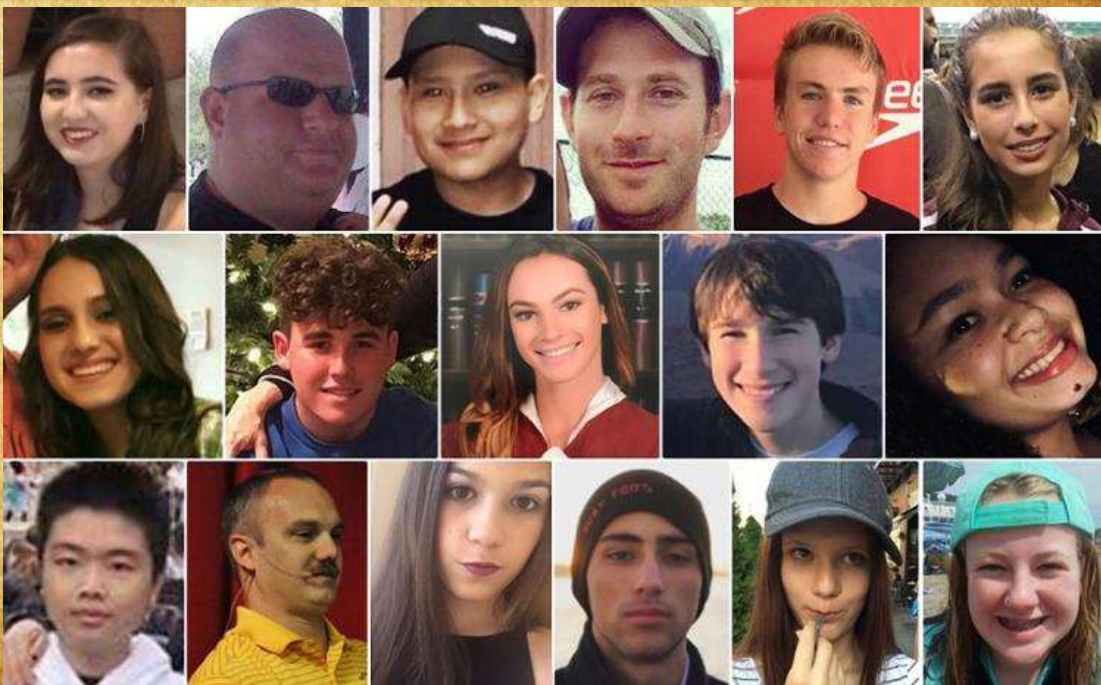
An American flag is shown on a flagpole, waving against a dark, textured background. The flag is positioned on the left side of the image, with its stars and stripes clearly visible. The flagpole is a simple metal pole with a decorative finial at the top.

It is the test of our resolve that
Protecting Liberty and
Defending Freedom
are most important when
doing so makes us
vulnerable to attack.

The Lincoln Society
Noon, Wednesday, March 14th









FBI Statement on the Parkland, Florida, Shooting

On January 5, 2018, a person close to Nikolas Cruz contacted the FBI's Public Access Line (PAL) tipline to report concerns about him. The caller provided information about Cruz's gun ownership, desire to kill people, erratic behavior, and disturbing social media posts, as well as the potential of him conducting a school shooting.

Under established protocols, the information provided by the caller should have been assessed as a potential threat to life. The information then should have been forwarded to the FBI Miami field office, where appropriate investigative steps would have been taken.

We have determined that these protocols were not followed for the information received by the PAL on January 5. The information was not provided to the Miami field office, and no further investigation was conducted at that time.

FBI Director Christopher Wray said:

"We are still investigating the facts. I am committed to getting to the bottom of what happened in this particular matter, as well as reviewing our processes for responding to information that we receive from the public. It's up to all Americans to be vigilant, and when members of the public contact us with concerns, we must act properly and quickly.

We have spoken with victims and families, and deeply regret the additional pain this causes all those affected by this horrific tragedy. All of the men and women of the FBI are dedicated to keeping the American people safe, and are relentlessly committed to improving all that we do and how we do it."

###



Sheriff says he got 23 calls about shooter's family, but records show more —39

FBI was warned — twice — about Florida shooter's deadly threats. It bungled the case



nikolas cruz

1 hour ago

Im going to be a professional school shooter

As conservative Republicans,
we understand,
we accept,
and we embrace
responsibility for ourselves.

