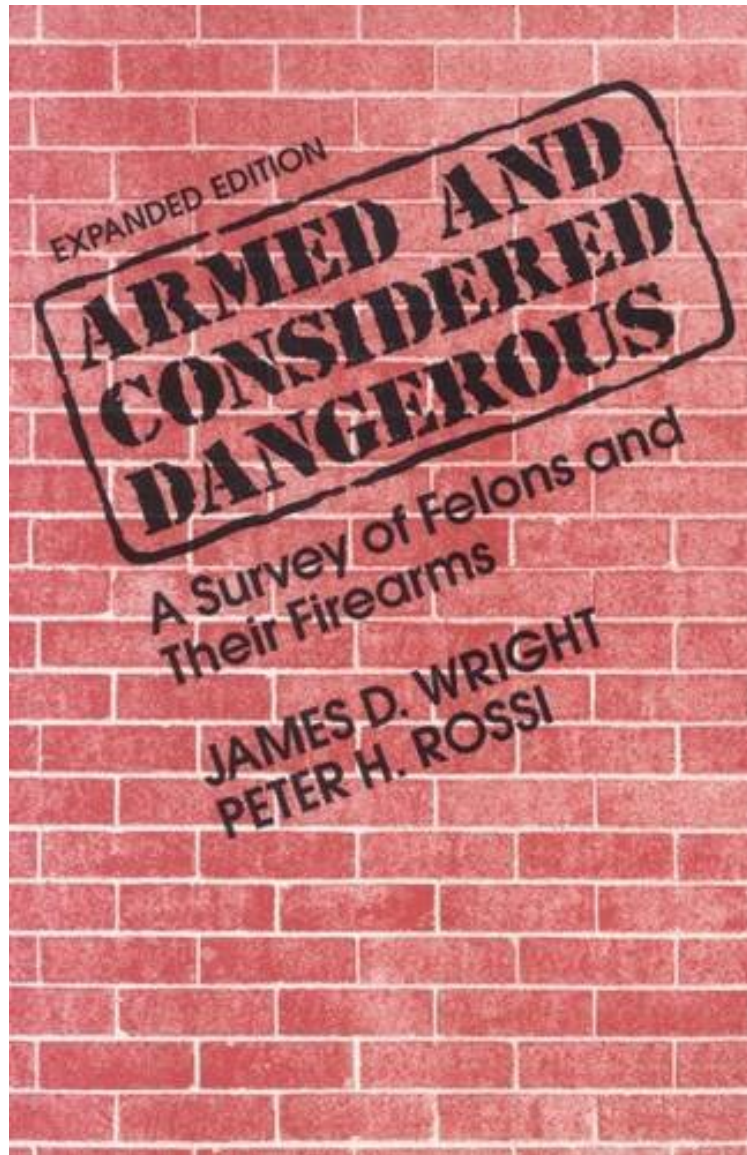


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Armed and Considered Dangerous: A Survey of Felons and Their Firearms (Social Problems and Social Issues (Walter Paperback))

Peter H. Rossi, James D. Wright

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Peter H. Rossi, James D. Wright : Armed and Considered Dangerous: A Survey of Felons and Their Firearms (Social Problems and Social Issues (Walter Paperback)) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Armed and Considered Dangerous: A Survey of Felons and Their Firearms (Social Problems and Social Issues (Walter Paperback)):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Scholarly work By Michael E. Murray This is an older work (1986) and is not an easy read. It is well documented, full of facts and figures, and a worthwhile addition to my library. I am a firearms instructor and I have hundreds of books and studies dealing with self defense, criminality, training, use of force, and such. Don't expect a novel, expect an academic document.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Chesun So Came a little bit late. Above average package.

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. By far the most in-depth study criminal gun habits. By A Customer Interviewing felony prisoners in ten state correctional systems in 1981, Wright and Rossi found extensive information suggesting that gun control laws have relatively little effect on violent criminals. For example, only 12% of criminals, and only 7% of the criminals specializing in handgun crime, had acquired their last crime handgun at a gun store. Of those, about a quarter had stolen the gun from a store; a large number of the rest, Wright and Rossi suggested, had probably procured the gun through a legal surrogate buyer, such as a girlfriend with a clean record. Fifty-six percent of the prisoners said that a criminal would not attack a potential victim who was known to be armed. Seventy-four percent agreed with the statement that "One reason burglars avoid houses where people are at home is that they fear being shot during the crime." Thirty-nine percent of the felons had personally decided not to commit a crime because they thought the victim might have a gun, and eight percent said the experience had occurred "many times." Criminals in states with higher civilian gun ownership rates worried the most about armed victims. Despite the popular myth that criminals preferred small, inexpensive handguns (so-called "Saturday Night Specials" or "junk guns"), the felony prisoners preferred larger, more powerful handguns—equal to the guns which they expected the police would have. Although the criminals rarely bought guns in gun stores, the overwhelming majority stated that obtaining a gun after their release from prison would be a simple project, which might take a few hours to a few weeks. *Armed and Dangerous* has lost none of its importance. In the years since it was published, no-one has done any research on criminal gun use and acquisition that is even half as significant or detailed. *Armed and Dangerous* is also a great book to give a library. The new paperback includes an introduction by Jim Wright that discusses the reaction to *Armed and Dangerous* in the years since its first publication.

This updated volume from Professors Wright and Rossi is part of a larger, continuing research program, focused on the acquisition, carrying, and use of guns and other weapons in the commission of criminal acts. For this expanded edition, Dr. Wright has prepared a new preface, exploring the more recent legislative developments in the debate on guns and violence, engaging the lines of criticism that this book originally encountered, touching on assault weapons, and citing the literature subsequent to the first edition.

This book is recommended reading for anyone interested in criminal violence, containing much that is of interest beyond issues of weaponry. However, it is essential reading for those interested in the significance of weaponry to crime and in the issue of gun control. Its findings should be sobering to those who regard gun control as an easy technological solution to violence in America, but they are also critical to making the hard choices and subtle judgments needed to craft gun-control policies that will do more good than harm. Gary Kleck, *Social Forces* [In] previous works much is guess at but little is known about criminals gun ownership and use. *Armed and Considered Dangerous* goes a long way toward solving this problem. It is a must for those interested in firearms, crime, or policy research [It] contains a great deal [of] useful information especially on the way criminals get guns and the nature of criminal gun markets. David J. Bordua, *Contemporary Sociology*

About the Author Peter H. Rossi (1921-2006) was professor of sociology emeritus at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, director of research at the Social and Demographic Research Institute, and past president of the American Sociological Association. Known as one of the most eminent of American social scientists, Rossi authored over forty books and two hundred scholarly articles. His works include *Down and Out in America: The Origins of Homelessness*; *Just Punishments: Federal Guidelines and Public Opinion Compared*; *Natural Hazards and Public Choice*; and *Armed and Considered Dangerous*.

James D. Wright is an author, educator, and the Provost's Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Central Florida. He has written twenty-four books and more than 300 journal articles, book chapters, essays, reviews, and polemics.