

a little gun history

A Little Gun History: From Flintlocks to Modern Firearms

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Summary: This article explores "a little gun history," tracing the evolution of firearms from their rudimentary beginnings to the sophisticated weaponry of today. It blends historical analysis with personal anecdotes and case studies, illuminating the societal impact of firearms throughout history. The narrative emphasizes the intertwined relationship between technological advancements, social change, and the enduring legacy of firearms in shaping human societies.

Keywords: a little gun history, firearms history, gun evolution, history of guns, weapon technology, social impact of firearms, gun control, gun violence, historical firearms, modern firearms

A Little Gun History: The Early Days

"A little gun history" often begins surprisingly early. While the "gun" as we understand it is a relatively recent invention, early forms of gunpowder weaponry emerged in China centuries ago. My own research into early bombards and hand cannons, unearthed fascinating accounts of their clumsy, yet effective, use in siege warfare. These early "guns" were far removed from the precision instruments of today; they were more akin to controlled explosions than precise projectiles. The accuracy was questionable, the recoil brutal, and the loading process arduous. But their introduction marked a profound shift in military power, forever changing the landscape of warfare. A little gun history, however, quickly reveals that technological innovation didn't happen in a vacuum. The spread of gunpowder weaponry, initially a Chinese invention, tells a story of trade, conflict, and cultural exchange across vast distances. It's a story of "a little gun history" that's interwoven with the tapestry of global history.

A Little Gun History: The Rise of the Flintlock

The development of the flintlock mechanism in the 17th century represented a significant leap forward in "a little gun history." This innovation significantly increased the reliability and speed of firing, transforming the battlefield. My grandfather, a keen collector of antique firearms, had a beautiful flintlock pistol – a tangible link to this fascinating period. He used to tell me stories of its meticulous construction and the skill required to operate it, highlighting how "a little gun history" is

filled with remarkable craftsmanship. The flintlock era also saw the standardization of firearm design, leading to the mass production of weapons and further changing the nature of warfare. Case studies from this period, such as the English Civil War, illustrate the devastating impact of widespread firearm adoption on the tactics and strategies of armies.

A Little Gun History: The Industrial Revolution and Beyond

The Industrial Revolution, with its focus on mass production and technological advancement, had a profound effect on "a little gun history." The invention of interchangeable parts allowed for the efficient manufacture of firearms on a scale never before seen. This had a ripple effect, lowering the cost of weapons and making them increasingly accessible. This accessibility had a profound and multifaceted impact on societies across the globe, influencing everything from law enforcement to hunting practices, as well as the rise of organized crime. A little gun history shows us how this accessibility, while allowing for greater civilian firearm ownership, also led to an increased prevalence of gun violence, presenting a complex challenge that continues to be debated today.

A Little Gun History: The 20th and 21st Centuries

The 20th and 21st centuries witnessed further advancements in firearm technology. The development of automatic weapons, semi-automatic pistols, and high-capacity magazines drastically altered the lethality and tactical capabilities of firearms. "A little gun history" reveals how these advancements have had a profound impact on modern warfare and law enforcement. Case studies of conflicts from World War I to the present day illustrate the devastating consequences of increasingly sophisticated weaponry, highlighting the ethical dilemmas associated with technological progress in the realm of firearms. Simultaneously, the rise of sophisticated ammunition and specialized firearm designs underscores a growing complexity within "a little gun history," far removed from the simpler technologies of the past.

A Little Gun History: The Social Impact

Understanding "a little gun history" necessitates considering its profound social implications. The availability of firearms has shaped everything from societal norms and laws to political movements and cultural expressions. The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution, for example, remains a fiercely debated aspect of "a little gun history", its interpretation sparking ongoing discussions about individual rights, public safety, and the role of government regulation. Examining different cultures' approaches to firearm ownership and control reveals a wide spectrum of perspectives, each shaped by unique historical and social contexts. This complex relationship between firearms and society is one of the most critical aspects of "a little gun history."

Conclusion

"A little gun history" is far more than just a chronicle of technological advancements. It's a complex narrative interwoven with social, political, and cultural threads, demonstrating how firearms have shaped – and continue to shape – human societies. By understanding this history, we can better navigate the challenges and opportunities presented by these powerful tools. The past provides invaluable lessons for the future, prompting critical reflection on responsible firearm ownership, appropriate regulation, and the ongoing need for informed discourse.

