's most intractable problems. Communities and this Committee should consider its consequences for one of America's most precious traditions – religious tolerance. Not all Americans subscribe to religions that follow the Ten Commandments, and those religions that do adhere to them sometimes follow very different versions of the Decalogue.

Publicly posting the Ten Commandments risks alienating many community members. Opposition to state-sponsored posting of the Ten Commandments does not arise out of hostility to the timeless values conveyed in them. Rather, it stems from a profound respect for the diversity of religions in America today. By adhering to the principle of separation of church and state, this Committee best fulfills the Constitution's legacy of religious liberty for all Americans.

### VIII. Charter Schools

Proponents of charter schools and other alternative forms of public education believe such choice options can provide educational benefits to students who may otherwise be underserved by traditional public schools. Therefore, charter schools legislation has been adopted in 41 states.

While the Anti-Defamation League affirms its strong commitment to improving public education, and therefore does not oppose charter schools, the League is concerned that the misuse of charter schools could lead to further erosion of the wall of separation between church and state. Furthermore, charter schools must never become a vehicle for discrimination on the basis of race, religion, creed, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation. ADL is confident that this Committee will recognize these concerns and share the League's commitment to ensure all Americans full and equal access to public education.



## **IX. Racial Profiling and Border Control**

Securing civil rights and opposing stereotypes based on immutable characteristics constitutes an essential component of the Anti-Defamation League's historic mission. Therefore ADL opposes profiling based on race and/or ethnic appearance. Although ADL commends law enforcement officers for their professionalism and commitment to their communities, the League also recognizes that there is evidence suggesting that minority motorists are stopped for pretextual reasons and questioned by law enforcement officers disproportionately more often than white motorists.

ADL lauds state and federal officials who are willing to take a strong stand against racial profiling and investigate possible civil rights violations by police for allegedly stopping motorists in disproportionate numbers. Law enforcement officers' use of race as a criterion for criminal suspicion in making traffic stops is a violation of motorists' civil rights. This Committee should take a strong stand, commit itself to protecting all Americans' civil rights, and make clear to the Party and the country that race-based policing and racial profiling are unacceptable practices.

We urge the Committee to oppose legislation or administrative action which would authorize or direct local law enforcement officials to enforce federal immigration laws. Many immigrants have come to the United States to escape from their oppressive governments and police abuse. Any effort to direct local police to both "serve and protect" the community and pursue and detain illegal aliens may undermine the trust necessary for local law enforcement to perform its job effectively within immigrant communities. Unless crime and immigration status enforcement responsibilities remain divided, out-of status persons and their family members may be reluctant to seek police protection, to report crimes committed against them, or serve as witnesses in other crimes. If immigrants and their family members are scared to report crimes, fires, and suspicious activity, the entire community's safety is compromised.

## **X. Federalism**

The Anti-Defamation League believes that federal legislation is often the best way to protect all Americans' civil rights. A federal remedy to intolerance and bigotry is often necessary because states alone cannot safeguard all our civil rights. Americans repeatedly and appropriately have looked to the U.S. Congress to protect them from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, disability, and other personal characteristics.

Indeed, federal civil rights laws defined the past century, playing a critical role in the United States' development as one nation. The 1964 Civil Rights Act was one of the most important pieces of legislation of the Twentieth Century. The 1965 Voting Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other federal law guaranteeing fair housing, preventing workplace discrimination, and punishing certain bias crimes have helped ensure that all Americans are treated equally.



Now, however, federal law-making powers are under attack. ADL is deeply concerned by the recent trend in the U.S. Supreme Court to undermine more than half a century of precedent and curtail Congress's constitutional powers. As the Court reinterprets the Constitution to strip Congress of its historical powers, the nation's highest tribunal makes it extremely difficult for Congress to pass much-needed civil rights and religious liberty legislation. Congress must have the power – pursuant to the U.S. Constitution's Commerce and Spending Clauses, the Thirteenth Amendment, and Section 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment – to enact these extremely important laws. Without them, the civil rights of all Americans are endangered. Therefore, ADL encourages this Committee and this Party to take all necessary steps to stem this dangerous jurisprudential tide.

