

# Episode 85: The Tale of Two Americas-- Eyes on Kenosha

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## SPEAKERS

Anneliese Dickman, JJ Janflone, Kris Brown, Kelly Sampson



JJ Janflone 00:08

Hey everybody, this is the legal disclaimer where I tell you the views, thoughts and opinions shared in this podcast belong solely to our guests and hosts, and not necessarily Brady or Brady's affiliates. Please note, this podcast contains discussions of violence that some people may find disturbing. It's okay, we find it disturbing too. As I'm sure most of you know, by now, the events unfolding in Kenosha, Wisconsin are drawing national attention. Essentially, we're living in two Americas: one where intimidation by armed white vigilantes is glorified and we're protesters decrying police violence are vilified, and the other where Black Lives Matter and police violence is gun violence. To talk about what happened in Kenosha, and what continues to happen, along with what actually is a militia and what are Wisconsin gun laws. Today, I am joined by three fantastic individuals. Now first, I want to make clear to everyone this was actually filmed live, I would really recommend that everyone go check out our Brady Facebook page, we end up doing these lives, I would say at this point, about once a week. So some of this audio has been edited down for the sake of time and clarity. So for the full uncut version, go check us out by following Brady on Facebook. I want to go ahead and get us started by just introducing some of our phenomenal panelists. I want to start with our Wisconsin expert and Anneliese Dickman. Anneliese has been a public policy professional for over 25 years, focusing on local government issues important to neighborhoods and families. One of the things that I think is great about Anneliese is, after the Sandy Hook massacre, she left her

position as the Research Director of the Midwest's oldest think tank and decided to dedicate her skills to reforming gun policy. She joined Brady in 2018, as the program manager for the Combating Crime Gun initiative in Milwaukee. Kelly, in addition to her fantastic role as co-host on Brady's podcast, "Red, Blue and Brady." She's also senior counsel and Director of Racial Justice Brady, I think by now we should all know about how fantastic she is. She's been present on a bunch of these lives and all across our podcast. And then of course, our Madam President, Ms. Kris Brown, who is you know, obviously, in addition to being president at Brady, I think has been a lifelong activist in policy law, and, you know, really working with grassroots people to end gun violence. And then once that's done, I think take over the world. I don't know, Kris, what your life plan is after this. But I think it we should go ahead for the sake of our listener's short amount of time and just jump right into covering a lot of ground and I think maybe the best way to do that is just to start by, I'm going to do a really unfair question. Anneliese, can you tell everybody about what sort of started all this in Wisconsin, namely, take us from the shooting of Jacob Blake all the way to what had happened with the shooting in Kenosha at the Jacob Blake protests.

A

Anneliese Dickman 03:20

Sure. Well, ever since the shooting of George Floyd, cities all across Wisconsin have been experiencing marches, demonstrations, protests nightly, including Milwaukee. And when Jacob Blake was shot last Sunday, he was shot seven times by the Kenosha police. that sparked enormous outrage. As you can imagine, there was of course a video of it from a bystander on a cell phone, the Kenosha Police Department does not have body cameras. So that's that's the video, the bystanders video that garnered attention and created demand by folks in Kenosha and across the state for some sort of reform. A lot of that demanded been happening over the course of the summer, Tatiana Washington who is unable to join us on this panel. But she and her fellow activists, youth activists, had marched from Milwaukee to Madison earlier in the summer, on 4th of July weekend, to demand that the governor take some action on police reform. So this has really been building over the entire summer. So Jacob Blake was shot Sunday and then on Tuesday, during you know, the third night of protests, there were more armed white civilians in downtown Kenosha than there had been before, although they've been around it a lot of these protests. And from witness accounts, they were, you know, being appreciated by the police, they were being treated as if they had a legitimate reason to be there. They considered themselves a militia. They considered themselves to be doing it job and one of those folks, a 17-year-old who had come to Wisconsin from Illinois, shot and killed two people and injured one person, at least one person. And he's now been arrested and charged with murder. So, of course, protests have continued. And there's been a much larger police presence National Guard and a visit from President Trump and tomorrow a

visit from Vice President Biden, so it's become very politicized as well.



