

FORTY-THREE HISTORIANS HAVE SIGNED THIS STATEMENT AGAINST CAMPUS CARRY

OCTOBER 15, 2015

Historians study changes in society and human behavior over time, including changes in the law and justifications for those changes. Thus, we, the undersigned faculty members of the Department of History at UT-Austin, feel it is important for us to comment on the implementation of the law allowing Concealed Handgun License holders to bring guns into our classrooms, offices, dormitories and other buildings. In our view, there is no reasonable justification for permitting concealed guns to be taken into campus buildings. Studies that link the drop in crime rates to the rise of gun ownership have been shown to be deeply flawed and to prove that [the presence of guns do not make us safer](#). Our colleagues at Texas A&M [have convincingly shown that CHLs have no impact on crime rates](#). Gun advocates argue that we should trust responsible gun owners to handle their guns safely in our classrooms, but they ignore the fact that the possible presence of guns will undermine our ability to teach. Students and faculty alike have told us that they will not be comfortable discussing controversial subjects if they think there might be a gun in the room. The Texas Legislature has imposed this law on our university community against the majority's very explicit opposition to it. For all these reasons, we strenuously object to this law and to the presence of concealed guns in campus buildings.

1. Robert Abzug, Professor
2. Daina Berry, Associate Professor
3. Miriam Bodian, Professor
4. Benjamin Brower, Associate Professor
5. Jonathan Brown, Professor
6. Erika Bsumek, Associate Professor
7. Matthew Butler, Associate Professor
8. Jorge Canizares, Professor
9. Ruramisai Charumbira, Assistant Professor
10. Indrani Chatterjee, Professor
11. Judith Coffin, Associate Professor
12. Susan Deans-Smith, Associate Professor
13. Lina del Castillo, Assistant Professor
14. Toyin Falola, Professor

15. George Forgie, Associate Professor
16. Seth Garfield, Professor
17. Virginia Garrard Burnett, Professor
18. Laurie Green, Associate Professor
19. Sumit Guha, Professor
20. Julia Hardwick, Professor
21. Madeline Y. Hsu, Associate Professor
22. Bruce Hunt, Associate Professor
23. Jacqueline Jones, Professor and **Chair**
24. Mark Lawrence, Associate Professor
25. Brian Levack, Professor
26. Philippa Levine, Professor
27. Tatjana Lichtenstein, Assistant Professor
28. Gail Minault, Professor Emeritus
29. Tracie Matysik, Associate Professor
30. Joan Neuberger, Professor
31. Robert Olwell, Associate Professor
32. Abena Dove Osseo-Asare, Assistant Professor
33. Megan Raby, Assistant Professor
34. Penne Restad, Lecturer, History
35. Megan Seaholm, Senior Lecturer
36. Michael Stoff, Associate Professor, **Chair** Plan II
37. AnnTwinam, Professor
38. James Vaughn, Assistant Prof
39. AndrewVillalon, Senior Lecturer
40. SamVong, Assistant Professor
41. Juliet E. K. Walker, Professor
42. Charters Wynn, Associate Professor
43. Emilio Zamora, Professor