

The Responsibility We Cannot Surrender

Every few years the debate resurfaces: "Why can't Americans simply give up their guns?"

On the surface, it sounds sensible. No one enjoys living in a society where weapons feel like they're in "every nook and cranny." $\stackrel{\frown}{\mathbb{Z}}$

Yet the issue has never been about comfort — it has always been about liberty. 🗽

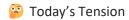
John Adams warned: "Liberty, once lost, is lost forever." A Blueprint for Freedom The framers had seen what happens when citizens are powerless. 📤 Madison spoke of "the advantage of being armed, which the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation." Washington urged that "a free people ought not only to be armed, but disciplined." Patrick Henry declared: "The great object is, that every man be armed... Guard with jealous attention the public liberty." They were not romantic about firearms. They were realistic about human nature. The People's Birthright Tench Coxe wrote in 1789: "Their swords, and every other terrible implement of the soldier, are the birthright of an American." 📈 Jefferson, citing Beccaria, added: laws forbidding arms "disarm those only who are not disposed to commit the crime." 🚫 🧸 🖾 Liberty's Palladium Early jurists warned the same. 1 St. George Tucker: "The right to bear arms may be considered the true palladium of liberty... where it is prohibited, liberty is on the brink of destruction." joseph Story: it was a "moral check against the usurpation and arbitrary power of rulers."

The Courts of Today

The Supreme Court has upheld this principle:

- Heller (2008): "The inherent right of self-defense has been central to the Second Amendment."
- McDonald (2010): applied it to every state and city.
- Pruen (2022): "...ordinary, law-abiding citizens have a right to carry handguns publicly for their self-defense."

The arc is unbroken: the right remains, because the need remains.



Does this mean guns in every corner? No. Even Washington stressed discipline.

This debate isn't about saturation — it's about security.

Disarming the people makes liberty a matter of government trust alone — and history shows how fragile that is.



So why can't Americans simply surrender their guns?

Because history repeats.

Because tyranny never retires. 👑

Because freedom without defense is freedom on borrowed time.

Freedom is not only a right. It is a responsibility.

And responsibilities can never be surrendered.