JJ Janflone 05:28

I do really want to highlight Tatiana's work in particular, she was the executive director of 50 Miles More. She's also a state policy associate for March For Our Lives. And a member has been a member of Brady's Executive Council team for Team Enough. She's phenomenal, but she's out there today and unfortunately, because she is out there couldn't actually get service to to call in. So hopefully, she'll be able to join us at some point. But if not, I am going to drop the information for 50 Miles More in the description below so that people can kind of see what, in particular, young people have been doing and Wisconsin around these issues of racial justice and gun violence for quite a long time. Kris, I now want to pivot to you. Because when Anneliese is speaking, the first thing I think of when I hear armed militias, particularly armed militias occurring in the same space as peaceful protest, I get very worried. And I think a lot of people are very concerned about the increasing number of guns that are present in these spaces. And I'm wondering if you can, you know, maybe break down for our audience why these militias, particularly these armed militias are so concerning?



Kris Brown 06:34

Well, let's just deconstruct your question for a second. Because...



JJ Janflone 06:40

Unfair questions all around, I'm sorry.



Kris Brown 06:43

And I'll give you my perspective, but I think that it would be really great also for both Kelly and Anneliese to weigh in on this question, too, because it's a really good question. First of all, the shooter, who is arrested and charged with murder here, was not part of an armed militia. There's a legal question whether he could even be part of a militia because he's under age, he's 17 years old. He had an assault style weapon, his mother drove him across state lines, and he was videotaped talking about his desire to protect property with this this assault style weapon. We've heard the President, President Trump, comment on seeing that tape and view him, or state, that somehow he believed because he was being chased by other people, that his life was at risk, as if somehow that justifies the actions of this particular shooter. From our perspective, Brady's perspective, and certainly, from my

perspective, it absolutely does not justify it. And if you add guns to a protest, you are very likely going to increase the volatility, the sense of insecurity, and the potential for injury and death, just as we've seen, they are not a good mix. And certainly, as President of Brady, I feel that way. And I'm not alone, there are substantial articles being written by numerous people all across the country with real concerns about what we see happening. And the main concern I have, if you look at it from what Anneliese has described, this tragedy of people, really following George Floyd, out protesting because they want change, the vast majority of these protests are peaceful. And we know we have a huge problem with systemic racism in this country. There's a reason why people are taking their time to go march and band together to seek that change. I, as an American, value that right. I value that, right. That's people being able to voice their concerns and demand change. That's their First Amendment rights. It's also their right to assembly. And I don't believe and I think most other America, Americans believe that people's rights to bring guns to threaten others, trump those constitutional rights. But that's what's at stake right now. That's really what's at stake. And if you listen to the rhetoric of President Trump, and what he's saying about that shooter, and you hear what Joe Biden said two days ago, which is saying all forms of violence are not good. We need to come together peacefully. I agree. We have a huge divide here, and a choice to make in this election about our most basic rights, the right to free speech, and the right to assembly, and the right to move forward with a more peaceful, fair and just world and that does not include armed individuals, or armed "self-styled" militias to stop those rights from being exercised



JJ Janflone 10:04

Well, and I'm going to take the page out of Kris's book and actually turn that over to you, and Anneliese and Kelly and see if there's anything in particular that that you wanted to add onto that. And I think you articulated it beautifully, Kris. You know, for me, protesting I feel like is, as American as like 'apple pie,' like not to be to be cliché, but essentially, we're a country founded on on protest and reinvention. And so it does concern me to see people at protests being worried and concerned for their safety.