FAQs

1. What were some of the earliest forms of firearms? Early firearms included rudimentary bombards, hand cannons, and matchlock firearms.
1. How did the flintlock mechanism improve firearm technology? The flintlock significantly improved reliability and firing speed compared to previous mechanisms.
1. What impact did the Industrial Revolution have on firearm production? The Industrial Revolution enabled mass production of firearms, making them more accessible and affordable.
1. What are some of the most significant advancements in firearm technology in the 20th and 21st centuries? Automatic weapons, semi-automatic pistols, and high-capacity magazines represent key advancements.
1. How has the availability of firearms influenced society? Firearm availability has shaped societal norms, laws, political movements, and cultural expressions.
1. What is the significance of the Second Amendment in the US context? The Second Amendment is a central point of debate regarding individual rights, public safety, and gun control.
1. What are some ethical dilemmas associated with firearm technology? Ethical concerns include the lethality of modern weapons and their potential for misuse.
1. How can we learn from the history of firearms? Studying "a little gun history" provides insights into responsible firearm ownership and effective regulations.
1. Where can I learn more about the history of firearms? Museums, libraries, historical societies,

and online resources offer valuable information.

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a little gun history: The Hidden History of Guns and the Second Amendment Thom Hartmann, 2019-06-04 “In this precise primer on firearms practices and policies, progressive talk-show host Hartmann examines the history of routine gun usage and extreme gun violence and assesses the influence of gun ownership on contemporary political, economic, and social norms...A brief but powerful analysis of a searing national crisis.” —Booklist Thom Hartmann, the most popular progressive radio host in America and a New York Times bestselling author, looks at the real history of guns in America and what we can do to limit both their lethal impact and the power of the gun lobby. Taking his typically in-depth, historically informed view, Hartmann examines the brutal role guns have played in American history, from the genocide of the Native Americans to the enforcement of slavery (Slave Patrols are in fact the Second Amendment's “well-regulated militias”) and the racist post-Civil War social order. He shows how the NRA and conservative Supreme Court justices used specious logic to invent a virtually unlimited individual right to own guns, which has enabled the ever-growing number of mass shootings in the United States. But Hartmann also identifies a handful of powerful, commonsense solutions that would break the power of the gun lobby and restore the understanding of the Second Amendment that the Framers of the Constitution intended. This is the kind of brief, brilliant analysis for which Hartmann is justly renowned.

a little gun history: American Gun Chris Kyle, William Doyle, 2013-06-04 THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING FOLLOW-UP TO AMERICAN SNIPER Join Chris Kyle on a journey to discover “how 10 firearms changed United States history” (New York Times Book Review) Drawing on his legendary firearms knowledge and combat experience, U.S. Navy SEAL and #1 bestselling author of American Sniper Chris Kyle dramatically chronicles the story of America—from the Revolution to the present—through the lens of ten iconic guns and the remarkable heroes who used them to shape history: the American long rifle, Spencer repeater, Colt .45 revolver, Winchester 1873 rifle, Springfield M1903 rifle, M1911 pistol, Thompson submachine gun, M1 Garand, .38 Special police revolver, and the M16 rifle platform Kyle himself used. American Gun is a sweeping epic of bravery, adventure, invention, and sacrifice. Featuring a foreword and afterword by Taya Kyle and illustrated with more than 100 photographs, this new paperback edition features a bonus chapter, “The Eleventh Gun,” on shotguns, derringers, and the Browning M2 machine gun.

a little gun history: Gunfight: The Battle over the Right to Bear Arms in America Adam Winkler, 2011-09-19 A provocative history that reveals how guns—not abortion, race, or religion—are at the heart of America's cultural divide. Gunfight is a timely work examining America's four-centuries-long political battle over gun control and the right to bear arms. In this definitive and provocative history, Adam Winkler reveals how guns—not abortion, race, or religion—are at the heart of America's cultural divide. Using the landmark 2008 case District of Columbia v. Heller—which invalidated a law banning handguns in the nation's capital—as a springboard, Winkler brilliantly weaves together the dramatic stories of gun-rights advocates and gun-control lobbyists, providing often unexpected insights into the venomous debate that now cleaves our nation.

a little gun history: Arming and Disarming R. Blake Brown, 2012-10-23 From the École Polytechnique shootings of 1989 to the political controversy surrounding the elimination of the federal long-gun registry, the issue of gun control has been a subject of fierce debate in Canada. But in fact, firearm regulation has been a sharply contested issue in the country since Confederation. Arming and Disarming offers the first comprehensive history of gun control in Canada from the

colonial period to the present. In this sweeping, immersive book, R. Blake Brown outlines efforts to regulate the use of guns by young people, punish the misuse of arms, impose licensing regimes, and create firearm registries. Brown also challenges many popular assumptions about Canadian history, suggesting that gun ownership was far from universal during much of the colonial period, and that many nineteenth century lawyers – including John A. Macdonald – believed in a limited right to bear arms. *Arming and Disarming* provides a careful exploration of how social, economic, cultural, legal, and constitutional concerns shaped gun legislation and its implementation, as well as how these factors defined Canada's historical and contemporary 'gun culture.'

a little gun history: Gun Control in the Third Reich Stephen P. Halbrook, 2013 Presents the history of how the Nazi regime used laws restricting firearms ownership to disarm and repress its enemies and consolidate power which rendered political opponents defenseless.

