



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on February 16, 2026

The UN Calls It “Repugnant and Illegal,” but Sweden Has Cut Shootings by 63%

The United Nations calls the policies “repugnant and illegal.” What’s for sure, however, is that you can call them something else: effective.

The new criminal-justice measures in Sweden are so effective, in fact, that the nation has recently experienced a 63-percent decline in shootings. And what is the Land of the Midnight Sun doing to achieve this?

Its authorities are targeting migrant neighborhoods, where the crime mostly is, and the groups mainly committing it. Not surprisingly, this has been condemned as “racial profiling,” though who’s issuing the condemnations is instructive.

To the Swedish police’s surprise, migrant-neighborhood residents have been quite supportive. It seems that regardless of people’s race, creed, or color they don’t enjoy being imperiled by violent gangs.

Those complaining are mainly indigenous Swedes — white liberals, that is.

What’s more, while the Swedish policies would be found unconstitutional in America, we’re registering our own crime-oriented triumph: a profound murder-rate decline. In fact, projections hold that the 2025 U.S. homicide rate was perhaps the lowest it has been since 1900. (Hard to believe, I know, but I double- and triple-checked it.) Moreover, the projected decline relative to 2024, approximately 21 percent, is *the largest single-year drop on record*.

Land of the Midnight Sun Invited High Noon — and Now Is Adjusting

Sweden was once among the world safest countries. Its murder rate was only 1.0-1.2 per 100,000 population in the 1970s. But then came the obsession with mass Third World migration and multiculturalism. And, well, it hasn’t exactly worked out as the social engineers had hoped. Now, though, realizing [Morlocks have joined the native Eloi](#), Swedish authorities have adjusted. As *The Telegraph* [reported](#) last Tuesday:

Sweden is one of the last places you might expect to see children being pulled off the streets and searched without a warrant, or having their phones spied on by detectives.

But after four years of gang violence that has seen children as young as 12 recruited on social media to carry out hit jobs against rival gangsters, police say it has become a grim but necessary reality.



Lucas Lennse/iStock/Getty Images Plus



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on February 16, 2026

In April 2024, Swedish police were handed sweeping new powers to tackle the rise of Middle Eastern drug syndicates that were grooming boys and girls into being “foot soldiers” by offering them up to 150,000 kroner (£12,500) per job.

Across Swedish cities, officers now have the power to stop and search people — including children — and vehicles without specific suspicion of a crime....

Children under the age of 15 can also be placed under phone and internet surveillance by police if they are suspected of serious crimes, such as being involved in gang assassinations or bomb making.

Two years on, the laws — which had prompted outcry amongst liberals — are working. Sweden has seen the biggest decline in gun violence since the crisis began in 2022, according to the latest data.

The number of shootings in Sweden fell by 63 per cent in 2025 with 147 last year compared to a peak of 390 in 2022, when narcotics gang Foxtrot began a major, deadly power struggle with its rivals.

Murder and manslaughter rates have also fallen to their lowest level in a decade....

If It Walks Like a Duck...

The aforementioned aren’t the only changes Swedish authorities have made. The law previously dictated that children under 15 couldn’t be prosecuted for crimes. As stated above, criminal gangs exploited this by recruiting tender-aged “hit men.” Now, however, Sweden has lowered the age of “criminal responsibility” to 13. Moreover, as The Western Journal [reported Sunday](#), citing *The Telegraph*,

police are now also able to pick out children through clues that suggest they are involved in gang activities, such as wearing certain clothing brands....

Civil rights campaigners decried these measures as racial profiling due to the fact most safe zones targeted heavily migrant-populated neighborhoods.... Swedish police focused on these neighborhoods because migrant youth were the target demographic for gangs like the Foxtrot Network.

Now, the well-informed may note that at issue isn’t, literally speaking, “racial profiling.” “Middle Easterner” isn’t a race, after all, nor is “Muslim” (most of these criminals are Islamic). In fact, these individuals are generally classified as “Caucasian” (i.e., Arabs, Persians, and many other non-European groups are just that).

This said [and as I’ve explained](#), “racial profiling” [is a propaganda term](#). We all “profile” instinctively. And proper official profiling [considers all relevant factors](#) — including, when appropriate, race.

The Methods Will Reflect the People

In reality, we know how to quell crime very effectively, even while respecting American constitutional constraints. (For details, see my essay [“How NYC Won the War on Crime.”](#)) We can be happy, too, as mentioned earlier, that our murder rate appears to be [at its lowest](#) since 1900.



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on February 16, 2026

As for those complaining about Sweden's new methods, however, something comes to mind.

Left-wing immigrationist Mona Sahlin [proclaimed in 2001](#) that the "Swedes must be integrated into the new Sweden. The old Sweden is never coming back." She was likely right, too.

For you can't have one kind of people and another kind of culture — or another kind of criminal-justice policy.

And Sweden's "kind of people" has kinda changed.

The country could be one of the world's safest nations in the '70s under its *old* criminal-justice policies because the citizenry was different. This is a cautionary tale, too.

As Benjamin Franklin warned, "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become more corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters."

This is true whether the native people become more corrupt and vicious — or whether they import foreigners who are. In either case, restricting freedom will become, as the Swedish cops put it, "a grim but necessary reality."

So whether in Sweden, here in the United States, or elsewhere, a wise populace will make sure it doesn't become necessary. And they will know this: A people that would be free must first be virtuous.



Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative,
non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



Subscribe

What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.