Kelly Sampson 10:36

I guess the only thing I would add to what Kris said is, there's also a lot of hypocrisy on many levels. And one of them I think, is you see this panic, especially on the right, but not exclusively so, around this idea of 'cancel culture' and free speech, right. And you see, people saying, 'they want to take our voices away,' 'they want to cancel you,' 'you're not allowed,' 'you're not free to express your own opinion.' And yet a lot of those same voices are advocating for and celebrating the idea of a person going to a place where people are expressing their opinions peacefully, with a weapon to cancel the protest, cancel that

human beings life. And I think that that just goes to show the hypocrisy around rights. And a lot of ways I think we're seeing that for some people, it's constitutional rights, for me none for you. And guns are a way for people to be able to 'cancel' people. I mean, I think if you were talking about cancel culture, shooting and killing a person who is expressing a point of view that you don't like, or that threatens you, is the ultimate cancellation. And so, it personally, she is very infuriating to see that level of hypocrisy where on one hand, people are so upset around protests and upset around people just expressing "Hey, I would like to live in a country where," you know, "there is accountability for police or where there is a more full and inclusive idea of public safety." And also, "I feel threatened by that and so I'm going to shoot you." And so when I see this kind of increasing celebration around bringing a gun to a protest it, it not only goes to show how far we've gone from really understanding that the Constitution is a holistic document, and all the rights work together. And the Second Amendment is not the ultimate right, but it works in concert with the others. But it's also, I think, really dangerous and really risky, as we've already seen. So I really am hoping that a lot of the work that we're doing in other organizations will do really bring some sanity to this whole conversation.



JJ Janflone 12:44

Well, no, and I appreciate you actually saying that, Kelly, because I think the hypocrisy is really I think sort of present at the center of this, right. I think when we have a little bit later, I'm going to ask a few more questions about the shooting itself, we can get into sort of that, but even just the way in which the shooter in Kenosha was treated in response to the way other shooters have been treated, which is really a sort of a trend we've seen across the US in terms of how black gun owners versus white gun owners or people with guns in general are treated based on race. And so I think that's something too, that we have to unpack quite a bit. Not something I think we can unpack in less than an hour but something that Brady's been trying to highlight and work on and that we need to conversation that needs to keep having. To that note, I think I really want to talk to you Anneliese about some of the people who've been pushing this rhetoric. So in particular, you know, I want to dive a little bit deeper into the shooting itself. You know, what actually are the gun laws in Wisconsin? What laws were broken? What the shooters defense team is arguing, which I find very disturbing, and I think our listeners will, too, and how this all actually come back to a long history of the NRA and the gun lobbies, intense involvement and Wisconsin law. Right. So I know that's a heavy burden, so I'm sorry but.



Anneliese Dickman 13:58

No, those are great questions. Wisconsin has very permissible gun laws. That's by design.

The gun lobby has been very active in Wisconsin, we do have a gun culture, we have a lot of hunters. But these laws are not designed to support that sort of sportsmen culture. These laws are designed to allow permissive gun carrying everywhere in public. And so we allow open carry in Wisconsin, you don't see it terribly often. But you do see it especially at things like protests, marches, demonstrations, people show up armed in order to intimidate and you know, unfortunately, that in and of itself is not breaking any gun laws. But the shooter in this case was only 17. And under Wisconsin law, you cannot lawfully possess a long gun like he had when you're 17. Under federal law, you cannot lawfully possess a handgun when you're that young. So he had no lawful possession of that gun at the time he was shooting. His defense team is arguing first self-defense, as Kris mentioned, but they're also arguing that he cannot be charged with this unlawful possession, because he was acting as a member of a militia and the Second Amendment trumps state law in this case, and the Second Amendment protects militias. And therefore, Wisconsin State law can't be enforced against the 17 year old, which is not only an argument that's ridiculous on its face, and counter to law and precedent and everything else, but it's also the exact message that we've been hearing from the NRA and from President Trump for years. I mean, if you remember when he was running for president, and that brouhaha about Hillary Clinton's emails, he suggested that Second Amendment people might be able to take care of that problem. So they've been talking about arming folks to go out and take the law into their own hands. And I think that's what we saw with this 17 year old. He, in the, in the videos, where he's being interviewed before the shooting, he's talking about, he's doing a job, and he's there to protect property and protect people. And that's not the job of private citizens. That wasn't his property, there's no indication he was asked to be there by anyone to do that. So this rhetoric is really directly linked back to the NRA and to President Trump.

