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## Brady Center Anti-Gun Activists Raising Money off of NFL Player's Death ?

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Brady's Shamelessness-Will They Ever Learn? This week's outrage comes, not surprisingly, from the Brady Center. You may recall back in May, we reported on the Brady Center prescribing its remedies for the horrific Virginia Tech slayings well before any of the facts were known. Not content to stop there, they even sent out an extremely distasteful fundraising solicitation seeking contributions in the amount of \$32-one dollar for each of the Virginia Tech slayings.

You'd think the Brady Center would have learned its lesson after being pilloried for this stunt by Virginia Governor Tim Kaine (among others), who said, "People who want to take this (the Tech shootings) within 24 hours of the event and make it, you know, their political hobby horse to ride, I've got nothing but loathing for them. To those who want to, you know, try to make this into some little crusade, you know, I say take that elsewhere. Let this community deal with grieving individuals and be sensitive to those needs." Once again, though, the Brady Bunch has proven it has no learning curve.

Unable to refrain from commentary in the wake of the murder of Washington Redskins safety Sean Taylor, in a November 28 press release (<<http://bradycampaign.org/media/release.php?release=946>>), Brady President Paul Helmke once again looked into his crystal ball and prescribed the public policy solutions he promises would prevent similar, future shootings: ".Brady criminal background checks on all gun sales (emphasis added). We should ban military style assault weapons. And we should give our law enforcement agencies the power to stop trafficking in illegal guns."

Despite acknowledging at the outset of his remarks that "there are still many unanswered questions about the circumstances," soothsayer Helmke apparently already knows how to prevent future criminal attacks, even though law enforcement is engaged in a high-profile, ongoing investigation to determine the facts of the case. If past is prologue, one can only expect a forthcoming plea for money from the Brady Campaign. This time, no doubt, for \$21-Sean Taylor's jersey number. For the sake of decency, let's hope we're wrong.

If you see something that you feel would be a good candidate for the "Outrage of the Week!" section, please send it to: [freedomvoice@nrahq.org](mailto:freedomvoice@nrahq.org) <<mailto:freedomvoice@nrahq.org>>. Please be sure to send additional background and citations where available.

## Boston Gun Search Policy Raises Concerns

### **Boston police may soon begin asking parents to allow searches of their homes and children's bedrooms for firearms-without notice or warrants.**

Under the controversial "Home Safe" program, teams of police officers will be assigned to the city's public schools and will seek out leads on students believed to have firearms. Officers would then show up at the student's home and ask to immediately search the premises, confiscating any firearms they find. Officers are empowered to exercise their personal discretion should they encounter drugs or signs of other illegal activity. While parents have the right to refuse the search, questions of constitutionality, intimidation, and civil liberties have rightly been raised.

According to a November 17, MSNBC.com article, Thomas Nolan, a former Boston police lieutenant who teaches criminology at Boston University, deemed the program "an end run around the Constitution." Nolan further said, "The police have restrictions on their authority and ability to conduct searches. The Constitution was written with a very specific intent, and that was to keep the law out of private homes unless there is a written document signed by a judge and based on probable cause. Here, you don't have that."

There is also a fear that people may be too intimidated to deny police access to their homes, or may not understand the legal implications of their compliance with the search, which could include arrest and prosecution.

A November 27, Boston.com article reported that Boston City Councilor Chuck Turner has called for hearings to further review the program. "We should not encourage our police department to engage in clever strategies that undercut the constitutional rights of every citizen," Turner said in a statement.

Turner's main concern is that police may not tell residents that they can refuse admittance. He also suggests that a visit by three police officers could be a "subtle coercion of permission."

Of course, NRA is not alone in its concern over this activity. A November 21, BostonNOW.com article reports that the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has "serious concerns about the threat to civil liberties" as well.