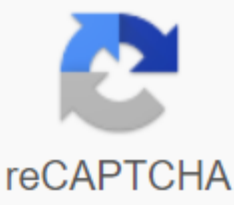




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## 2nd amendment quotes thomas jefferson

A letter from today's Financial Times draws attention to a quote often attributed to Thomas Jefferson (right) and used to support arguments for broad application of the right to bear arms (or brandish automatic weapons). The author of the letter (Dennis Oveis of Tampa, Florida) takes a previous letter writer to task to invoke what the previous author called a timeless quote from Thomas Jefferson. The so-called statement is that the beauty of the Second Amendment is that it will not be necessary until it has tried to take it. Oveis checked with the website for Jefferson Monticello for help in authenticating the quote. The website says: We currently have no evidence that Thomas Jefferson said or wrote a beauty of the Second Amendment is that it will not be necessary until they try to take it or any of its listed variations. Wikipedia's entry on the Second Amendment says that the citation is one of many misaluitable for Jefferson. He says the quote can't be found until 2007, the year he surfaced in a book by Matt Carson, On A Hill They Call Capital: A Revolution Is Coming. Written by Christina Zdanowicz, CNN. Illustrated by Seb Jarnot. Updated 1:00 p.m. EDT, Fri. July 19, 2013 (CNN) -- Thomas Jefferson may not have drafted the Second Amendment, but the paradoxical founding father comes galloping through the present whenever there's a gun debate. Quotes attributed to him and related to the right to bear arms litter the social sphere. But how did a man more than 200 years after his heyday become the darling of today's gun debate? Jefferson becomes this great political Rorschach in which people pour into him different things, says Saul Cornell, a professor at Fordham University who studies early American political and constitutional thoughts. People read in the inks of antiquity, molding Jefferson into whom they want him to be on the subject of guns. Basically, what the Internet has done is democratize or discuss the Founding Fathers through Starbucks. Everyone can talk about it without knowing anything about them, Cornell says. This is the Wikipedification of Knowledge, and it doesn't matter if it's true. Real or false, the Internet has spoken; it's the strongest after tragedies like Aurora and Newtown. Read these Jeffersonian quotes that fuel the debate. What do they tell you? The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves from tyranny in government. Jefferson was not a fan of tyranny, but he was not the author of this famous quote to this according to Monticello.org. Thank you very much, Internet! Jefferson had bigger problems to deal with than guns: fears like banks and an elite group controlling a large amount of wealth. Does that sound familiar to you? There are definitely ways you can make Jefferson be a spokesperson for Occupy Wall Street or the NRA, but to do so is get him out his time and put him in a debate that is quite foreign in his time, Cornell says. And, depending on the year Jefferson wrote the quote, Cornell explains, you'll have a different vibe from his writing. Jefferson writes out of power sounds a bit like a tea party member. Jefferson's writing as president looks a lot like George Bush and Barack Obama. laws that prohibit the carrying of weapons ... disarms only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes. Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and improve for the attackers; they are used more to encourage than prevent homicide, because an unarmed man can be attacked with more confidence than a gunman. Take a break when you see photo memes of Jefferson saying no to gun control. The truth is that he did not say that first. For gun rights advocates who like this line, the good news is that Jefferson quoted him from someone else. The Thomas Jefferson Foundation website, Monticello.org, contains an entire section with false quotes attributed to Jefferson, including this one. It is a passage from Essay on Crimes and Punishments by the Italian philosopher Cesare Beccaria. In the 18th century, before people tweeted everything, people had notebooks where they wrote everything they thought was important, Cornell says. Jefferson quoted Beccaria. Jefferson agreed that keeping guns out of people's hands only helped the bad guys, according to Cornell in his book A Well-regulated Militia. But the phrase takes on a different meaning when translated from Italian, according to an article by University of Washington law professor David Thomas Konig. Jefferson did not question the constitutionality of anti-port laws; he said they were not practical to maintain. The beauty of the Second Amendment is that it won't be necessary until they try to take it. Does that sound like something Jefferson would say? Not even close, according to scholars. I can't even imagine Jefferson writing something like that, Cornell says. 