a little gun history: *Giving Up the Gun* Noel Perrin, 1979 Lord Hideyoshi, the regent of Japan at the time, took the first step toward the control of firearms. It was a very small step, and it was not taken simply to protect feudal lords from being shot at by peasants but to get all weapons out of the hands of civilians. He said nothing about arms control. Instead, he announced that he was going to build a statue of Buddha that would make all existing statues look like midgets. It would be so enormous (the figure was about twice the scale of the Statue of Liberty), that many tons of iron would be needed just for the braces and bolts. Still more was required to erect the accompanying temple, which was to cover a piece of ground something over an eighth of a mile square. All farmers, ji-samurai, and monks were invited to contribute their swords and guns to the cause. They were, in fact, required to. -- from publisher description.

a little gun history: Disarmed Kristin Goss, 2010-12-16 More than any other advanced industrial democracy, the United States is besieged by firearms violence. Each year, some 30,000 people die by gunfire. Over the course of its history, the nation has witnessed the murders of beloved public figures; massacres in workplaces and schools; and epidemics of gun violence that terrorize neighborhoods and claim tens of thousands of lives. Commanding majorities of Americans voice support for stricter controls on firearms. Yet they have never mounted a true national movement for gun control. Why? *Disarmed* unravels this paradox. Based on historical archives, interviews, and original survey evidence, Kristin Goss suggests that the gun control campaign has been stymied by a combination of factors, including the inability to secure patronage resources, the difficulties in articulating a message that would resonate with supporters, and strategic decisions made in the name of effective policy. The power of the so-called gun lobby has played an important role in hobbling the gun-control campaign, but that is not the entire story. Instead of pursuing a strategy of incremental change on the local and state levels, gun control advocates have sought national policies. Some 40% of state gun control laws predate the 1970s, and the gun lobby has systematically weakened even these longstanding restrictions. A compelling and engagingly written look at one of America's most divisive political issues, *Disarmed* illuminates the organizational, historical, and policy-related factors that constrain mass mobilization, and brings into sharp relief the agonizing dilemmas faced by advocates of gun control and other issues in the United States.

a little gun history: Firearms and Violence National Research Council, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, Committee on Law and Justice, Committee to Improve Research Information and Data on Firearms, 2005-01-13 For years proposals for gun control and the ownership of firearms have been among the most contentious issues in American politics. For public authorities to make reasonable decisions on these matters, they must take into account facts about the relationship between guns and violence as well as conflicting constitutional claims and divided public opinion. In performing these tasks, legislators need adequate data and research to judge both the effects of firearms on violence and the effects of different violence control policies. Readers of the research literature on firearms may sometimes find themselves unable to distinguish scholarship from advocacy. Given the importance of this issue, there is a pressing need for a clear and unbiased assessment of the existing portfolio of data and research. *Firearms and Violence* uses conventional standards of science to examine three major themes - firearms and violence, the quality of research,

and the quality of data available. The book assesses the strengths and limitations of current databases, examining current research studies on firearm use and the efforts to reduce unjustified firearm use and suggests ways in which they can be improved.

a little gun history: *Gun Guys* Dan Baum, 2013 A funny, raucous, eye-opening, wholly non-partisan trip in search of Americans who love their guns--

a little gun history: In Defense of Gun Control Hugh LaFollette, 2018-05-31 The gun control debate is more complex than we often acknowledge. What is often phrased as a single question -- should we have gun control -- Is actually made up of three distinct policy questions. First, who should we permit people to have guns? Second, which guns should be allowed? Thirdly, how should we regulate the acquisition, storage, and carrying of the guns people may legitimately own? To answer these questions we must decide whether (and which) people have a right to bear arms, what kind of right they have, and how stringent that right is. We must also evaluate divergent empirical claims about (a) the role of guns in causing harm, and (b) the degree to which private ownership of guns can protect innocent civilians from attacks by criminals, either in their homes or in public. Hugh LaFollette sorts through the conceptual, moral, and empirical claims to fairly assess arguments for and against serious gun control, and ultimately argues that the US needs far more gun control than we currently have in most jurisdictions.

a little gun history: *The Gun* C. J. Chivers, 2011-09-06 The author, a New York Times reporter, traces the invention and mass distribution of the AK-47 assault rifle, and its effects on war. He traces the invention of the assault rifle, following the miniaturization of rapid-fire arms from the American Civil War, through World War I and Vietnam, to present-day Afghanistan, where Kalashnikovs and their knockoffs number as many as 100 million, one for every seventy persons on earth. It is the weapon of state repression, as well as revolution, civil war, genocide, drug wars, and religious wars; and it is the arms of terrorists, guerrillas, boy soldiers, and thugs. From its inception to its use by more than fifty national armies around the world, to its role in modern-day Afghanistan, he discusses how the deadly weapon has helped alter world history.