## **XI. Reproductive Freedom**

The Anti-Defamation League is aware of the sensitive and emotional nature of the abortion issue and recognizes that various religious faiths and groups within religious faiths hold divergent views regarding the religious, moral, and theological aspects of the abortion debate. We recognize that each religious group in our society has a right to express its views concerning abortion, to explain that view, and to try to persuade others to accept that view. ADL views the issue as not only a religious one, but as one of personal freedom, consistent with a free and open democratic society. The League supports the right of every woman to make a decision whether to have an abortion under the guidelines established by the U.S. Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade and opposes any effort to abrogate that decision.

## **XII. Civil Rights/Affirmative Action**

As a complement to our attempts to combat prejudice, the Anti-Defamation League is committed to ensuring that every individual receives equal treatment under the law regardless of his or her race, religion, gender, national origin, or sexual orientation. We believe that our nation's full potential as a democracy can only be fulfilled by the reality of a "color-blind" Constitution. Reflecting this commitment, ADL supported and promoted the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

Consistent with these broad principles, and with federal civil rights law prohibiting discrimination, ADL urges this Committee to support the use of bona fide affirmative action programs designed to break down the barriers which prevent individual from gaining the necessary skills for advancement. ADL believes that legitimate and nondiscriminatory affirmative action – rather than short-term-quick-fix quotas – is the only way to achieve lasting and meaningful equal opportunity. This Committee should encourage and promote outreach programs which identify disadvantaged minorities and offer special training and educational assistance for deprived applicants. Such programs can help ensure equal opportunity and nondiscriminatory employment.



### **XIII. Gay Rights**

The Anti-Defamation League opposes the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment and any effort to amend the United States Constitution in a manner which could discriminate against a specific group of Americans. While religious communities should be able to decide for themselves what relationships they will recognize, ADL supports efforts to extend all the rights, protections and benefits of civil marriage to same sex couples. Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is as ugly as any other form of discrimination.

### **XIV. Confederate Flag**

The Anti-Defamation League opposes any display that makes any American feel ostracized from or isolated in his or her own community. The Confederate battle flag flying over state capitals, and elsewhere in the United States, sends an unambiguous message of disenfranchisement and inequality to African- Americans.

Indeed, many Americans of all races, national origins, and religions – and all geographical regions – regard the Confederate battle flag to be a modern symbol of racism, intimidation, hatred, oppression, and violence. The Confederate battle flag has an historical association with slavery and has been used by hate groups to symbolize white power and superiority. No government entity should ever give even the appearance that it endorses these demoralizing and demeaning messages.

Thus, the League opposes the use or promotion of the Confederate battle flag by any local, state, or federal government in any matter except for educational purposes and urges this Committee to take a strong stand, making it clear that it, too, opposes the display of this offensive flag.

### **XV. Gun Control**

The Anti-Defamation League has been an advocate for strong, effective, and sensible gun control legislation. Since 1967, the League has favored “expanded federal and state regulation of the sale and transfer of firearms and other dangerous weapons.” Recently, we have sadly witnessed the tragic dangers guns present. From schools to day care centers to shopping centers, from Pittsburgh to Chicago to Los Angeles, individuals have used guns to terrorize communities and local institutions. ADL firmly believes that one way to limit the power of extremists and reduce violence in our communities is to enact tough, effective gun control legislation.

Recently, ADL reaffirmed “its long standing position advocating the adoption of federal and state initiatives designed to make it more difficult for children as well as extremists to acquire and use guns and other dangerous weapons.” We urge this Committee to make a similar recommendation : Making it more difficult to obtain firearms – through mechanisms such as increased waiting periods, limitations on purchases, and promoting



stricter gun safety, licencing, and registration laws – will help safeguard our communities and check extremism without trampling on the Second Amendment or any other constitutional rights.