

These Are **My** Guns



2021 Foreword

"I am a gun Owner and ardent Second Amendment rights
Advocate."

Robert L. Jordan

“The more things change, the more they stay the same.”

When I originally wrote this book, we had a decidedly anti-second amendment President, Obama, who out of one side of his mouth declared that he “supported” the second amendment but out of the other, frequently attacked firearm rights in speeches and called for more regulation. Now, as I undertake to update this book to the most current fully compiled data available, that being 2018, we find ourselves with a new President Biden, Obama’s Vice President, who has made clear throughout his campaign that he intends to “get the guns”. Worse, his party has control of the House of Representatives and holds a tie in the Senate, with his Vice President, Kamala Harris, casting the tie-breaking vote. Though, that point may be moot as he has also made clear that he intends to bypass Congress completely and begin his assault (no pun intended) via the use of executive orders. Can there be any doubt that he will attempt to fulfill his campaign promises and attack our right to “keep and bear arms”?

Just as in 2015, when this book was first published, their non-fact-based platform will rely on false or manipulated information, scare tactics, and the moral argument that firearms are simply evil and should be wiped from the face of the planet. While many of them are protected by firearms on a daily basis, they simply do not believe that the “huddled masses” should be entitled to protect themselves from evil with the best tool for doing so. We are simply unable to handle this great and terrible thing and actually put ourselves, and others, in far more danger with this beast than not protecting ourselves at all. “Don’t worry”, they say, “we will protect you; we will take care of you. You don’t even need to protect yourself in the first place”. And all of this at a time when the Government has taken unprecedented steps to

abridge our freedoms, under the guise of keeping us safe from a virus.

Our Constitution and Bill of Rights were created for the sole purpose of preventing a tyrannical government, by laying power solely in the hands of The People. Today, our Government has seized far more control than it is allowed and has done so under the guise of two major events. The first is a virus, from which the Government claims it can protect us. Using this “noble” purpose as a shield, Governmental entities, down to unelected local bureaucrats, have passed emergency order restricting our freedoms, including telling us how many people we may have in our own homes. They have done this with both the encouragement and approval from a large segment of our Citizenry, who have voiced their support for these actions but who seem to be ignorant of the long-term damage this will bring to our society. It is frequently noted that once a right has been given away, it is difficult, if not impossible, to get it back; and once a politician is given a power, they certainly don’t give it back easily, if at all. The second is a political game being waged by one party against the other, and its “rogue” President. With the help of their mainstream media and “big-tech” partners, this party weaponized virtually every part of the government against the other party and, by extension, every supporter of that party. As of time of writing of this Foreword, this is manifesting itself in the form of extreme censorship of anyone who supports the opposing party; and this censorship has not only the support but the encouragement of elected officials who are sworn to protect and defend the Constitution. Instead, they have abdicated their responsibilities, but will pay no price as their core constituents will continue to vote them into office.

Can there be any question as to the need to be prepared to exercise one’s inherent right to self-defense and to “keep and bear arms”? Apparently, many Americans agree, as the FBI

reports that 40 million firearms were sold in 2020 (vs. 13.9 million in 2019); more than in any single year since they started tracking.

Most of the above events had not happened when I decided to update this book, but the 2020 Presidential Campaign was well underway and many (most?) of the Democratic Candidates, were devoting at least some part of their platforms to “getting the guns”. So, I decided to undertake a complete update of all of the data in this book, and publish a second edition, with the purpose of illustrating “the more things change, the more they stay the same”, with regard to actual firearm related facts and data.

Not an easy task. In compiling data for the original book, I relied almost solely on Governmentally provided data from the Centers for Disease Control and the Department of Justice, for reasons discussed shortly. In re-writing this book, I became painfully (re)aware of how dis-functional and broken our Government is. Trying to do an “apples to apples” update of some pieces of data, became quite impossible. If the Bureau of Justice Statistics had a pamphlet labeled “Annual Crime Update 2011” (hypothetical name), they simply stopped issuing that in 2013 and had no equivalent in 2018. The CDC’s non-fatal firearm numbers have been determined, a few years ago, to be so poor as to be nearly useless. The CDC no longer issues its, well organized, detailed, and easy to search “Mortality tables”. Now it is the WISQARS online database for external causes, such as firearms and stabbing, and WONDER for diseases and the like. And try searching WONDER if you are not well versed in the scientific names of certain diseases; challenging to say the least. If the FBI gave a 2011 statistic titled “Firearm Self-Protective Behaviors” (actual name), that has simply disappeared in 2018. “Mass Shooting”? Nope, “Active Shooter Incidents”. Also, other organizations which were cited in the first edition, had similar

issues. The Brady campaign apparently no longer issues it's "State Scorecards", ranking each State on their firearms laws, for instance.

The bottom line is that, as I did in the first edition, I made an honest and completely transparent effort to rely on and publish fact based, non-partisan, unassailable data. And, I used this data to look at the issue from many angles, not just one narrow talking point. Where 2018 data was not available, I either removed that reference, or left the 2011 data for reference. Where I did this, I clearly noted the data as such. If data was not available in the same form, such as with different naming and combinations for diseases in WONDER, I used the newer form and simply re-labeled it as such.

While this may be questionable to some, I feel that it is both justified and appropriate, based on the fact that, overall, the end result from the first edition is still the same. Percentages and ratios have moved little and still support the original premise of the book; that being that Firearms, statistically, are not the "extreme public health crisis" that the Anti-Gun Movement, Politicians, Main-Stream Media, and some Public Health Officials claim they are. The reason that they are able to "get this over" on a large chunk of the America Public is ignorance. I do not say this with malice, though it does bother me quite a bit. I use the term "ignorance" in the context of people seeming to know very little about their constitutional rights, our Constitution and Bill of Rights, and how our system is supposed to operate for "The People, not against. The Government works for us, not the other way around. I also use the term in the context of people, today, having the "Twitter mentality"; quickly scan the headline and move on. We must educate ourselves. If a Politician, or the media, says something, verify it for yourself. I did just that and it led to this book. Freedom, as they say, is not free. It takes work and without that work, The People will lose their freedom.

I thank you for purchasing this book. I hope you enjoy it and are enlightened by it, and I encourage you to speak out and defend your constitutional rights. All of them.

Robert L. Jordan

“The rifle itself has no moral stature since it has no will of its own. Naturally, it may be used by evil men for evil purposes, but there are more good men than evil, and while the latter cannot be persuaded to the path of righteousness by propaganda, they can certainly be corrected by good men with rifles.”

– Jeff Cooper, *Art of the Rifle*