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## The 2nd Amendment What does it mean?

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In Professor Amar's lecture he gave as an interpretation of the 2nd amendment that it governs the right for the individual states to have a militia in order to prevent the Federal Government from getting too powerful. It has been argued for years exactly what does the 2nd amendment mean with respect to gun ownership; that every citizen has the right to own a gun or only that states have the right to have a militia.

I do not think we have to look at what the amendment means, where the commas were placed we only need to look at what took place once the Constitution was the Law of the Land. I can find no evidence that once the Bill of Rights was adopted that Congress then took steps to confiscate all privately owned weapons in the country and reserving gun ownership for only the state militias as in Professor Amar's interpretation. Professor Amar himself in Part I of the lecture stated that the most important precedents in Constitutional Law did not come from the Supreme Court but from the actions of the Presidents and Congress. I can find no evidence with respect to the 2nd Amendment where the President or Congress took actions to confiscate privately owned weapons.

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