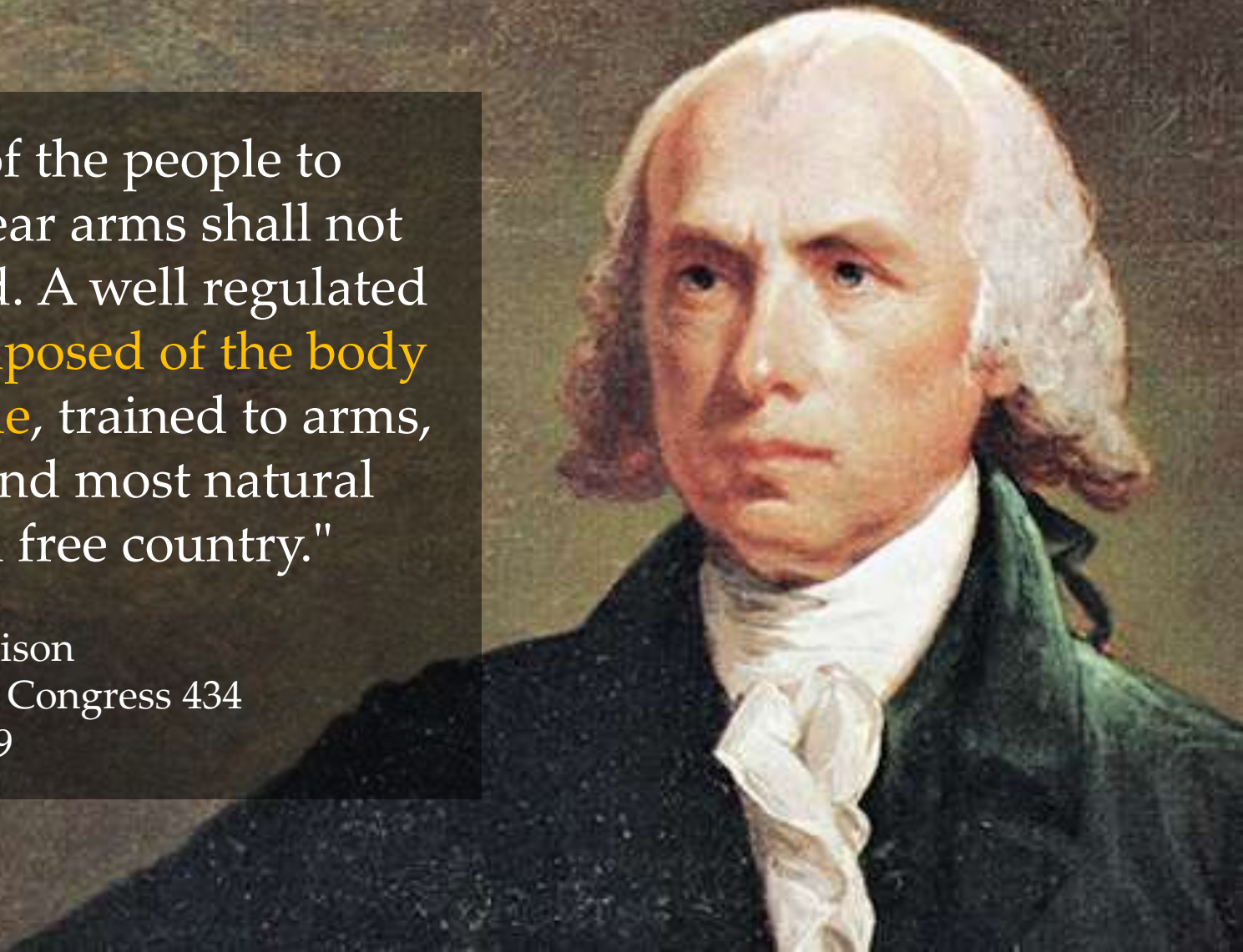
We are citizens, not subjects.

