

A CURFEW IS A ORDER SPECIFYING A TIME AFTER WHICH CERTAIN REGULATIONS APPLY.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curfew>

To:
Senator Roberts
Senator Moran
Representative Jenkins
Representative Pompeo

From:
Dr. George McDuffee

Date:
Monday 25 Feb 2013

Subject:
Commonsense actions in problem areas and not mindless restrictions on everyone.

Ref:
“Gun Violence Is Public Health Crisis in Chicago”
http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/social_issues/jan-june13/afternewtown_02-22.html

While Chicago and many other large metro areas in the United States do indeed have a “violence” problem, in many cases this does not involve firearms, but consist of actions such as pushing people in front of subway trains, throwing people off rooftops, burning them alive in elevators, etc.

<http://www.cnn.com/2013/01/18/us/philadelphia-subway-attack>

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/12/19/justice/new-york-elevator-attack>

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/family-bronx-boy-thrown-roof-sues-building-landlord-article-1.1266219>

These instances or “guns” are not the problem, these are symptoms of the problem, which is the breakdown in the prevailing culture, which had contained such behavior through social control, or isolated the “feral” or incompetent individual, either through exile or incarceration.

The [re]enculturation of the massive numbers of individuals in these areas is a major and likely un-accomplishable task, however there are certain ameliorative and palliative actions that can and should be immediately taken to minimize/contain the problem, rather than attempting to “solve” the problems by imposing restrictions in Kansas, North Dakota or Wyoming in a futile attempt to correct a problem in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, etc. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enculturation>

A review of the media articles indicates that the majority (but not all) of the more violent reported incidents have occurred late at night. What is therefore proposed is the enactment and strict enforcement of laws and ordinances to keep individuals WITH NO LEGITIMATE NEED TO BE ABROAD AT HOME, during the most crime prone hours, i.e. a *CURFEW*.

Most likely this should be an aged based phased curfew, with earlier curfew hours for the younger individuals, such as Iceland and several American jurisdictions have implemented.

As a starting point for discussion, which should possibly be adjusted for longer summer daylight/DST, something on the order of “No individual shall be abroad in the night hours after the times specified below and before 6:00 AM without a legitimate and urgent reason, with the age to be calculated on the basis of the year in which the individual was born:

- (1) Individuals aged less than 16 years 9:00PM unless accompanied by an adult. [In many jurisdictions, 16 is the cut-off for treatment as a juvenile offender, and should be adjusted as required]
- (2) Individuals aged less than 18 years 10:00PM Sunday through Thursday, 11 PM Friday and Saturday, unless accompanied by an adult, or returning from a school sponsored event. [18 is the age of adulthood]
- (3) Individuals 18 years and older 11:pm Sunday through Thursday, 12 Midnight Friday and Saturday.

To be sure such restrictions will indeed severely cramp or limit an urban area's “vibrant night life,” [as it is intended to do] but does a “vibrant night life” justify taking a human life every night? Such restrictions should also limit the opportunities for retail street drug sales, and DWI related incidents.

To be sure the Federal government has no authority to directly legislate such requirements, but it frequently uses “no-funding” mandates to accomplish the same end, e.g. forcing the states to raise the legal drinking age to a uniform 21 by withholding highway matching fund if they don't.

What is suggested in the insertion of a “no funding” clause in selected appropriation bills, barring municipalities with more than 250,000 population [which may need to be lowered] and murder/negligent homicide rates per 100k in excess of 12.0 [which also may need to be lowered] from receiving any funds under the appropriation, unless they have an implemented and enforced curfew in place with the limits described above. This has the advantage of applying restrictions and limitations on personal freedom exactly where these are required, only where these are required, and at minimal cost to the general federal taxpayer.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_cities_by_crime_rate

FWIW - As a review of the above data indicates, on the basis of the homicide rate per 100k of population, while high, among the major metro areas, Chicago (population 2,703,713) is not the leader with 15.9/100k, rather New Orleans LA (population 346,974) with 57.6/100k is, and Detroit (population 713,239) with 48.2/100k the runner up.