a little gun history: *Guns, Guerillas, and the Great Leader* Benjamin R. Young, 2021-04-06 Far from always having been an isolated nation and a pariah state in the international community, North Korea exercised significant influence among Third World nations during the Cold War era. With one foot in the socialist Second World and the other in the anticolonial Third World, North Korea occupied a unique position as both a postcolonial nation and a Soviet client state, and sent advisors to assist African liberation movements, trained anti-imperialist guerilla fighters, and completed building projects in developing countries. State-run media coverage of events in the Third World shaped the worldview of many North Koreans and helped them imagine a unified anti-imperialist front that stretched from the boulevards of Pyongyang to the streets of the Gaza Strip and the beaches of Cuba. This book tells the story of North Korea's transformation in the Third World from model developmental state to reckless terrorist nation, and how Pyongyang's actions, both in the Third World and on the Korean peninsula, ultimately backfired against the Kim family regime's foreign policy goals. Based on multinational and multi-archival research, this book examines the intersection of North Korea's domestic and foreign policies and the ways in which North Korea's developmental model appealed to the decolonizing world.

a little gun history: Warped Narratives Melissa Kate Merry, 2020-01-06 The politics of gun policy in the United States are dramatic. Against the backdrop of daily gun violence—which claims more than 33,000 lives per year—gun control groups push for stronger regulations, while gun rights groups resist infringements upon their Second Amendment rights. To illuminate the dynamics of this polarized debate, *Warped Narratives* examines how and why interest groups frame the gun violence problem in particular ways, exploring the implication of groups' framing choices for policymaking and politics. Melissa K. Merry argues that the gun policy arena is warped, and that both gun control and gun rights organizations contribute to the distortion of the issue by focusing on atypical characters and settings in their policy narratives. Gun control groups emphasize white victims, child victims, and mass shootings in suburban locales, while gun rights groups focus on self-defense

shootings, highlighting threats to “law-abiding” gun owners. In reality, most gun deaths are the result of suicide. Homicides occur disproportionately in urban areas, mainly affecting racial minorities. While warping makes political sense in the short term, it may lead to negative, long-term consequences, including constraints on groups’ ability to build broad-based coalitions and to reduce prospects for compromise. To demonstrate warping, Merry analyzes nearly 67,000 communications by 15 national gun policy groups between 2000 and 2017 collected from blogs, emails, Facebook posts, and press releases. This book is the first to systematically assess the role of race in gun policy groups’ framing and offers the most comprehensive examination to date of interest groups’ presentation of this issue.

a little gun history: *Gun Control on Trial* Brian Doherty, 2008-11-01 In June 2008, the Supreme Court had its first opportunity in seven decades to decide a question at the heart of one of America’s most impassioned debates: Do Americans have a right to possess guns? *Gun Control on Trial* tells the full story of the Court’s decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, which ended the District’s gun ban. With exclusive behind-the-scenes access throughout the process, author Brian Doherty is uniquely positioned to delve into the issues of this monumental case and provides compelling looks at the inside stories, including the plaintiffs’ fight for the right to protect their lives, the activist lawyers who worked to affirm that right, and the forces who fought to stop the case.

a little gun history: *Guns and Violence* Joyce Lee Malcolm, 2009-06-01 Behind the passionate debate over gun control and armed crime lurk assumptions about the link between guns and violence. Indeed, the belief that more guns in private hands means higher rates of armed crime underlies most modern gun control legislation. But are these assumptions valid? Investigating the complex and controversial issue of the real relationship between guns and violence, Joyce Lee Malcolm presents an incisive, thoroughly researched historical study of England, whose strict gun laws and low rates of violent crime are often cited as proof that gun control works. To place the private ownership of guns in context, Malcolm offers a wide-ranging examination of English society from the Middle Ages to the late twentieth century, analyzing changing attitudes toward crime and punishment, the impact of war, economic shifts, and contrasting legal codes on violence. She looks at the level of armed crime in England before its modern restrictive gun legislation, the limitations that gun laws have imposed, and whether those measures have succeeded in reducing the rate of armed crime. Malcolm also offers a revealing comparison of the experience in England with that in the modern United States. Today Americans own some 200 million guns and have seen eight consecutive years of declining violence, while the English--prohibited from carrying weapons and limited in their right to self-defense have suffered a dramatic increase in rates of violent crime. This timely and thought-provoking book takes a crucial step in illuminating the actual relationship between guns and violence in modern society.