The 2nd Amendment

*A well regulated militia being
necessary to the security of a free
state, the right of the people to keep
and bear arms
shall not be infringed.*

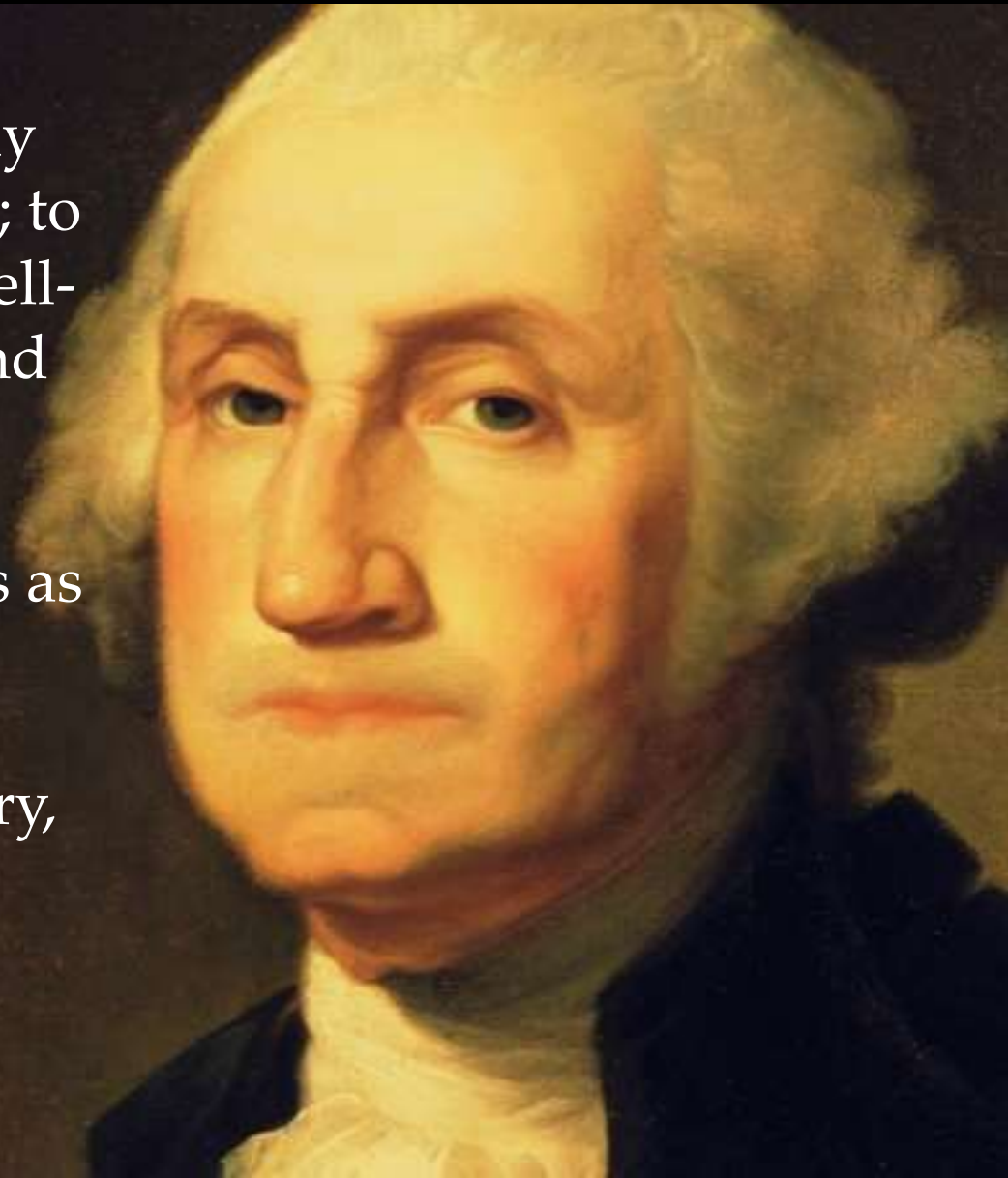
"The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. A well regulated militia, **composed of the body of the people**, trained to arms, is the best and most natural defense of a free country."

James Madison
I Annals of Congress 434
June 8, 1789



"A free people ought not only to be armed, but disciplined; to which end a uniform and well-digested plan is requisite; and their safety and interest require that they should promote such manufactories as tend to render them independent of others for essential, particularly military, supplies."