'is such a modern phrase.' Monticello.org found no reference to this sentence in Jefferson's writings; he traced this mis-attributed quotation to a book published in 2007. When injustice becomes law, resistance becomes a duty. Take your gun and show them who the boss is! Maybe it's not quite, but the quote does sound like a call to action, at least to gun rights advocates. But the tone is bad for Jefferson. It's too hasty; the revolutionaries did everything they could to avoid a revolution. When Jefferson wrote the Independence, it was not a split-second decision. He and his co-authors drafted it as a last resort, Cornell says. Jefferson is certainly someone who, when there is injustice, there is a whole series of constitutional and legal measures that you have to implement, he says. This right of revolution is a final emergency option. Living without representation, the settlers had no say in the laws that governed them and the right to a free trial, Cornell said. They were victims of injustice, but they did not feel they had the right to start a revolution until there were other alternatives. No free man will be struck off from the use of weapons. Jefferson wrote variations of that sentence in three drafts of the Virginia Constitution, but that line never made it into the adopted Constitution, according to Monticello.org. This quote is often coupled with the one he never said, the one about protecting yourself from tyranny. ... We like to own weapons, tho they hope never to have the opportunity for them. Jefferson wrote this sentence in a letter to George Washington on June 19, 1796. As a general rule, gun rights advocates use the citation as an argument in their favour. The often-repeated phrase was not part of a large gun manifesto, however; it's a line in a long plea to get a return document. He asked Washington to give him a document on a diplomatic issue, Konig writes. The document was a note written by co-founder Father Alexander Hamilton and Henry Knox, the nation's first war secretary. Get your weapon so be your constant companion of your walks. Jefferson considered carrying a weapon with him to be a great form of exercise, which he wrote in a 1785 letter to his 15-year-old nephew, Peter Carr. Just before this quote in the letter, he explained why: Although it gives a moderate exercise for the body, it gives audacity, enteriment, and independence in mind. (And, yes, these are Jefferson's spellings.) As for why he suggested bringing a gun on a boardwalk, Cornell said Jefferson was probably not worried about crime. His concern is most certainly about the slave rebellion. Ah another delicate subject for our third contradictory prez, which, in theory, wanted to free slaves, but not his. It can be proven that no society can make a perpetual constitution, or even a perpetual law. The land still belongs to the living generation. ... Each constitution, and every law, naturally expires at the end of 19 years. Jefferson wrote this in a letter to James Madison in 1789, which kicked off a two-year correspondence about the Bill of Rights, according to the Constitutional Law Foundation. But what did he mean? Translation: Legislation should not last forever. Jefferson argues that it should be the current society that makes laws - not the Previous. No one will ever really know how Jefferson would have felt about gun control in today's world, but he left us a clue: He accepted that times change, and so laws should. Infer what you want. The words of the prolific writer still resonate through our conversations about guns, but perhaps the echoes are just that: whispers of the past. Today on the 80P Builder blog, let's break with you some of our favorite famous gun quotes. Favorite. these are not all the famous pro-2nd Amendment quotes out there, we have reduced it to what we consider the top categories and the best quotes from our founding fathers, modern politicians, celebrities and movies. Do you have any other pro-gun or gun quotes that you consider important and consistent with the support of the 2nd Amendment? Leave us a comment below and we'll add it to our collection. Famous Firearm Quotes Founding Fathers Supporting the 2nd Amendment Check out some of our favorite quotes about guns and the freedom of our founding fathers. These famous gun quotes are sure to let you defend your 2nd Amendment right to bear arms. No free man will ever be struck off from the use of weapons. - Thomas Jefferson Which country can preserve its freedoms if their leaders are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance. Let them take up arms. - Thomas Jefferson Those who can renounce the essential freedom to obtain some temporary security do not deserve freedom or security. - Benjamin Franklin To disarm the people ... [i]s the most effective way to enslave them. - George Mason A free people should not only be armed and disciplined, but they should have enough weapons and ammunition to maintain a status of independence from anyone who might attempt to abuse them. Which would include their own government. - George Washington When the government takes away citizens' right to bear arms, it becomes the duty of citizens to withdraw the right of government to govern. - George Washington The right of the people to keep and bear arms will not be violated. A well-regulated