



Rifle In America

Townsend Whelen



Rifle In America:

The Rifle in America Philip Burdette Sharpe, 1938 **Armed in America** Patrick J. Charles (Historian), 2018 NOW WITH A NEW PREFACE THAT BRINGS THE FRAUGHT GUN RIGHTS CONTROVERSY UP TO DATE This accessible legal history describes the way in which the Second Amendment was interpreted throughout most of American history and shows that today's gun rights advocates have drastically departed from the long held interpretation of the 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 Now with a new preface that brings the fraught gun rights controversy up to date this book is an invaluable resource for 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 *50 Guns That Changed America* Bruce Wexler, 2023-08-29 The History of America And Our Guns The history of the United States is like it or not interwoven with the history of firearms The young colony needed technologically advanced arms to hunt for food for survival and to maintain a secure base in the face of Native American opposition to European settlers As the Vikings discovered several centuries earlier the Indians were tough opponents expert in the use of bladed weapons and bows The advent of firearms gave European settlers an advantage although it was only a matter of time until the Native Americans gained access to firearms themselves Ironically this was often through unscrupulous white traders Because these superior weapons gained them their freedom the principle of the right to bear arms remains etched into the American psyche to this day Since then the US has been through a terrible Civil War at which time many different guns were invented and deployed against brother Americans each one playing a part in the eventual outcome of the war After the Civil War came a period of frontier establishment when the country consolidated itself from coast to coast The outside world knows this best as the Wild West and again guns played a big part in civilizing unruly parts of the nation Two world wars also tested America's ingenuity in

ensuring that its troops were competitively armed The invention of automatic weapons by John M Browning made this a reality In the post Second World War period the country has had to fight its way through Korea Vietnam and numerous other conflicts in the Middle East and Asia Gun development has not stood still at any time in United States history and this book illustrates fifty examples that form essential parts of that story 50 Guns That Changed America will explore the most significant American weapons from the early days of firepower to the amazing modern guns in use today including Simeon North Hall pistol Dimick plains rifle Spencer carbine rifle Winchester Model 1866 Smith Wesson Army revolver Colt Peacemaker M60 machine gun ArmaLite AR 18 machine gun Each firearm is illustrated in full color with archive photography of the manufacturers and the guns in action where possible

First Freedom David Harsanyi, 2018-10-02 From one of America's smartest political writers comes a captivating and comprehensive journey 1 New York Times bestselling author David Limbaugh of the United States unique and enduring relationship with guns For America the gun is a story of innovation power violence character and freedom From the founding of the nation to the pioneering of the West from the freeing of the slaves to the urbanization of the twentieth century our country has had a complex and lasting relationship with firearms In *First Freedom* nationally syndicated columnist and veteran writer David Harsanyi explores the ways in which firearms have helped preserve our religious economic and cultural institutions for over two centuries From Samuel Colt's early entrepreneurship to the successful firearms technology that helped make the United States a superpower the gun is inextricably tied to our exceptional rise In the vein of popular histories like *American Gun Salt and Seabiscuit* Harsanyi takes us on a captivating and thrilling ride of Second Amendment history that demonstrates why guns are not only an integral part of America's past but also an essential part of its future *First Freedom* is a briskly paced journey a welcome lesson on how guns and America have shaped each other for four hundred years National Review

America's Rifle Stephen P. Halbrook, 2022-11-28 There are over forty four million AR 15s and similar semiautomatic rifles owned by Americans Popular adoption on such a monumental scale is indicative of more than a passing fad only proven utility through long history creates such lasting indeed growing demand Since the founding of the American republic rifles beginning with muzzleloaders and later semiautomatics have been at the center of American history and pre history This book by renowned historian and attorney Stephen Halbrook is the definitive account of this centrality of repeating rifles to the American story from its conception to the present day Some factions of state and national politicians now seek to remake America in a different novel image by rushing to ban and restrict access to firearms that have long been our heritage As Halbrook decisively shows theirs is a war against the Second Amendment and the tradition of freedom and self sufficiency that has sustained our storied past Our rights hang in the balance not as lone pillars but history shows as dominos ready to fall in quick succession Halbrook comprehensively reviews the historical legal and policy arguments advanced by gun prohibitionists and demonstrates that these bans are deeply antagonistic to our history our interests and our Constitution

Arming America Michael A.

