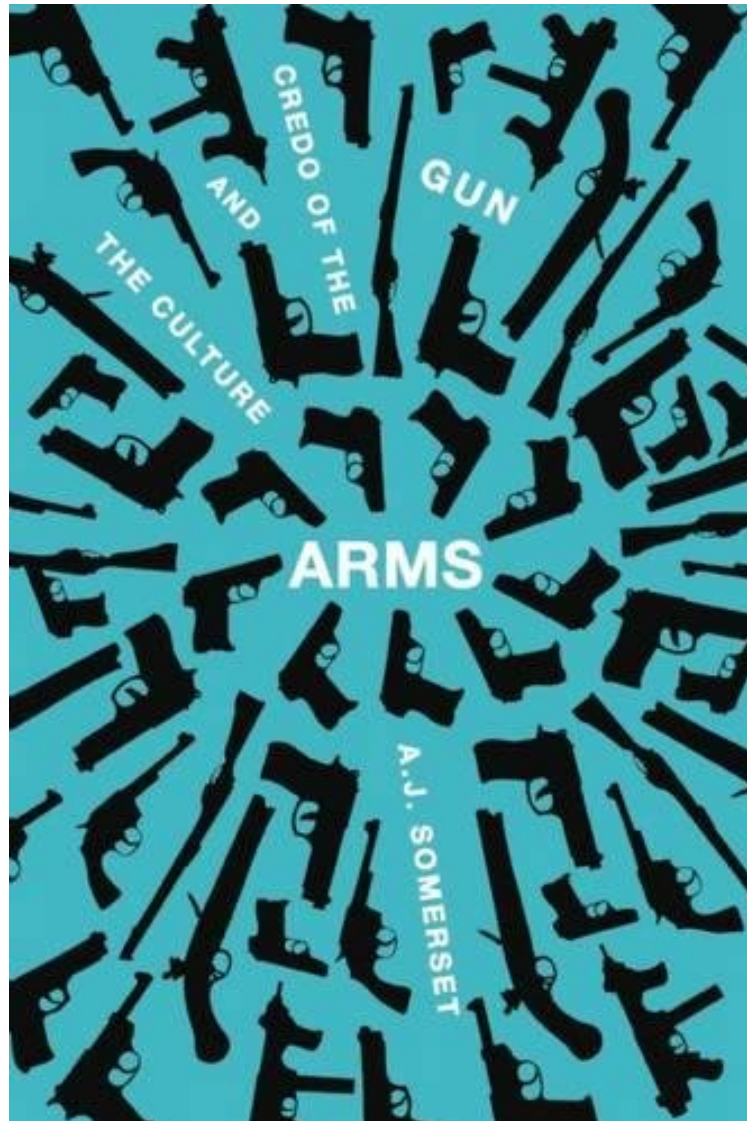


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## Arms: The Culture and Credo of the Gun

*A. J. Somerset*

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**A. J. Somerset : Arms: The Culture and Credo of the Gun** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Arms: The Culture and Credo of the Gun:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Contextual Explanation of the History of Guns and the Development of the NRA in the United StatesBy mgExcellent book for anyone who wants to understand the underlying history of the political arguments about guns in the United States. While a little bit dry to read, the historical evolution of what became the NRA in the United States and how it came to wield significant political power is important for every American to understand when it comes to how it plays into Second Amendment rights and

interpretation. *Arms: The Culture and Credo of the Gun* is especially timely during the 2016 election cycle, when cultural divides are so obvious and being played upon. Somerset provides historical and cultural context for what has become a lightning rod issue within the United States. If you are looking for a well researched, factually based resource for understanding the history of guns in the United States, I highly recommend this book as your starting place. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ready, aim, think! By Kyle Pika A balanced view, excellently researched and highly informative. The writing is brisk and entertaining. Somerset is great company and an admirable guide through murky territory. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Jero Strong start, slow finish.... almost couldn't make it to the end

After a fifteen-year hiatus from the world of guns, journalist, sports shooter, and former soldier A.J. Somerset no longer fit in with other firearm enthusiasts. There was a culture much different than the one he remembered: a culture more radical, less tolerant, and more immovable in its beliefs, as if [each] gun had come with a free, bonus ideological Family Pack [of political tenets], a ready-made identity. To find the origins of this surprising shift, Somerset began mapping the cultural history of guns and gun ownership in North America. *Arms: The Culture and Credo of Gun* is the brilliant result. How were firearms transformed from tools used by pioneers into symbols of modern manhood? Why did the NRAs focus shift from encouraging responsible gun use to lobbying against gun-safety laws? What is the relationship between gun ownership and racism in America? How have the film, television, and video game industries molded our perception of gun violence? When did the fear of gun seizures arise, and how has it been used to benefit arms manufacturers, lobbyists, and the far-right? Few ideas divide communities as much as those involving firearms, and fewer authors are able to tackle the subject with the same authority, humor, and intelligence. Written from the unique perspective of a gun lover who's disgusted with what gun culture has become, *Arms* is destined to be one of the most talked-about books of the year.

A Washington Post Notable Nonfiction Book of 2015 Listed among the top five books of 2015 by The Hill Times Praise for *Arms* and A.J. Somerset