George Washington
First State of the Union
January 8, 1790

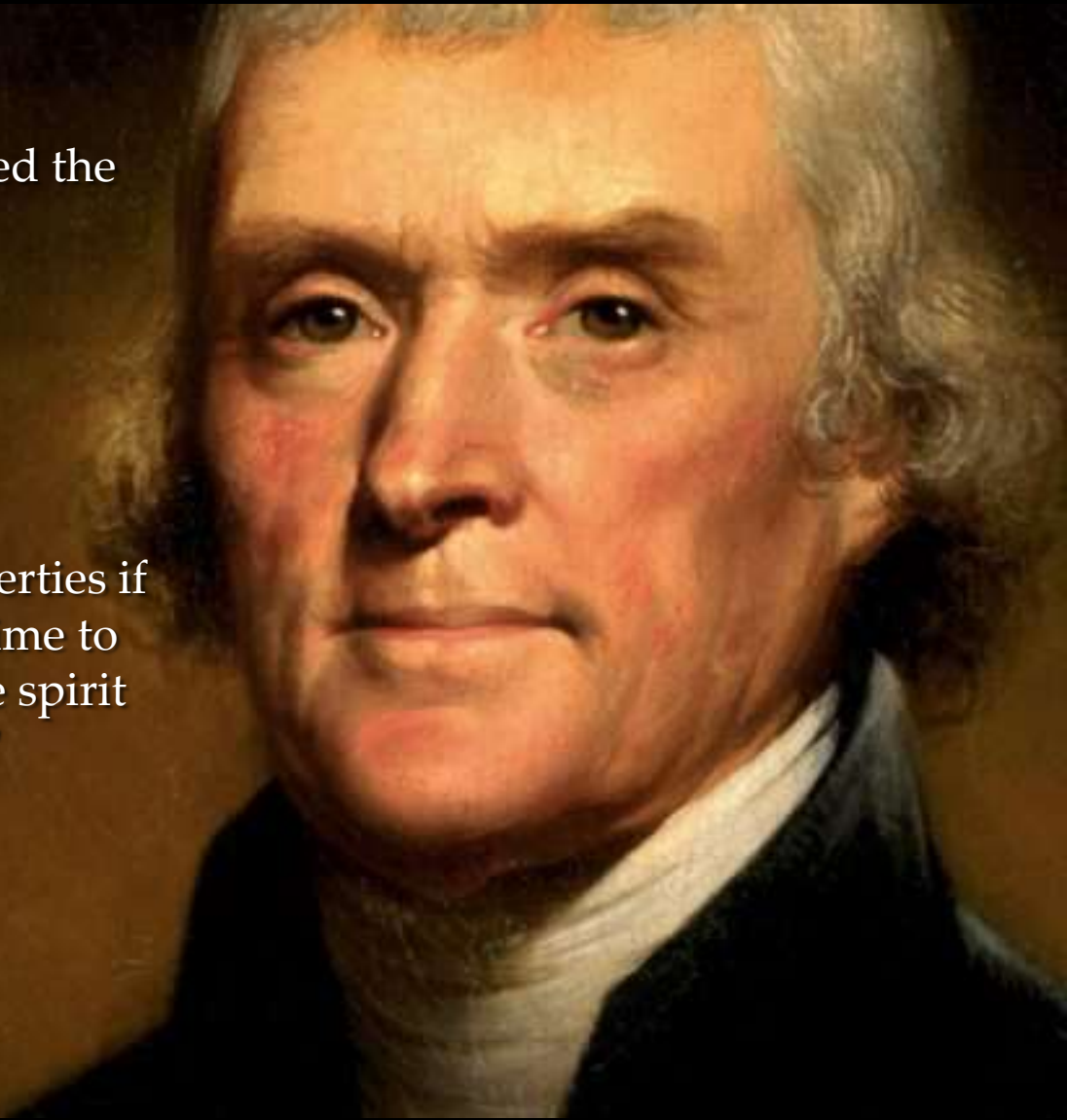


"No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms."

