

Mail Call
America's First Freedom
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Letter to the Editor,
America's First Freedom

It is a noble cause to defend our second amendment rights, but we must not lose sight of why such rights are necessary. The right to keep and bear arms implies that there is something more fundamental that we must protect and preserve. For this reason, the September issue of *America's First Freedom*, was both informative and disturbing. In this issue, you interview Texas Attorney General, John Cornyn. While Cornyn is an advocate of freedom with regard to our right to bear arms, his candid responses to the questions concerning recent corporate scandals reveal that he is one of the worse enemies regarding that which our right to bear arms is designed to protect—i.e., our right to life and property.

As staunch defenders of our right to bear arms, we in the NRA consistently advocate having less gun control laws and the enforcement of those which already exist (provided they are valid) rather than the creation of new laws. Yet, when it comes to corporate fraud, it is disturbing for me to see politicians and media pundits clamoring to get on the bandwagon for more laws and stiffer penalties when, just like with gun laws, there are already enough laws on the books that need only be enforced.

When a criminal illegally obtains a gun and commits a crime, the gun control advocates whip themselves into a frenzy trying to write more laws. When this happens, the NRA is there to cry foul. But when a small handful of individuals commit corporate fraud, and politicians—liberals and conservatives alike—whip themselves into a frenzy to write more laws and create stiffer penalties, *America's First Freedom* gives these politicians a voice and turns a blind eye from the injustice being perpetrated.

Just as law abiding gun owners are the victims of new gun control laws enacted in response to the actions of a small minority of criminals, so the honest American businessman—as well as every American stockholder and 401K participant—is a victim of the corporate witch-hunt now being enacted in response to the actions of a small minority of defrauders.

American businessmen are responsible for creating jobs, producing goods and services, and generating a great deal of wealth. All of this is something that every American benefits from in one way or another. In concrete reality, this is our freedom to work, produce, and to acquire property. While our right to bear arms is essential, it must be remembered that it is a right in relation to other primary and more fundamental rights—i.e., the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. If these are taken away from us, then our right to bear arms will perish as well, because there will be nothing left for our guns to protect.

Our right to life is fundamental. In order to live, we must be allowed to produce and keep the products of our labor—i.e., our property, whether it be our homes, our food, the education of our children, or shares of stocks and bonds. And to keep our lives and our property, we must be allowed to defend it, hence the right to bear arms. But when fighting explicitly for our second amendment rights, we must always be vigilant toward any threat against the rights we are fighting for implicitly when take a pro-gun stand.

On September 11, 2001, middle eastern terrorists attacked the greatest symbols of American freedom—The World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The former symbolized our productivity and prosperity, and the latter our desire to defend it. As conscientious freedom loving citizens, we are very explicit about keeping our right to bear arms, but implicitly this means something much more—that we will be damned if someone will take away our way of life. So why is it then that otherwise freedom loving citizens join with the bloodthirsty mob currently attacking the same target that Middle Eastern terrorists attacked on September 11, 2001—i.e., our capitalist way of life?

I hope that other readers of America's First Freedom will recognize the fundamental similarities of this cause and act just as passionately and for the same reasons. Write letters to your congressmen, senators, and newspapers. Tell them that you do not support the corporate witch-hunt taking place, that it is not a federal matter, and that the proper response is to punish those who have committed crimes with the laws already on the books and to let the rest of corporate America continue to function—business as usual.

Sincerely,
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(Temporary expatriate)

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(returning soon to the Land of the Free!)