a little gun history: *Arming America* Michael A. Bellesiles, 2003

a little gun history: *The Bias Against Guns* John R. Lott, 2003-02-01 If you want the truth the anti-gunners don't want you to know...you need a copy of *The Bias Against Guns* —Sean Hannity of Fox News Channel's *Hannity & Colmes*

a little gun history: *Armed in America* Patrick J. Charles, 2018-01-23 This accessible legal history describes how the Second Amendment has been interpreted throughout most of American history and shows that today's gun-rights advocates have drastically departed from the long-held interpretation of the constitutional right to bear arms. This illuminating study traces the transformation of the right to arms from its inception in English and colonial American law to today's impassioned gun-control debate. As historian and legal scholar Patrick J. Charles shows, what the right to arms means to Americans, as well as what it legally protects, has changed drastically since its first appearance in the 1689 Declaration of Rights. *Armed in America* explores how and why the right to arms transformed at different points in history. The right was initially meant to serve as a parliamentary right of resistance, yet by the ratification of the Second Amendment in 1791 the right had become indispensably intertwined with civic republicanism. As the United States progressed into the 19th century the right continued to change--this time away from civic republicanism and

towards the individual-right understanding that is known today, albeit with the important caveat that the right could be severely restricted by the government's police power. Throughout the 20th century this understanding of the right remained the predominant view. But working behind the scenes was the beginnings of the gun-rights movement--a movement that was started in the early 20th century through the collective efforts of sporting magazine editors and was eventually commandeered by the National Rifle Association to become the gun-rights movement known today. Readers looking to sort through the shrill rhetoric surrounding the current gun debate and arrive at an informed understanding of the legal and historical development of the right to arms will find this book to be an invaluable resource.

a little gun history: *Paths of Fire* Andrew Nahum, 2021-06-10 Type "Mikhail Kalashnikov" into Google and the biography of the inventor will come back to you almost at the speed of light. Squeeze the trigger of a Kalashnikov and a bullet is kicked up the barrel by an archaic chemical explosion that would have been quite familiar to Oliver Cromwell or General Custer. The gun—antique, yet contemporary—still dominates the world. Geopolitical events and even consumer culture have been molded by the often-unseen research that firearms evoked. The new science of Galileo Galilei and Isaac Newton owed much to the Renaissance study of ballistics. But research into making guns and aiming them also brought on the more recent invention of mass production and kickstarted the contemporary field of artificial intelligence. This book follows the history of the gun and its often-unsuspected wider linkages, looking from the first cannons to modern gunnery, and to the yet-to-be-realized electrical futures of rays and beams.

a little gun history: *Loaded* Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, 2018-01-23 A provocative, timely, and deeply-researched history of gun culture and how it reflects race and power in the United States

a little gun history: *Weapon of Choice* Ian Ayres, Fredrick E. Vars, 2020-10-27 How ordinary Americans, frustrated by the legal and political wrangling over the Second Amendment, can fight for reforms that will both respect gun owners' rights and reduce gun violence. Efforts to reduce gun violence in the United States face formidable political and constitutional barriers. Legislation that would ban or broadly restrict firearms runs afoul of the Supreme Court's current interpretation of the Second Amendment. And gun rights advocates have joined a politically savvy firearms industry in a powerful coalition that stymies reform. Ian Ayres and Fredrick Vars suggest a new way forward. We can decrease the number of gun deaths, they argue, by empowering individual citizens to choose common-sense gun reforms for themselves. Rather than ask politicians to impose one-size-fits-all rules, we can harness a libertarian approach—one that respects and expands individual freedom and personal choice—to combat the scourge of gun violence. Ayres and Vars identify ten policies that can be immediately adopted at the state level to reduce the number of gun-related deaths without affecting the rights of gun owners. For example, Donna's Law, a voluntary program whereby individuals can choose to restrict their ability to purchase or possess firearms, can significantly decrease suicide rates. Amending red flag statutes, which allow judges to restrict access to guns when an individual has shown evidence of dangerousness, can give police flexible and effective tools to keep people safe. Encouraging the use of unlawful possession petitions can help communities remove guns from more than a million Americans who are legally disqualified from owning them. By embracing these and other new forms of decentralized gun control, the United States can move past partisan gridlock and save lives now.

a little gun history: *Firearms: An Illustrated History* DK, 2014-04-01 This fascinating visual account of firearms shows everything from the earliest cannons to modern weapons of war. It also highlights how gun technology and military tactics developed in tandem over time. Centuries ago, the Chinese discovered that if they put gunpowder and a projectile into a metal tube and ignited it, they could fire the projectile with enormous force. The first guns were born. *Firearms: An Illustrated History* showcases over 300 firearms including pistols, revolvers, rifles, shotguns, machine-guns, and artillery, each with annotated close-up photographs and details of their origins, barrel, and caliber. It details the use of the firearms, not just in the military but for sport, hunting, and law enforcement. This comprehensive volume traces the history of firearms, highlighting turning points

such as the rifle with its parallel spiraled grooves that could impart a spin to bullets making them fly straighter. It also showcases iconic firearms such as the Walther PPK self-loading pistol popularised in James Bond films. With information on the great gunsmiths including Beretta and Kalashnikov and a detailed guide to how guns work, *Firearms: An Illustrated History* is an essential purchase for everyone interested in guns and military history.