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Kris Brown 16:34

If I could, I think what Annalisa is saying is just so important. And I want to pause on what what she's really outlining here, because it's something that I find deeply disturbing, that I think most Americans would find equally disturbing if we thought about it much. And some has been written here. But at the end of the day, and Kelly touched on this, too, we're talking about human life, right. And when you see the stories written up on this, and far too many publications, there's somehow a false equivalency made about the sanctity of property versus human life. And what Anneliese is pointing out, is really critically important. He wasn't asked to be there, none of the property owners whose property was, "at risk," asked him to be there. And I'm sure if you asked any of them, they would say, it is not worth a human life, to protect my property from some largely false threat. I don't think anyone here today would say there is any equivalency. And that, to me is a deeply disturbing undercurrent behind what President Trump and many of the people he's trying

to gin up are really saying, which is human life is expendable. And as Kelly said, the ultimate in cancel culture is a belief that your life can be canceled because you care so much about ending systemic racism, that you go out and protest. And then somehow, that means that your life can just be canceled. And there's something deeply, deeply fundamentally un-American at root behind all of this, that we should all be disturbed by.



JJ Janflone 18:26

Anneliese, when we were talking earlier, one of the things that I found so compelling and so frightening was that the argument that is being used by his defense team extensively is essentially the same one that had been used previously in a court case by the KKK.



Anneliese Dickman 18:42

Right. Yeah.



JJ Janflone 18:43

The fact that there's this one, this this very clear and overt link to white supremacy present, but also that you know, that this argument isn't new, but that it is being repackaged, is very concerning to me. And I'm wondering if you could explain that to our listeners a little bit more.



Anneliese Dickman 18:58

Yeah, it's the exact same argument that the KKK made in the 80s, when they were arming their own private militia to intimidate a group of people. And when those folks been intimidated, it happened to be Vietnamese fishermen's association, brought a lawsuit saying, you know, you have to stop. You, you are acting as if you're some sort of state militia when you're not. And you don't have the same ability to behave as a state sanctioned militia. And the KKK argued that no, we're covered by the Second Amendment. And the court, of course, struck that down. That's not what the Second Amendment says it doesn't allow any group to form their own private militia and have all the authority of the state. And so this argument, yes, it's a repackaging of the same argument and an argument that has failed and is not. I mean, all the precedent says, 'No, in fact,' you know, the states can regulate gun usage and not run afoul of the Second Amendment and you don't get to call yourself a militia and just do whatever you want.



JJ Janflone 20:05

One of the things that's really concerned me is the way in which the victims of the shooting are being portrayed or being talked about, as opposed to the way the shooter is being talked about both in the way that in the aftermath of the initial shooting, both were handled and treated by Kenosha police. So I'm wondering if we can talk about sort of just representation, and and why it matters so much. And then, sort of, to expand this the fear that I have with, you know, are we going to start to see victims of shootings portrayed as if somehow it is their fault? If there is this, 'I was just defending myself' defense, because I know that for, essentially, for millions of schoolchildren, who have unfortunately had to go through shooting drills and whatnot in their schools, they're told if they see someone with a gun, someone who's shooting, to rush the shooter, that that is something that they should, should do. And I don't like the idea of them, those children being portrayed as somehow that it's their fault for rushing. Sure. So a lot to unpack there, but Kelly, I know you can handle it, so.



Kelly Sampson 21:04

I mean, to your point about the victims being portrayed as if it were their fault. Unfortunately, that's not new, that's something that we have seen for decades, if not centuries, this idea that when you are a black person, a person of color, or as what happened to the victims in Kenosha, a white person who is standing alongside and advocating for people of color and black people and sort of challenging the system, that in some ways that makes you guilty. And I mean, that's exactly what we've seen every time there's been a police shooting, or not every time is police shooting, but in many of the high profile police shootings we're rushed to say, 'Well, what did they do?' And you know, we've seen it even with Jacob Blake, where people said, 'Well, he had a knife in his car,' but then you see the shooter walking towards officers with a weapon slung over his shoulder, and being offered water. So this is, kind of, inseparable from the systemic racism that we have where if you are a black person or someone standing as an ally, then you will be more than likely presumed guilty. And we saw that when we looked at the press conference with the various officials in Kenosha afterwards, where I think we were counting the minutes before they would actually acknowledge the two people have been killed in one person had been injured the night before. And instead, they focus so fully on this idea of curfew and being out after curfew, and basically indicating that because they broke curfew, well, you know, maybe you'll get shot by a civilian, I don't know, it's your fault. And so I think this all is sort of part and parcel with as we've all said -- systemic racism -- where in a lot of ways we live in a country where your innocence or your culpability can be associated with your skin color. And that's exactly what people are protesting about, which is the irony, this idea that you should be able to be seen as a



