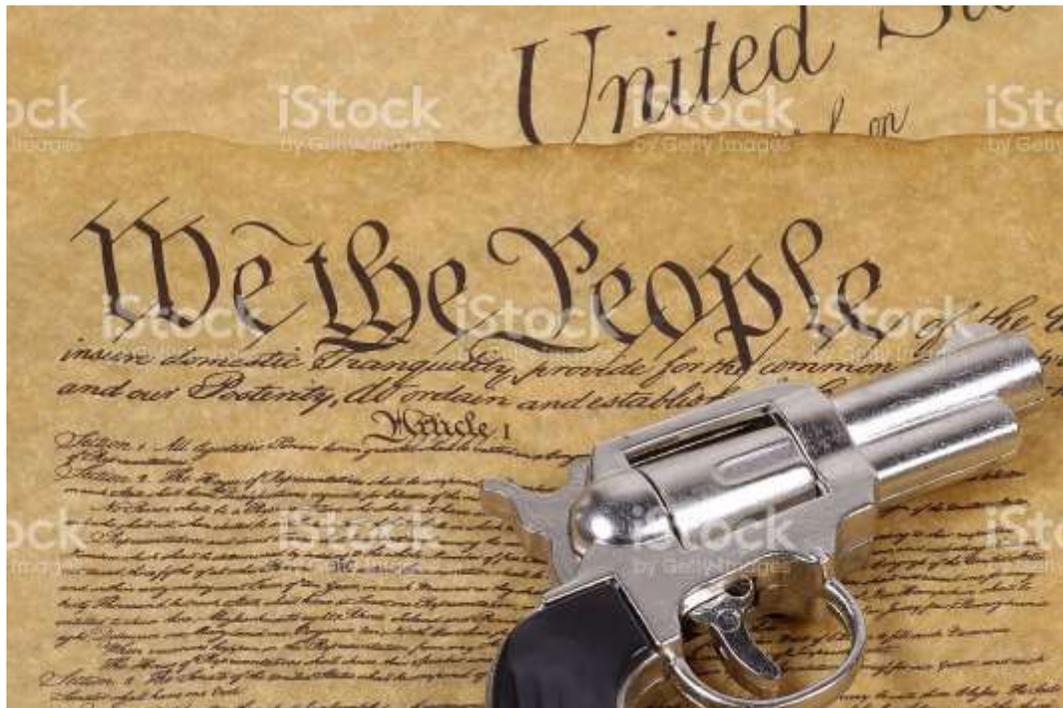


## The Freedom to Protect What You Believe

When the Constitution was being created, the Founding Fathers wrote safeguards into it in order to protect the rights and freedoms of American citizens. Even then, the Constitution was met with mixed reactions, with some states, like Virginia, protesting the lack of specific right statements.

The Bill of Rights, added two years after, presented the first ten amendments to the Constitution. In this document, fundamental freedoms and rights of Americans are listed, making it harder for them to be disproved.

The second Amendment in particular is still a cause of controversy, even though it is pretty straight-forward. It guarantees the right of any American citizen to bear arms. Originally, the reason for the amendment was necessity, as citizens needed to



be armed in order to serve in the volunteer armies and militias established to defend the states and to defend the Citizens against tyrannical governments like the English monarchy of King George III.

Today, the reasoning behind the second Amendment is slightly altered, but the fundamental truth that it exists for protection is self-evident except for anti-gun groups who mistakenly feel safer with increasing government control. What else can explain the [12% drop in crimes](#), as 70 million more guns were being purchased?

We can look to countries like the UK or Canada, which have stricter laws than the norm in the US and compare them to Vermont and Alaska, and their libertarian approach to guns.

In the year after laws were passed to allow competent and law-abiding adults to carry concealed guns, the crime rate has dropped by [10% in the aforementioned states](#). In fact, having a small handgun in a secured safe, perfect for your room can solve the issue of B&E and robberies. This has to do with the fact that criminals are wary of coming across armed victims, so they are discouraged from attacking.

If these facts seem like a pure coincidence to you, I suggest taking a look at the [study](#) titled “Would banning firearms reduce murder and suicide? A Review of International and Some Domestic Evidence”, done at Harvard University.

The main take-away is that nations with more guns are likely to have less crime.

Now, let's look at the rest of the freedoms guaranteed to us.

# —Bill of Rights—

*Amendment 1: The Five Freedoms*

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

*Amendment 2: Right to Bear Arms*

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.

*Amendment 3: No Quartering of Soldiers*

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

*Amendment 4: No Unreasonable Search and Seizure*

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

*Amendment 5: Rights for Accused*

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

*Amendment 6: Right to a Speedy Trial*

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

*Amendment 7: Trial by Jury*

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

*Amendment 8: No Cruel and Unusual Punishment*

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

*Amendment 9: Rights Reserved to the People*

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

*Amendment 10: Rights Reserved to the States*

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.



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Let's

consider this: what would taking away the right to bear arms solve?

By taking away the citizens' guns, the only thing achieved would be taking away their liberty and leaving them defenseless. The only reason you would take their

guns away is if you equate them to unstable lunatics who're just looking for the right time to act.

The number of uncontrolled weapons on the streets would remain the same, and the same people who have had access to them thus far would continue to have access to them.

I'm not saying that the United States doesn't have an illegal gun problem. The likelihood of an average citizen being shot is 30 times higher than of a European one in their home country.

Yet, we can't claim that this number won't grow when you take away the law-abiding citizens' guns. In fact, crime is more likely to rise.

I believe in the US as a country and I believe that the freedoms and rights it allows its citizens are a great part of what makes it great. The liberty and ability to [kill those critters](#), who are aiming to take your life is put in jeopardy if we're talking about altering the right to bear arms.

I believe that citizens need to have a right to protect what they hold dear, and there is no better way to grant them that right than to keep the second Amendment as originally written and intended.

## **Bio**

[Minute Man Review](#) is one of the fastest growing 2nd amendment and gun blogs online. Since its inception in 2013, it has been covering gear reviews, citizen's rights, and reporting on the disturbing crackdown on free speech and activity both in the US and worldwide. Josh Montgomery, MMR's founder, runs Minute Man

Review in his spare time and actively documents the Texas secessionist's movements from his home in Austin, Texas. Get in touch with him at the [tacticaltexann@gmail.com](mailto:tacticaltexann@gmail.com)