a little gun history: The America We Deserve Donald Trump, 2000-01-15 The essential, bestselling book that first defined President Donald Trump's political ideas. *The America We Deserve* is the essential book for anyone who wants to understand the core of Donald Trump's political thinking. In this book, written as he first considered running for president in 2000, Trump offers no-nonsense, populist, provocative, and dramatic solutions to issues that continue to resonate with voters today. In this book, Trump lays out a vision for America that is strong, optimistic, and founded on core Republican principles of self-reliance, limited governance, economic growth, and equitable taxation. Striking for its similarities to President Trump's current initiatives--but also fascinating in its differences--*The America We Deserve* reveals a man who is fully engaged with the nation and cares deeply about its future. Readers and voters will discover Trump's ideas on: *Foreign policy and relations with China, Russia, North Korea, and Israel *How to fix our broken and underperforming education system *Reducing regulations on business to help create jobs and economic growth *A dramatic one-time tax on the super-wealthy to close the national debt and fuel tax cuts for the middle class *Immigration, crime, terrorism, and more *The America We Deserve* is essential reading for Trump-watchers, voters, Republicans, Democrats, and anyone interested in how Trump the businessman became Trump the president.

a little gun history: Valley of the Guns Eduardo Obregón Pagán, 2018-10-11 In the late 1880s, Pleasant Valley, Arizona, descended into a nightmare of violence, murder, and mayhem. By the time the Pleasant Valley War was over, eighteen men were dead, four were wounded, and one was missing, never to be found. *Valley of the Guns* explores the reasons for the violence that engulfed the settlement, turning neighbors, families, and friends against one another. While popular historians and novelists have long been captivated by the story, the Pleasant Valley War has more recently attracted the attention of scholars interested in examining the underlying causes of western violence. In this book, author Eduardo Obregón Pagán explores how geography and demographics aligned to create an unstable settlement subject to the constant threat of Apache raids. The fear of surprise attack by day and the theft of livestock by night prompted settlers to shape their lives around the expectation of sudden violence. As the forces of progress strained natural resources, conflict grew between local ranchers and cowboys hired by ranching corporations. Mixed-race property owners found themselves fighting white cowboys to keep their land. In addition, territorial law enforcement officers were outsiders to the community and approached every suspect fully armed and ready to shoot. The combination of unrelenting danger, its accompanying stress, and an abundance of firearms proved deadly. Drawing from history, geography, cultural studies, and trauma studies, Pagán uses the story of Pleasant Valley to demonstrate a new way of looking at the settlement of the West. Writing in a vivid narrative style and employing rigorous scholarship, he creatively explores the role of trauma in shaping the lives and decisions of the settlers in Pleasant Valley and offers new insight into the difficulties of survival in an isolated frontier community.

a little gun history: *Living with Guns* Craig Whitney, 2012-11-13 A former editor at the New York Times examines the war over gun control in America and the rigid and intolerant ideologies that have informed the debate on both sides for more than 50 years. 20,000 first printing.

a little gun history: Guns, Gun Control, and Elections Harry L. Wilson, 2007 Gun-related violence remains an intractable problem despite a decline in the past decade. Some believe the solution lies in stricter gun control laws while others think these measures would be ineffective or counter-productive. *Guns, Gun Control, and Elections* examines current gun control policy and explains how it was adopted by discussing the roles and interactions of elected officials, interest groups, political parties, and the public. Original research on media coverage and public opinion as well as a chapter on state policy (Virginia) make the book both informative and accessible. The book

focuses on the utility of gun policy, and its discussion of policy impact is grounded in real-world politics. Wilson also highlights the importance of gun control in the Presidential elections of 2000 and 2004 as well as in some U.S. Senate and statewide campaigns.

a little gun history: Lethal Passage Erik Larson, 1995-01-15 This devastating book illuminates America's gun culture -- its manufacturers, dealers, buffs, and propagandists -- but also offers concrete solutions to our national epidemic of death by firearm. Touches on all aspects of the gun issue in this country. Gives great voice to that feeling...that something real must be done. --San Diego Union-Tribune One of the most readable anti-gun treatises in years. --Washington Post Book World It begins with an account of a crime that is by now almost commonplace: on December 16, 1988, sixteen-year-old Nicholas Elliot walked into his Virginia high school with a Cobray M-11/9 and several hundred rounds of ammunition tucked in his backpack. By day's end, he had killed one teacher and severely wounded another. In *Lethal Passage* Erik Larson shows us how a disturbed teenager was able to buy a weapon advertised as the gun that made the eighties roar. The result is a book that can -- and should -- save lives, and that has already become an essential text in the gun-control debate.

a little gun history: The Violence Inside Us Chris Murphy, 2020-09-01 "An engrossing, moving, and utterly motivating account of the human stakes of gun violence in America."—Samantha Power, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Education of an Idealist* Is America destined to always be a violent nation? This sweeping history by U.S. senator Chris Murphy explores the origins of our violent impulses, the roots of our obsession with firearms, and the mythologies that prevent us from confronting our national crisis. In many ways, the United States sets the pace for other nations to follow. Yet on the most important human concern—the need to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe from physical harm—America isn't a leader. We are disturbingly laggard. To confront this problem, we must first understand it. In this carefully researched and deeply emotional book, Senator Chris Murphy dissects our country's violence-filled history and the role that our unique obsession with firearms plays in this national epidemic. Murphy tells the story of his profound personal transformation in the wake of the mass murder at Newtown, and his subsequent immersion in the complicated web of influences that drive American violence. Murphy comes to the conclusion that while America's relationship to violence is indeed unique, America is not inescapably violent. Even as he details the reasons we've tolerated so much bloodshed for so long, he explains that we have the power to change. Murphy takes on the familiar arguments, obliterates the stale talking points, and charts the way to a fresh, less polarized conversation about violence and the weapons that enable it—a conversation we urgently need in order to transform the national dialogue and save lives.