human being and not a threat simply because of the skin that you're in. And then, like you said, on the flip side, it's disgusting the way that people are lauding him and obviously, as an attorney, I know that in America, you have the presumption of innocence. However, we've seen people go as far as to say, I wanted him as my president, he's a hero, he's a patriot, we need more people like him. And I just saw a video this morning, where his attorney have called him from the county jail, and asked him to speak to the fans. And then he you know, thanked the people for the letters and the encouragement that he'd been, had been getting. And so we've gotten so far now where I know all summer, you've heard people say, are we now dealing with a death call in America between sort of the lack of care around COVID and lack of care around violence. And I kind of go back in my mind to when Trump was running for president. and he said, You know, I could shoot someone, I think, in the middle of Fifth Avenue or something, and no one would care. And it sounded absurd at the time, but now looking at the way that people have rallied around the shooter, it's coming to life. And that is very scary and very disturbing. And I think goes to why we have got to not only get a new administration, but also really uproot this culture that doesn't see, to Kris's point earlier, human beings as valuable and priceless, where it's sort of like, okay, two people died. But we don't even really talk about that, you know, it we really are focusing so much on why they were there, or what was the curfew. And so, I realize there are a lot of strands I went down there, but to kind of sum it all up and answer your question, the difference that we're seeing in the way that we are talking about the shooter versus the people that were killed by him, I think goes to show that there are some problems and systemic issues that are going to take a long time to untangle. But we at least have to confront them and not just pretend that they don't exist.



JJ Janflone 25:07

Yeah, I think back to the press conference where I, long before the fact that two American lives were lost and that someone was pretty severely injured, it was a long list of property damage. Which I think goes goes back to Kris's initial point, which is this placement of property over people, which is then goes back to Anneliese point about the presence that the gun lobby has played in Wisconsin law and establishing that as as being true. I'd like to open it up to all of you to sort of talk about to go back to things that President Trump has said, which is him now being on record via tweets and whatnot, calling the issue itself "anti police domestic terrorism," which I think really does demonstrate what Kelly, you were just talking about, which is that there's almost two Americas present in the US, not just when it comes to race, although obviously I think that's very apparent, but also when it comes to gun violence. And I'm wondering if we can sort of tease out for our listeners a little bit about, you know, what those two Americas are, and ideally, you know, how we begin to fix that separation? Again, so many easy questions today, for all of you.

A

Anneliese Dickman 26:18

Well, sitting here in Wisconsin, I think it's become so clear that we can all watch the same video and come away with two completely different worldviews about what just happened. So you know, I watch a video of a 17 year-old, and you can hear, you know, it sounds like dozens of shots that he's firing on a street with lots of people around. And then he walks up to a police car with his hands up, and then just walks away and ends up going back home and sleeping in his own bed that night. I watched that video two days after I watched a video of a man walking to his car where his three children are, and a police officer, who has him within arm's reach, still feels the need to shoot him seven times in the back. And reconciling those two things in your head and that those both could happen in the same city is impossible. It really, really shows the divide. And I think, unfortunately, that divide is being exacerbated on purpose by politicians. I didn't mention before, it hasn't been brought up in this conversation, but the governor called for a special session on Monday for the legislature to take up bills on police reform. These are bills everyone should agree on that would that would prohibit certain actions that the police have been taking that have resulted in the loss of life, like chokeholds and things like that. This shouldn't be political, these bills, and yet the legislature just gaveled in and immediately recessed. They, they're not going to take it up. They don't feel any sense of urgency to address this. People are literally marching in the streets every single night. And yet they don't feel any sense of urgency to address this. And it's shocking, in a lot of ways, but also, unfortunately, not surprising.