Bellesiles, 2000 How and when did Americans develop their obsession with guns Is gun related violence so deeply embedded in American historical experience as to be immutable The accepted answers to these questions are mythology says Michael A Bellesiles Basing his arguments on sound and prodigious research Bellesiles makes it clear that gun ownership was the exception even on the frontier until the age of industrialization In Colonial America the average citizen had virtually no access to or training in the use of firearms and the few guns that did exist were kept under strict control No guns were made in America until after the Revolution and there were few gunsmiths to keep them in repair Bellesiles shows that the U S government almost from its inception worked to arm its citizens but it met only public indifference and resistance until the 1850s when technological advances such as repeating revolvers with self contained bullets contributed to a surge in gun manufacturing Finally we see how the soaring gun production engendered by the Civil War and the decision to allow soldiers to keep their weapons at the end of the conflict transformed the gun from a seldom needed tool to a perceived necessity opposing ideas that are still at the center of the fight for and against gun control today Michael A Bellesiles s research set off a chain of passionate reaction after its publication in the Journal of American History in 1996 and Arming America is certain to be one of the most controversial and widely read books on the subject From the Hardcover edition **Guns in America**

Donald J. Campbell, 2021-08-09 This work provides readers with an authoritative resource for understanding the true extent and nature of gun violence in America examining the veracity of claims and counterclaims about mass shootings gun laws and public attitudes about gun control This work is part of a series that uses evidence based documentation to examine the veracity of claims and beliefs about high profile issues in American culture and politics Each book in the Contemporary Debates series is intended to puncture rather than perpetuate myths that diminish our understanding of important policies and positions to provide needed context for misleading statements and claims and to confirm the factual accuracy of other assertions This particular volume examines beliefs claims and myths about gun violence gun laws and gun rights in the United States Issues covered in the book include trends in firearm violence mass shootings the impact of gun ownership on rates and types of crime regulations and Supreme Court decisions regarding gun control and the Second Amendment and the activities and influence of organizations ranging from the National Rifle Association to Everytown for Gun Safety All of these topics are examined in individualized entries with objective responses grounded in up to date evidence *America's Gun Wars*

Donald J. Campbell, 2019-04-10 This book examines the controversies surrounding gun control which are less about whether it works and more about whether the nation should prioritize traditional values of rugged independence or newer values of communitarian interdependence America s Gun Wars contends that an understanding of America s gun controversy cannot be found in statistics documenting the rise or fall of violent crime or in examining trade offs between societal needs and personal safety or in following the political maneuvering of advocacy groups such as the National Rifle Association or Everytown for Gun Safety At heart the gun controversy is a values conflict involving how people see themselves and how they

make sense of the world they live in Understanding this controversy requires a deep analysis of the profoundly different cultures inhabited by pro and anti gun activists lawmakers and voters Written by a social scientist who has spent his life exploring how values and self perceptions impact behavior this book explores the origins and evolution of cultures in American society the beliefs experiences and principles that guide the behavior of members in both camps and the triumphs and failures that the two sides have experienced from colonial times to the present day The American Rifle Townsend Whelen,1918 *Under the Gun* Peter H. Rossi,2017-09-29 In 1978 the Social and Demographic Research Institute of the University of Massachusetts Amherst received a grant from the National Institute of Justice to undertake a comprehensive review of the literature on weapons crime and violence in the United States The purpose of the project is best described as a sifting and winnowing of the claims and counterclaims from both sides of the Great American Gun War the perennial struggle in American political life over what to do if anything about guns about violence and about crime The review and analysis of the available studies consumed the better part of three years the results of this work are contained in this volume The intention of any review is to take stock of the available fund of knowledge in some topical area Under the Gun is no different our goal has been to glean from the volumes of previous studies those facts that in our view seem firmly and certainly established those hypotheses that seem adequately supported by or at least approximately consistent with the best available research evidence and those areas or topics about which it seems we need to know a lot more than we do One of our major conclusions can be stated in advance despite the large number of studies that have been done many critically important questions have not been adequately researched and some of them have not been examined at all Much of the available research in the area of weapons and crime has been done by advocates for one or another policy position As a consequence the manifest intent of many studies is to persuade rather than to inform We have tried to approach the topic from a purely agnostic point of view treating as an open question what policies should be enacted with regard to gun or crime control Thus we have tried to judge each study on its own merits on the basis of the routine standards normally applied to social scientific research and not on the basis of how effectively it argues for a particular policy direction It would of course be presumptuous to claim that we have set aside all our own biases in conducting this study Whether or not our treatment is fair and objective is clearly something for the reader and not us to decide

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