Thomas Jefferson
Virginia Constitution,
Draft 1, 1776

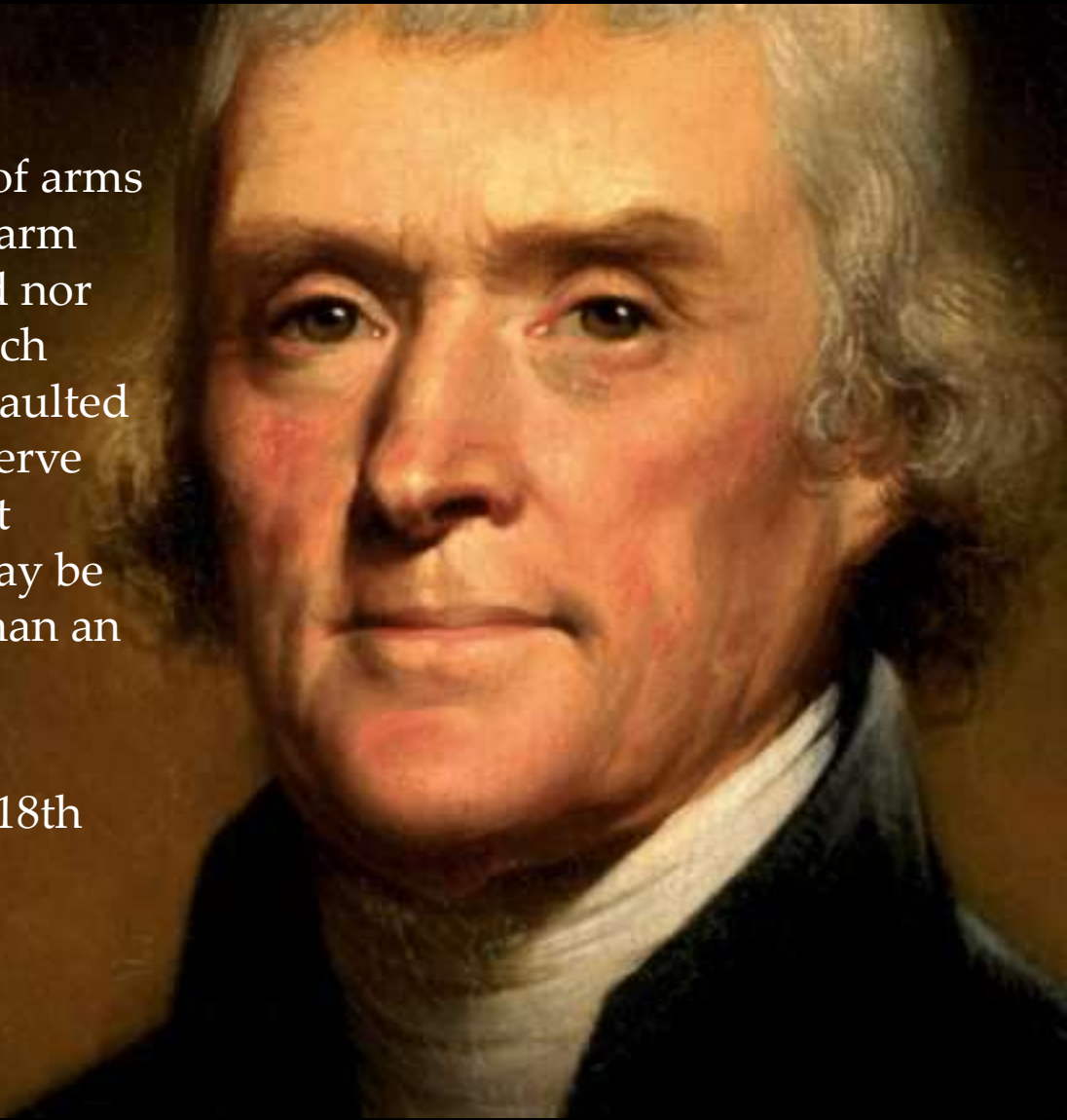
"What country can preserve its liberties if their rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance. Let them take arms."

Thomas Jefferson
Letter to James Madison,
December 20, 1787



"The laws that forbid the carrying of arms are laws of such a nature. They disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes.... Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man."

Thomas Jefferson
Commonplace Book (quoting 18th
century criminologist Cesare
Beccaria), 1774-1776



"I prefer dangerous freedom
over peaceful slavery."

Thomas Jefferson, letter to James
Madison, January 30, 1787



Fact Sheet: Gun Violence

In the wake of the tragic murder of 17 innocent students and teachers at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, students, educators, politicians, and activists are searching for solutions to prevent future school shootings. As emotions morph from grief to anger to resolve, it is vitally important to supply facts so that policymakers and professionals can fashion solutions based on objective data rather than well-intended but misguided emotional fixes. Are there ways to reduce gun violence and school shootings? Yes, but only after objectively assessing the facts and working collaboratively to fashion common-sense solutions.

