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RE-FUND THE COPS

• “Defund Police Movement” results in crime explosion

By the AFP Staff

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) announced on July 6 that he was initiating a new emergency executive order in an effort to combat surging violence in New York City. “We’re in a new epidemic,” said Cuomo at the press conference, “and it’s gun violence, and it’s a matter of life and death, also.”

Notably, Cuomo’s proclamation doesn’t ask social workers to deal with the rising number of shootings in the city—there were two dozen shootings over the July 4 weekend alone. He is ordering police officers to, among other things, target and step up patrols in hot spots where violence has spun out of control, i.e., black neighborhoods.

New York City is not alone. In Chicago, over the July 4 weekend, 108 people were shot in two days. In fact, every major city in the U.S.—run predominantly by Democratic administrations—has seen a disturbing rise in violent crime, which can no longer be ignored. Homicides have increased sharply in Chicago, Baltimore, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Atlanta, and Miami.

In Minneapolis, a “sacred space” dedicated to George Floyd in one downtown area has been the site of rising criminal activity—and locals and business owners have had just about enough of it. Over the last year, reports *National Review*, there have been



ANDREW CUOMO
Reversing course on police.

two murders, two rapes, 30 assaults with dangerous weapons, and 21 robberies. Compare that to 2016-2019, where there were only 35 reported crimes in that same area.

It is getting so bad that even the liberal mainstream media is having a hard time ignoring the link between cutting funding for entire police forces in major cities and the increase in crime, trying desperately to somehow blame the GOP for the problem. The cries for defunding the police following widely hyped police shootings in the past year have all but faded away with some Democrats, who once sup-

ported this insanity, now calling on party officials to shut them down because they are alienating supporters.

Former Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis (D) summed up this sentiment in an interview with Capitol Hill daily *The Hill* on June 28, saying the “defund the police” movement is “nuts.”

Even far-left former Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) has come out of retirement to run for mayor of Cleveland again in an effort to save the violence-ravaged city. One of the top planks in his platform is hiring 400 new cops to patrol the city. Kucinich told voters he wants to “send a message loud and clear to violent felons: A strengthened Cleveland police force will pursue you. You cannot escape. You will be caught.”

During the riots in the summer of 2020, the liberal mainstream media overwhelmingly supported calls from radicals to eliminate police forces around the U.S., giving them hours of free time on the airwaves to promote their idiotic and potentially disastrous plan. Now they are all seeing the fruit of that labor. It is no coincidence that cities that have seen the biggest rise in crime had leaders who defunded and demoralized their police forces.

The good news is, the radicals on the far left are driving away not just majority white voters. They are also seeing Latinos and blacks turning away from the radical left-wing of the Democrat Party. A recent poll conducted by the Manhattan Institute found that, among black New Yorkers, 62% want to see increased policing of even minor issues, such as graffiti and public urination.

We at AFP saw this coming a year ago when calls for getting rid of police forces or drastically slashing budgets, once relegated to the far-left fringe, began to be aired publicly. Now those chickens have come to roost. We can only say, we told you so. ★

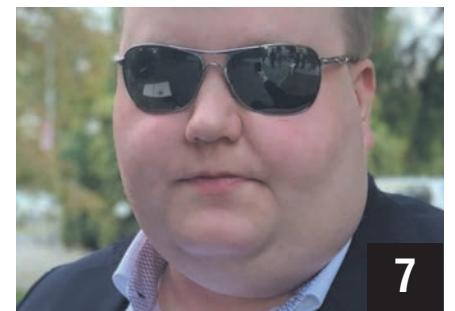
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