

GUNNING FOR OUR SECURITY

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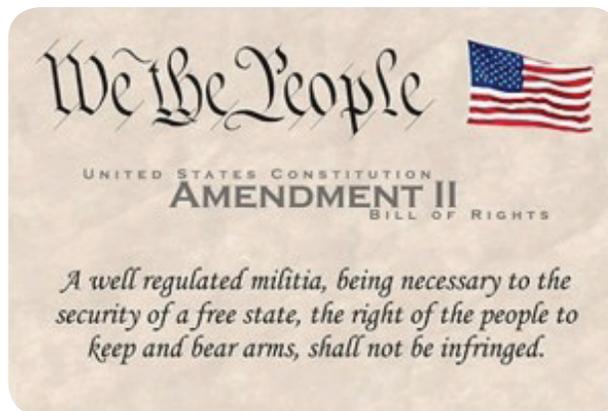
The 2nd Amendment simply states, “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” This “well regulated Militia” is not the National Guard as some would have you believe. Rather, it is a well armed law-abiding citizenry who is best able to defend himself or herself against the dangers of what life may bring upon them.

Now is the time to realize the power gun ownership gives the individual man or woman in self-preservation. It gives us the freedom and ability to physically protect ourselves and our liberties. Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence that individuals, “are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness” because he and the other Founders recognized that the American colonial people were in charge of their individual lives and government was to interfere in their lives as little as possible. Hence, they founded a Republic, wrote a constitution, and gave us the Bill of Rights. All this to ensure the “rights of the people” were not trampled on.

Our Framers knew and understood the importance of the “right of the people” to privately possess firearms. It is for the protection of self, family and in the defense of property or home, and when necessary, this nation. It was the Minutemen who were armed and able to rise up in the defense of the colonies during the American Revolution against

the British.

In today’s climate of hate, we as a people are dealing with radical Islamists, fringe groups, as well as the lone wolf types, all of whom seem to want to settle their grievances against Americans in a variety of violent methods. We have seen bombings, vehicle and airplane attacks, beheadings, and shootings as a result. Large scale protests that start out peacefully



enough, end up with the destruction of personal property, the lives of innocent bystanders put in jeopardy, and injury or death to law enforcement personnel. Most attackers pick vulnerable targets where the likelihood of a response from potential victims is low, with maximum destruction on the selected target. Therefore, a means of self-protection is critical.

The Italian diplomat and historian, Machiavelli wrote in the 1500s, “many other states that have been disarmed have lost their liberties in less than forty years.” It doesn’t take forty years. For the doubters, let’s look at few examples from the 20th century where states deprived individuals of their right to bear arms.

Adolf Hitler disarmed certain groups of people throughout Germany and Europe from 1932-45, which resulted with the deaths

of over 6 million defenseless Jews and other groups he considered undesirables, not including the war casualties.

Joseph Stalin, who ran the Soviet Union with an iron fist for 30 years, disarmed and confiscated the Russian people’s money and property. Many were arrested, tortured and forced to confess to crimes they never committed. From 1936 to 1938, “The Purge” murdered an estimated 600,000 people. In all, it is estimated that over 20 million people were killed or imprisoned by the end of the 1940s. There is not a Russian family that was not impacted by the loss of a loved one during the brutal reign of Stalin.

Pol Pot of Cambodia ruled from 1976 to 1979 and is credited with murdering over 2 million people through arrest and execution. Their crimes were simply having an association with the prior government, being a professional of any kind, or having been known to speak with a missionary at some point in their life.

The common denominator in these scenarios are groups of people who could not defend themselves against tyrannical leaders. Had even a third of these citizens been armed, perhaps the leaders would have thought twice before wreaking such havoc on their own people.

Don’t think for one minute that type of mayhem cannot happen in America if we allow our lawmakers to restrict our ability to own a gun. The declaration says we have the right to defend our liberties when necessary. We are our own best militia. If we give up our constitutional right to “bear arms” and protect ourselves, then America will not be safer and the consequences will lead to our undoing. 