Eight Stubborn Facts Regarding Gun Violence in America

1. Violent crime is down and has been on the decline for decades.
2. The principal public safety concerns with respect to guns are suicides and illegally owned handguns, not mass shootings.
3. A small number of factors significantly increase the likelihood that a person will be a victim of a gun-related homicide.
4. Gun-related murders are carried out by a predictable pool of people.
5. Higher rates of gun ownership are not associated with higher rates of violent crime.

6. There is no clear relationship between strict gun control legislation and homicide or violent crime rates.
7. Legally owned firearms are used for lawful purposes much more often than they are used to commit crimes or suicide.
8. Concealed carry permit holders are not the problem, but they may be part of the solution.

1. America is relatively safe, and the trend is toward becoming safer.

- According to the National Crime Victimization Survey, violent crime has been [declining steadily](#) since the early 1990s.
- The 2011 homicide rate was [almost half](#) of the rate in 1991, and according to Pew Research, the 2013 gun-related death rate was [half](#) of the rate in 1993.
- The number of non-fatal firearm crimes committed in 2011 was [one-sixth the number](#) committed in 1993.
- In the past few years, there have been minor increases in certain types of violent crimes, mainly in large metropolitan areas. However, these increases are nowhere near [those seen in the 1990s](#) and are largely related to [gang activity](#).
- It should be remembered that it takes at least three to five years of data to show true trend lines. It appears that the collective homicide toll for America's 50 largest cities [decreased modestly](#) in 2017 after two consecutive years of increases.

www.theincolnsociety.org

Scroll to the bottom.