K

Kris Brown 28:19

Yeah. I think that there's really reviling of facts that we have endured for nearly four years now under President Trump, right. And it starts like any kind of other approach to erosion of our democracy with basic facts, like how many people are at his inauguration, right. And these things that are provable with evidence that contradict what he was saying. And by now we have more than 20,000 or more such examples. This is an obvious one, right? When he's saying that it's peaceful protesters that are putting anyone at risk, that is just simply a lie, and we have to call it a lie. It's an absolute lie. The biggest threat to American safety, and there are many reports on this are domestic terrorists, and those are homegrown, and most of them get guns far too easily. And that's why we live in an America where many people don't feel safe going to school, or going to church, or going to the movies, or walking down the street in far too many communities across this country. And so ultimately, if you're a president, who is presiding over now, more than 100,000 deaths, because of COVID, one of the worst economic downturns in history, with failed policy after failed policy, your last refuge, your only refuge is to attempt to so further discord and galvanize your base, and that's what he's trying to do with this. And we need to make sure that doesn't happen. Far too much is at stake here. And while I am, like

Kelly, very concerned about how the the shooter is written up, versus the two victims, and a third who's who's struggling, very little is said about that, what is heartening is that all across the country, Americans have come together. And they are demanding change, we want this change. And I think we have 65, or something days left before this election. And we all have to stay motivated, and focused and positive on the opportunity to make change, which is to vote. And so I'm just going to give a shameless plug here for the Voting Access Saves Lives campaign. That's why we put it together. That's why we're working so closely with Team Enough, our incredible youth led program at Brady and March For Our Lives, to make sure that voting is as open as possible, to make sure that folks get their ballots, that we can use the mail system and in person early voting and everything at our disposal to make this election, a mandate for our future. And to be sure, gun violence across all of these tickets is on the ballot. So we all need to vote.



JJ Janflone 31:33

Well, I think one of the things that a lot of people have turned to and I think Anneliese, you've even mentioned, this is, you know that when the gun lobby or when the NRA or when different political actors who seem to favor those positions have have stepped in and really harmed the American people because of their position on gun laws, other groups have had to step in and try and triage a little bit. And I think that this is a great opportunity for us to sort of talk about how attorney generals are increasingly being present in this space. And then other sort of political actors are being present to try and fight for gun violence prevention, where they can within the sphere of influence that they can. And so I'm wondering, maybe Anneliese, or Kelly, would you feel comfortable sort of just commenting on that a little bit?



Kelly Sampson 32:23

So to this follows really well on Kris's emphasis on voting because attorneys general are elected positions, and they hold a tremendous amount of power. They represent the public's interest in whatever state that they're in. And there are different models around, especially when it comes to police shootings, around how an attorney general could step in or intervene. But one of the main things they can do is they have authority that can serve as a check on a district attorney. And they may be able to step in if a district attorney is hesitant to do som, they have full authority to sort of intervene in prosecutions, they can represent the state, they can press charges. And so there's, in the same way that we have checks and balances in our federal system, attorneys general can also serve as a tremendous resource in a place where the people can have a direct role, ultimately, because the people elect the Attorney General, and then the Attorney General acts in the

interest of the people. And when they don't, I think a good example of what that looks like is in Kentucky, where everyone is saying arrest the cops who killed Breonna Taylor, arrest them, hold them accountable. And the person who has that power is the Attorney General, and he's not doing it. Versus you have, you know, in Minnesota, you have Keith Ellison, and you have I think in New York, we have Tish James. So there are examples of where an attorney general actually listens to the people and is responsive to them. And then there are examples where they don't so I think this is just another place where voting, when you're voting, you may not think of the Attorney General as a gun violence issue, but really pay attention to who that person is if there is a race in your jurisdiction, because they have a lot of power to be able to not only intervene in police violence, but also to take action around gun violence in general. They have the ability to bring lawsuits, they have the ability to hold companies accountable, gun companies accountable, I should say. So that's just another endorsement for the Voting Access Saves Lives campaign to also be thinking about Attorney General races if there is one in your state or jurisdiction.



