



**Vice President Dick Cheney  
Addresses the National Rifle Association  
at the Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA  
April 17, 2004**

***On President Bush...***

"Under President Bush, the executive branch...understands that the Second Amendment affirms more than a symbolic principle. It states, after all, that 'the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.' This means, as the Attorney General has stated unequivocally, that law abiding citizens of the United States have the individual right to own a firearm."

- Vice President Dick Cheney

"Ladies and gentlemen, this year, as in every election, you will have two presidential candidates asking for your vote. The difference is that only one of those candidates has shown you respect, earned your vote, and appreciates your support -- and that candidate is President George W. Bush."

- Vice President Dick Cheney

***On John Kerry...***

"Your organization (the National Rifle Association) has evaluated Senator Kerry's record on gun rights and given him a grade of 'F.' Senator Kerry has had a few things to say about [the NRA]...He has promised to, quote, 'stand up against' the NRA. Well, the Senator is free to pursue endorsements from whomever he wishes.

"But by standing against the NRA, he is showing what he thinks of the 133 years this organization has spent defending the Bill of Rights. He is standing against America's leading provider of gun safety classes and firearms training, and against an organization with a superb record of supporting the strictest measures against violent crime. He prefers not to be the candidate of your four million members, many who have served in the military, as police officers, sheriffs, deputies, and firefighters, and whose predecessors include Presidents of the United States from Theodore Roosevelt to John F. Kennedy to Ronald Reagan."

- Vice President Dick Cheney

"John Kerry's approach to the Second Amendment has been to regulate, regulate and then regulate some more."

- Vice President Dick Cheney

***In the news...***

"There is no greater threat to gun ownership than John Kerry as president,' NRA First Vice President Sandra Froman said. 'He would appoint Supreme Court justices who say an individual does not have the right to keep and bear arms.'"

- The Chicago Tribune, April 18, 2004

**Paid for by Bush - Cheney '04, Inc.**