



Colorado Democrat says women don't need guns for self-defense

By: Jason Pye— February 19, 2013

The gun control debate has brought out the crazy. This issue always brings out the passionate opinions from both sides. For those who oppose the Second Amendment and wanted to extensive gun control measures enacted by Congress or in various state legislature, they're forgetting one basic thing — criminals don't obey laws. That's why they're criminals.

The Second Amendment provides a means for Americans to protect their life, liberty, and property from those who would do them harm — and they do so millions of times each year. But don't tell that to State Rep. Joe Salazar, a Colorado Democrat. He doesn't think women need guns for self-defense. In his opinion, they would be better off calling the police or using a rape whistle to alert of an attack.

"It's why we have call boxes, it's why we have safe zones, it's why we have the whistles," State Rep. Salazar said on the floor of the House. "Because you just don't know who you're gonna be shooting at. And you don't know if you feel like you're gonna be raped, or if you feel like someone's been following you around or if you feel like you're in trouble when you may actually not be, that you pop out that gun and you pop...pop a round at somebody."

Here's the video:

The Cato Institute put out a study early last year — Tough Targets: When Criminals Face Armed Resistance from Citizens — that documented many different uses of firearms for defensive purposes over an eight year period. Among the stories outlined in the study, the authors, Clayton Cramer and David Burnett, note that there were 154 news reports that document use of a firearm in self-defense by a female. More pointedly to State Rep. Salazar's claim, there 25 news stories of women using a firearm to fight back against or ward off a sexual predator.

Police serve a purpose, and that is to solve crimes after they've been committed. But they cannot possibly respond to every single crime while it's in progress. They cannot be everywhere at once. And not every women will be able to reach a call box or have a rape whistle to make a plea for help.

Like it or not, guns do provide a means for women to fight back against sexual predators and that means shouldn't just be available to them — it should be encouraged. Unfortunately, it doesn't fit the completely twisted narrative that anti-gun politicians like Rep. Salazar are trying to set.