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a little gun history: Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung Mao Tse-Tung, Mao Zedong, 2013-04-16 Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung' is a volume of selected statements taken from the speeches and writings by Mao Mao Tse-Tung, published from 1964 to 1976. It was often printed in small editions that could be easily carried and that were bound in bright red covers, which led to its western moniker of the 'Little Red Book'. It is one of the most printed books in history, and will be of considerable value to those with an interest in Mao Tse-Tung and in the history of the Communist Party of China. The chapters of this book include: 'The Communist Party', 'Classes and Class Struggle', 'Socialism and Communism', 'The Correct Handling of Contradictions Among The People', 'War and Peace', 'Imperialism and All Reactionaries are Paper Tigers', 'Dare to Struggle and Dare to Win', et cetera. We are republishing this antiquarian volume now complete with a new prefatory biography of Mao Tse-Tung.

a little gun history: Melancholy Accidents Peter Manseau, 2016 Shocked by the epidemic of gun violence in America, acclaimed writer Peter Manseau found himself absorbed by the 'melancholy accidents' that appeared in 19th century newspapers: daily accounts of accidental gun deaths that seemed as unfortunate as they were unavoidable. In Melancholy Accidents, Manseau collects, annotates and introduces many of these articles, painting a devastating portrait of America's long, bloody relationship with firearms.

a little gun history: The Toughest Gun Control Law in the Nation James B. Jacobs, Zoe Fuhr, 2019-11-05 A comprehensive assessment of real gun reform legislation with recommendations for better design, implementation and enforcement A month after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, New York State passed, with record speed, the first and most comprehensive state post-Sandy Hook gun control law. In The Toughest Gun Control Law in the Nation, James B. Jacobs and Zoe Fuhr ask whether the 2013 SAFE Act —hailed by Governor Andrew Cuomo as “the nation’s toughest gun control law” – has lived up to its promise. Jacobs and Fuhr illuminate the gap between gun control on the books and gun control in action. They argue that, to be effective, gun controls must be capable of implementation and enforcement. This requires realistic design, administrative and enforcement capacity and commitment and ongoing political and fiscal support. They show that while the SAFE Act was good symbolic politics, most of its provisions were not effectively implemented or, if implemented, not enforced. Gun control in a society awash with guns poses an immense regulatory challenge. The Toughest Gun Control Law in the Nation takes a tough-minded look at the technological, administrative, fiscal and local political impediments to effectively keeping guns out of the hands of dangerous persons and eliminating some types of guns altogether.

a little gun history: The War on Guns John R. Lott, 2016-08-01 When it comes to the gun control debate, there are two kinds of data: data that's accurate, and data that left-wing billionaires, liberal politicians, and media want you to believe is accurate. In The War on Guns: Arming Yourself Against Gun Control Lies, nationally-renowned economist John R. Lott, Jr. turns a skeptical eye to well-funded anti-gun studies and stories that perpetuate false statistics to frighten Americans into giving up their guns. In this, his latest and most important book, The War on Guns, Lott offers the most thorough debunking yet of the so-called “facts,” “data,” and “arguments” of anti-gun advocates, exposing how they have repeatedly twisted or ignored the real evidence, the evidence that of course refutes them on every point. In The War on Guns, you'll learn: Why gun licenses and background checks don't stop crime How “gun-free” zones actually attract mass shooters Why Stand Your Ground laws are some of the best crime deterrents we have Women now hold over a quarter of concealed handgun permits How big-money liberal foundations and the federal government are pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into “public health” studies, the sole purpose of which is to manufacture false data against guns How media bias and ignorance skew the gun debate—and why it will get worse From 1950-2010, not a single mass public shooting occurred in an area where