**Kris Brown** 34:43

JJ, I think what Kelly said is so important. I'll just add one thing that I feel is a bit underreported, but really important too, which is activities that in courts across the country where attorneys general being led by Josh Shapiro out of Pennsylvania and the attorney general, I believe in Washington State and joined by many states, which is to bring a case against Louis DeJoy, Donald Trump and the USPS because it needs to be a defendant in order for any remedy to actually be felt. And what they're doing there is seeking changes that would basically enforce what Congress is trying to ensure happens with this additional funding back to the USPS. But we know those bills are stalled with Mitch McConnell, like many other changes, and so the Attorney Generals really are, in a sense, stepping into into a bit of the void of what's happening and the balance of power and saying, look, the US Postal Service is required to deliver mail to my state. And there are activities undertaken now which systemically preclude that from happening efficiently. Court, what I want you to do is appoint a monitor to ensure that mail is delivered, efficiently and effectively. So I'm very excited also, at the leadership being demonstrated by the attorneys general really to move forward on a case where there's clear legal authority behind them and democracy's literally at stake as well. So I'm excited to see how those cases get resolved.



**JJ Janflone** 36:24

So Kris, if people are worried, or if they're listening to this, and this has gotten fired up, and they want to get engaged, what's something that they can do right now?



Kris Brown 36:33

Well, they can certainly go to our website, Bradyunited.org. And check out our Voting Access Saves Lives section, we've done a lot of work to make sure whether you have two minutes, two hours or two days, there are things that you can do to stay active and motivated and that will help ensure that people in your state in your area, have the best access possible to voting, that the workers at the polls and I don't know if everyone saw something that's in the category of great news, something like 200,000 additional poll workers were signed up. Yesterday, I think people across America are seeing this opportunity to actually participate in democracy and make a difference. And if you are one of those, we can give you the kind of information and connect you with others so that you can make that difference.



Anneliese Dickman 37:25

And I'll just add, if you're here in Wisconsin, if you're watching this from Wisconsin, obviously vote, volunteer to be a poll worker, everything Kris just mentioned, go to our website. And please call or email your state elected officials and let them know that you expect them to take this issue up sooner rather than later. They're it's unacceptable that they're not planning on doing anything about this. So they need to hear from their constituents.



JJ Janflone 37:50

Well, and I think on that note of education, I will highly encourage everybody, as various people on this panel have said, go to Bradyunited.org, follow us on social @Bradybuzz, where we'll have links to all the different ways you can get involved. And if you want to hear more from me and Kelly, Kelly, especially not so much me, follow our podcast, "Red, Blue, and Brady" available where all podcasts can be found out on the internet. We're talking extensively now about gun violence being an issue of democracy as well. So I want to thank all three of you for coming and for being present. As always, I'm really excited to talk to all of you, but I'm really sad, unfortunately, that we keep having things that we have to discuss. So let's hope that we can all come together and help sort of start to fix a lot of these long systemic problems.



Anneliese Dickman 38:40

Thank you.



JJ Janflone 38:43

Know waht we can all agree on? The importance of sharing our opinion. Listeners can now get in touch with us here at "Red, Blue, and Brady" via phone or text message. Simply call or text us at (480) 744-3452 with your thoughts, questions, concerns, ideas, whatever. And you know what else could be fun? Listening to an Ad! With more than 10 years of experience. NordVPN is a leading VPN provider. NordVPN gives you military grade protection online and you can access all your favorite sites without restriction. They never log your activity when using their servers, and you can always trust your privacy to them. As someone who, ideally, once COVID is over, would travel quite a bit to countries or places with internet restrictions, I gotta say, I love NordVPN. Right now listeners have an opportunity to support the show and get 70% off on a two-year plan by clicking the link in the description of our episode. Thanks for listening. As always, Brady's life-saving work in Congress, the courts and communities across the country is made possible thanks to you. For more information on Brady or how to get involved in the fight against gun violence, please like and subscribe to the podcast, get in touch with us a Bradyunited.org or on social at @Bradybuzz. Be brave and remember -- take action not sides.