militia, composed of the people's corps, trained in arms, is the best and most natural defence of a free country. - James Madison The right of citizens to bear arms to defend themselves and the state must not be questioned. - James Madison Modern Day Politician's Famous Gun Quotes Supporting the 2nd Amendment We've had a lot of modern day politicians who have supported gun rights. Check out some of these firearms quotes below. We must reject the idea that every time a law is broken, society is guilty rather than the offender. It is time to re-establish the American precept that each individual is responsible for his or her actions. - Ronald Reagan Firearms don't make criminals, Reagan said. Hard-core criminals use guns, and locking them up and throwing away the key is the best gun control law we could ever have. - Ronald Reagan We know what works. Freedom works. We which is right. Freedom is just. - George Bush Sr. By drawing attention to 'a well-regulated militia', 'the security of the nation', and the right of every citizen to keep and bear arms', our founding fathers recognized the essentially civil nature of our economy... The Second Amendment remains an important statement by our civil-military relations in which every citizen must be prepared to participate in the defence of his country. For that reason, I believe the Second Amendment will always be important. - John F. Kennedy As one of the most conservative members of Congress and a staunch supporter of the 2nd Amendment, I am constantly under attack for my values and beliefs.-Paul Broun Celebrity Famous Gun Quotes Support the 2nd Amendment Check out some of our favorite pro gun quotes by some celebrities. Not all Of Hollywood is liberal! I have a very strict gun control policy: if there's a gun around, I want to be in control of it. - Clint Eastwood America is a country based on guns, Pitt said in an interview. It's in our DNA. It's very strange, but I feel better about having a gun. I really do. I don't feel safe, I don't think the house is completely safe, if I haven't hidden it somewhere. That's my thought, right or wrong. - Brad Pitt We just went out and lined up a bunch of boxes and fired with guns, handguns and sometimes machine guns. ... When I was a child, it was a controlled atmosphere, we didn't shoot humans... we were shooting at cans and bottles most of the time. I will most certainly take my children for the target practice. - Johnny Depp More weapons is less crime. Period. - Tedd Nugent If you take weapons away from the legal gun owners, then the only people who have guns would be the bad guys. - Bruce Willis I carry a gun. I received a death threat a few years ago and I was really scared. But I don't want bodyguards. I'm my own security. - Miranda Lambert You can go much further with a nice word and a gun that you can with a nice word alone. - Al Capone I have a love interest in each of my films - a weapon. - Arnold Schwarzenegger All you need for happiness is a good gun, a good horse, and a good wife. - Daniel Boone The world is full of violence. Because criminals carry firearms, we, the law-abiding citizens, should also have firearms. Otherwise they will win and decent people will lose. - James Earl Jones I'm a good shot and I love guns. I have several. I am fully trained and an active member of a gun club. I'm really pro-gun! - Amber Heard There are no 'good firearms'. There are no bad weapons. Any weapon in the hands of a bad man is a bad thing. Any firearm in the hands of a decent person is not a threat to anyone except The wrong people. - Charlton Heston I want violent crime to be repressed as much as anyone, but not at the expense of our Second Amendment rights - which are there to protect us. - Chuck Norris Famous Gun Quotes Movies supporting the 2nd Amendment There are some great movies that have amazing pro gun quotes. Check them out below. Take yourself a Glock, and get rid of this sissy-pistol plated nickel. - US Marshals Say hello to my boyfriend - Scarface This is my my Army of Darkness You'll shoot your eye out! - A Christmas Story A gun that's unloaded and cocked ain't good for nothing. - True Grit A gun is a tool, Marian; no better or worse than any other tool: an axe, a shovel or anything. A firearm is as good or as bad as the man who uses it. Remember that. - Shane Leave the weapon, take the cannoli. - The Godfather It's better to have a gun and not need it, than to need a gun and not to have it. - True Romance We need to get

bigger guns. BIG FUCKING GUNS! Split Second This is my rifle, this is my gun. It's for the fight, it's for fun! - Full Metal Jacket I don't want to be killed for lack of shootin' back. - Unforgiven We hope you enjoyed some of these pro-gun quotes and feel inspired by them. If you have other favorite quotes about guns we missed out on, let us know and we'll add them to our list or feel free to share it in the comments below! Yet looking for more famous weapons quotes? Visit these sites for more large lists of gun citations and famous gun citations that have come to shape the world we live in today. Today.

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