



Written by [Staff](#) on November 19, 2018

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Letters to the Editor

Stop the Killing!

Haven't the tragic events of the last few months involving shootings, vehicle assaults, and other attacks once again conclusively proven that on a daily basis our government cannot protect us? Isn't it up to all citizens to protect themselves from harm? Why do so many misguided Americans want to limit, take away, or change our right to bear arms — a right that “shall not be infringed”?

Each year in the United States, firearms are used anywhere from 80,000 to over two million times (depending on who is doing the figuring) by individuals protecting themselves from harm (DGU — defensive gun use excluding police), often defusing dangerous situations by only showing the firearm. Even the left-leaning magazine *Politico* in 2015 admitted that the figure may be as high as two million and that the DGU figure might be an underestimation.

The Second Amendment was placed in the Constitution not only for personal protection, but for protection against governmental abuse and control. (I don't think we have that one figured out yet.) There are several sections in the *Federalist Papers* and a little-known set of books called “Debates in the Convention of 1787” that will give you the original thinking of our Founding Fathers.

Excluding bump stocks and other such things, can we afford to lose our right to bear the arms of our choice? Based on constitutional thinking, shouldn't citizens' weapons be what a military would use? Doesn't this mean we should protect the constitutional right own any self-loading weapon?

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The History of Socialism Past

Being a history enthusiast, I have seen some interesting parallels in what is happening in the nation and what has occurred in the past. History indicates that the National Socialist Party came to power in Germany in 1932. That movement actually formed after World War I, and socialists lost several elections before coming to power. After losing the election in 1931, they launched a program that was, in essence, perpetual campaigning. There were continual gatherings, many of which included entertainment with the speeches. The rhetoric was such that it created an atmosphere of inevitability. If anyone challenged the events they would be shouted down.

The Socialists' campaign in 1932 pulled out all the stops. There were thousands of demonstrations, all with the same theme. They were often held in areas that would create riots and chaos. In addition, they planned other events that gave the appearance of solidarity with Christians, even though the party was designed to replace religion of any type. Socialists claimed to be the party of the people.

Socialists won the election and once in power, laws, regulations, and mandates escalated. Safeguards that had previously been built into the German government were eliminated, giving those in power complete control. Yet there was a continual flow of good news about the party and constant reminders that anything outside the objectives of the party was bad. Anyone or anything that did not fit the agenda of the party was treated with disdain. People who did not align with policies were publicly humiliated, fined, and sometimes imprisoned. If an event enhanced the goals of the party it was highly publicized. If



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it didn't, at best it would be ignored, or at worst, punishments would be imposed.

When significant resistance was sensed, the German Parliament building, the Reichstag, was burned, and it was blamed on the Socialists' political adversaries. That destruction mandated martial law, and freedoms were lost.

Fast forward to the closing months of World War II when Germany was being severely beaten. In spite of the fact that the end of everything that had been promised was lost and the end was near, the German people were still being told about National Socialist (Nazi) successes. Actual occurrences meant nothing. The end of a promised 1,000-year government that controlled everything had devastatingly collapsed in 12 years.

Philosopher Santayana has noted, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Bob Lagasse

Sent via e-mail



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