general civilians are allowed to carry guns

a little gun history: *More Guns, Less Crime* John R Lott, 2000-06-15 Does allowing people to own or carry guns deter violent crime? Or does it simply cause more citizens to harm each other? Directly challenging common perceptions about gun control, legal scholar John Lott presents the most rigorously comprehensive data analysis ever done on crime statistics and right-to-carry laws. This timely and provocative work comes to the startling conclusion: more guns mean less crime. In this paperback edition, Lott has expanded the research through 1996, incorporating new data available from states that passed right-to-carry and other gun laws since the book's publication as well as new city-level statistics. Lott's pro-gun argument has to be examined on the merits, and its chief merit is lots of data. . . . If you still disagree with Lott, at least you will know what will be required to rebut a case that looks pretty near bulletproof. Peter Coy, *Business Week* By providing strong empirical evidence that yet another liberal policy is a cause of the very evil it purports to cure, he has permanently changed the terms of debate on gun control. . . . Lott's book could hardly be more timely. . . . A model of the meticulous application of economics and statistics to law and policy. John O. McGinnis, *National Review* His empirical analysis sets a standard that will be difficult to match. . . . This has got to be the most extensive empirical study of crime deterrence that has been done to date. Public Choice For anyone with an open mind on either side of this subject this book will provide a thorough grounding. It is also likely to be the standard reference on the subject for years to come. Stan Liebowitz, *Dallas Morning News* A compelling book with enough hard evidence that even politicians may have to stop and pay attention. *More Guns, Less Crime* is an exhaustive analysis of the effect of gun possession on crime rates. James Bovard, *Wall Street Journal* John Lott documents how far 'politically correct' vested interests are willing to go to denigrate anyone who dares disagree with them. Lott has done us all a service by his thorough, thoughtful, scholarly approach to a highly controversial issue. Milton Friedman

a little gun history: *The Second* Carol Anderson, 2021-06-01 From the New York Times bestselling author of *White Rage*, an unflinching, critical new look at the Second Amendment and how it has been engineered to deny the rights of African Americans since its inception. In *The Second*, historian and award-winning, bestselling author of *White Rage* Carol Anderson powerfully illuminates the history and impact of the Second Amendment, how it was designed, and how it has consistently been constructed to keep African Americans powerless and vulnerable. *The Second* is neither a "pro-gun" nor an "anti-gun" book; the lens is the citizenship rights and human rights of African Americans. From the seventeenth century, when it was encoded into law that the enslaved could not own, carry, or use a firearm whatsoever, until today, with measures to expand and curtail gun ownership aimed disproportionately at the African American population, the right to bear arms has been consistently used as a weapon to keep African Americans powerless--revealing that armed or unarmed, Blackness, it would seem, is the threat that must be neutralized and punished. Throughout American history to the twenty-first century, regardless of the laws, court decisions, and changing political environment, the Second has consistently meant this: That the second a Black person exercises this right, the second they pick up a gun to protect themselves (or the second that they don't), their life--as surely as Philando Castile's, Tamir Rice's, Alton Sterling's--may be snatched away in that single, fatal second. Through compelling historical narrative merging into the unfolding events of today, Anderson's penetrating investigation shows that the Second Amendment is not about guns but about anti-Blackness, shedding shocking new light on another dimension of racism in America.

a little gun history: *A Little History of the World* E. H. Gombrich, 2014-10-01 E. H. Gombrich's *Little History of the World*, though written in 1935, has become one of the treasures of historical writing since its first publication in English in 2005. The Yale edition alone has now sold over half a million copies, and the book is available worldwide in almost thirty languages. Gombrich was of course the best-known art historian of his time, and his text suggests illustrations on every page. This illustrated edition of the *Little History* brings together the pellucid humanity of his narrative with the images that may well have been in his mind's eye as he wrote the book. The two

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a little gun history: *Parkland* Dave Cullen, 2019-02-12 The New York Times bestseller about the extraordinary young survivors who took on the gun lobby: "One of the most uplifting books you will read all year." —The Washington Post Back in 1999, Dave Cullen was among the first to arrive at Columbine High, even before most of the SWAT teams went in. While writing his acclaimed account of the tragedy, he suffered two bouts of secondary PTSD. He covered all the later tragedies from a distance, working with a cadre of experts cultivated from academia and the FBI, but swore he would never return to the scene of a ghastly crime. But in 2018, Cullen went to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School because something radically different was happening. After nearly twenty years witnessing the mass shooting epidemic escalate, he was stunned and awed by the courage, anger, and conviction of the high school's students. Refusing to allow adults and the media to shape their story, these remarkable adolescents took control—pushing back against the NRA and feckless Congressional leaders, organizing the massive March for Our Lives demonstration, and inspiring millions to join their grassroots #neveragain movement. They used their grief as a catalyst for change, and galvanized a nation. Cullen unfolds the story of Parkland through the voices of key participants. Instead of taking us into the mind of the killer, he takes us into the hearts of the Douglas students as they cope with the concerns of high school students everywhere—awaiting college acceptance letters, studying for midterms, competing against their athletic rivals, putting together the yearbook, staging the musical Spring Awakening, enjoying prom—while moving forward from a horrific event that has altered them forever. Deeply researched and beautifully told, *Parkland* is "a moving petition to America that it not look away from the catastrophes at Columbine,

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about "law-office history" with little more than a footnote.⁸ In fact, ... 103 (2000) (criticizing legal scholarship deploying history to support gun rights); Saul Cornell, *Originalism on Trial: The ...*

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