**Average deaths in a
shooting rampage
when stopped by police**

14.3

**Average deaths in a
shooting rampage
when stopped by civilians**

2.3

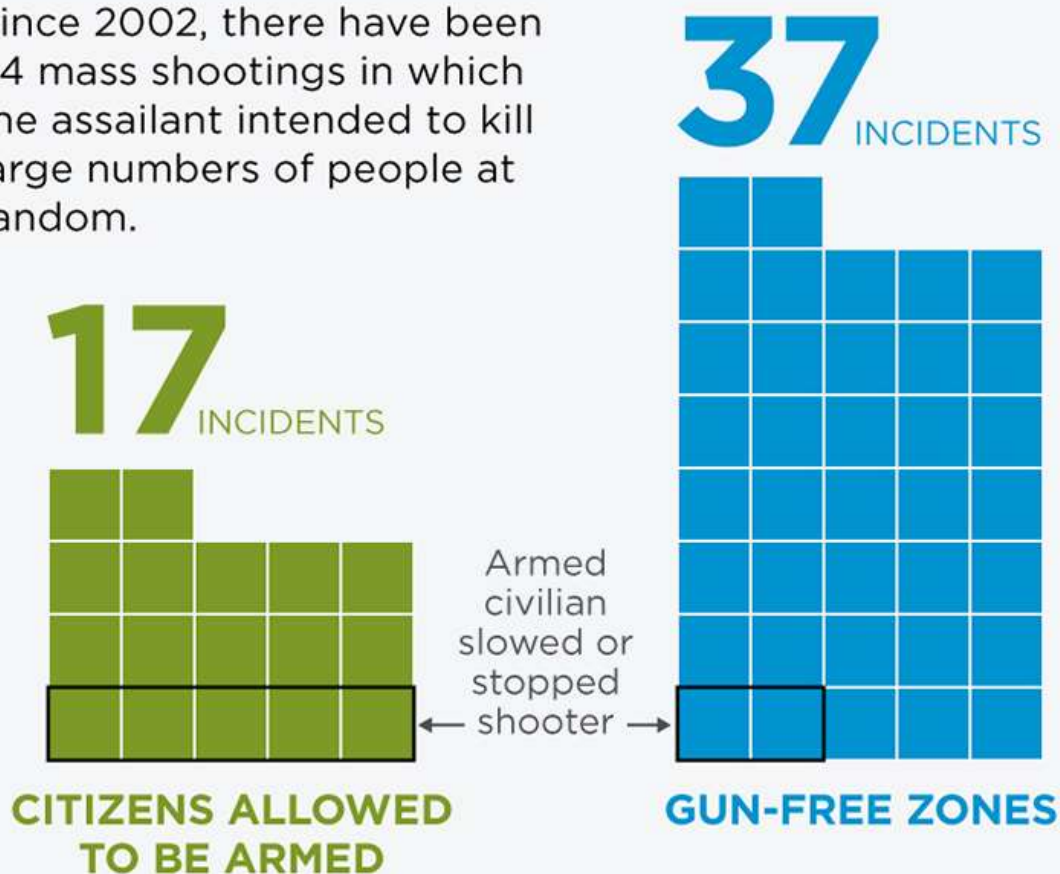


**Save Lives.
Keep civilians armed.**

<https://slowfacts.wordpress.com/2012/08/05/blog-link-auditing-shooting-rampage-statistics/>

Mass Shooters Prefer Gun-Free Zones

Since 2002, there have been 54 mass shootings in which the assailant intended to kill large numbers of people at random.



Note: A mass shooting is defined as a shooting incident that includes three or more victims.

Sources: Stanford University's Mass Shootings in America database and Heritage Foundation research.



1996



Refusing to sell firearms
to customers under 21.



~30% of all U.S. Marines.



Refusing to sell ANY products made by
a company which also makes firearms.

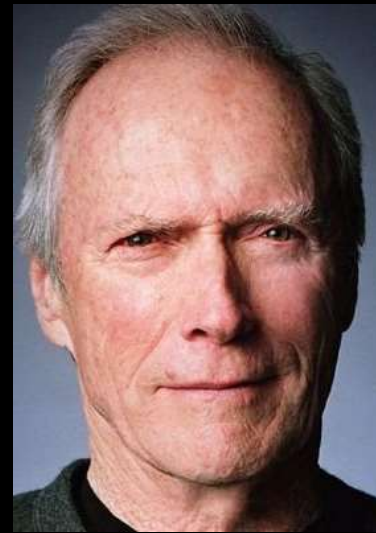
Not everyone in the culture is out to get us.





"Do you really think the Second Amendment is in the Constitution to guarantee hunting and target shooting?"

Tom Selleck
NRA Board of Directors



"I have a very strict gun control policy: if there's a gun around, I want to be in control of it."

Clint Eastwood
NRA Member



"Everyone has a right to bear arms. If you take guns away from legal gun owners, then the only people who have guns are the bad guys."

Bruce Willis



"If some thug breaks into my house, I can use my roundhouse kick. But, I prefer he look down the barrel of my gun."

Chuck Norris
NRA Member



Gary Sinise



Jeff Foxworthy



Tim Allen



Joe Mantegna



Vince Vaughn



Mike Rowe



Adam Baldwin



Kevin Sorbo



"If a Republican doesn't like guns, he doesn't buy one.

If a Democrat doesn't like guns, he wants all guns outlawed.

If a Republican doesn't like a talk show, he switches channels.

Democrats demand that those they don't like be shut down."

Jeff Foxworthy



Kelly Clarkson



S. E. Cupp



Miranda Lambert



Angelina Jolie



Eva Longoria



Amber Heard



Eliza Dushku



Kaya Jones



"The world is filled with violence. Because criminals carry guns, we decent law-abiding citizens should also have guns. Otherwise they will win and the decent people will lose."

James Earl Jones
NRA Member

"The right to bear arms is because that's the last form of defense against tyranny, not to hunt."

Tracy Marrow,
"Ice-T"



"My gun and my Second Amendment right saved my life and the life of my son. I've had first-hand experience that I know carrying a gun can save your life."

Stacey Dash
NRA Life Member



"I don't think it's about more gun control. I grew up in the south with guns everywhere and we never shot anyone. This shooting is about people who aren't taught the value of life."

Samuel Jackson



Alton Brown



"The smart way to keep people **passive and obedient** is to **strictly limit the spectrum of acceptable opinion**, but allow very lively debate within that spectrum."

Noam Chomsky



Don't let the liberals define the argument.

This isn't about school children vs. the NRA.

It isn't about mass shootings vs. guns.

It's about the members of a free society
being able to protect themselves

vs.

not having a free society.

"Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."

Benjamin Franklin

Letter from the Pennsylvania Assembly to
the Colonial Governor, 1755