

Never Trust what an Anti claims

So trolling on Twitter the other day, I came across this claim:

Did you know in 1791 when the Founders ratified the 2A, a well regulated militia was restricted to 1 musket, 2 spare flints and 24 bullets? They had to register and at anytime the gov could enter their home, take away their weapon and remove them from the rolls.

Well anyone with even basic understanding of history knows none of this is true so the individual was called out on it repeatedly. This is what they responded with:

GUN LAW HISTORY IN THE UNITED STATES AND SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

ROBERT J. SPITZER*

I INTRODUCTION

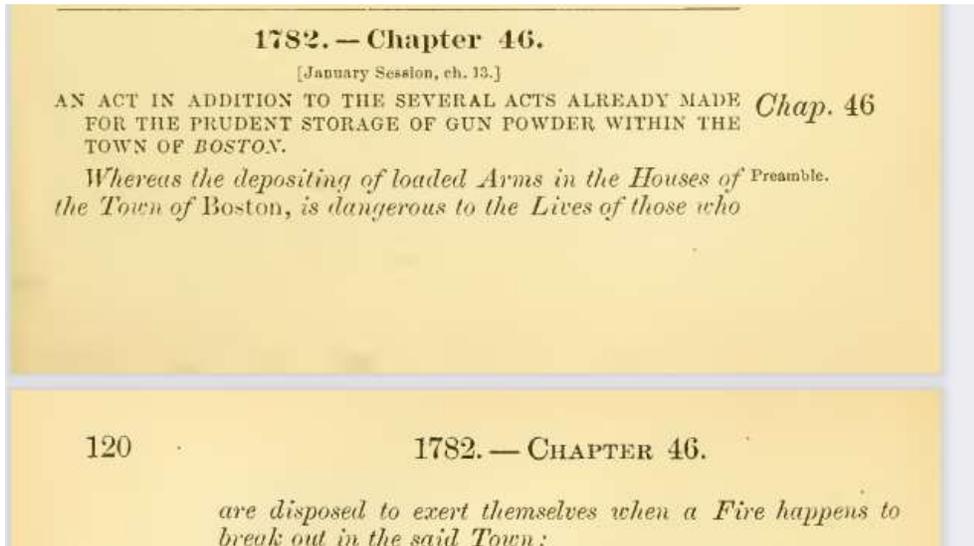
<https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4825&context=lcp>

Not specifics, mind you, but a link to the entire article. A fairly typical ploy. Once had another claim that the FF's specifically and literally stated that the 2A was 'only' for militia. When called on that they posted a link to the Constitutional Convention... all 600 pages of it.

Anyway, this was another red flag. Spitzer. A longtime anti-gun advocate and 'researcher'. Many of the citations are to his own works and other anti gun nut cases like Saul Cornell. I and several others read through it. Nothing. Of course the anti just kept repeating 'You didn't read it' over and over. So, since I was bored, I dug through it some more. This was the closest I found (way at the end under 'storage':

Massachusetts enacted a 1782 law specifying that any loaded firearms “found in any Dwelling House, Out House, Stable, Barn, Store, Ware House, Shop, or other Building . . . shall be liable to be seized” by the “Firewards” of the town.

Never heard of that one, so I used the citation and started using some Google-Fu. I found the original law. (The internet can be a wonderful thing)



<https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/bitstream/handle/2452/104027/1782acts0046.pdf?sequence=4&isAllowed=y>

An Act in addition to the several acts already made for the prudent storage of gun power within the town of Boston: Whereas the depositing of loaded Arms in the Houses of the Town of Boston, is dangerous to the Lives of those who are disposed to exert themselves when a Fire happens to break out in the said Town:

So not 'gun control' but a fire code for the 'Town' of Boston, not the entire state. What else did he leave out?

Any Cannon, Swivel, Mortar, Howitzer, Cohorn, or Fire Arm, Loaded with or having Gun Powder in the same...

So again, not 'gun control' but the city didn't want cannons going off and killing fire fighters if there was a fire.

In other words, Spitzer left out key components of the law to insinuate something else and absolutely nothing about "anytime the gov could enter their home, take away their weapon..." except in the mind of a deluded fanatic.

With that I decided to look at a few others. The NY Sullivan law was mentioned several times:

New York established a registration system for all handgun sales—part of the 1911 law known as the Sullivan Law—which required gun owners to obtain a permit for ownership.

New York's 1911 Sullivan law applied to handguns only

We all know the real purpose of this law.. To discriminate against Italian and Eastern European immigrants. As the NYT blatantly said" "*Low-browed foreigners bargained for weapons of every description and gloated over their good fortune in hearing of the drop in the gun market before it was too late*". Friends of Sullivan and Tammany Hall didn't need to worry about it. Again, we know why Spitzer left those parts out.

Then this one caught my eye:

Perhaps most remarkable was this sweeping law, enacted by Montana in 1918, titled "An Act providing for the registration of all fire arms and weapons and regulating the sale thereof":

What? Montana had universal gun registration? Never heard of that. That one was a little trickier to track down. Yes, there was such an act passed in 1918 but it was not alone. It went along w/ a host of anti-German and 'sedition' laws passed at the same time since the US was just getting into WWI. The law also required you to list not only where you live but where you were born. So it was less of a 'gun registration' than an immigrant registration to keep those bloody Krauts in their place. Of course Spitzer left that out as well.

REGISTER OF FIREARMS

STATE OF MONTANA, }
 County of Missoula. } ss. COUNTY OF MISSOULA.
 Number _____

_____ being first duly sworn on oath,
 deposes and says:

1. That he is a citizen of _____, and that his address is _____ Street, City or Town of _____ County of Missoula.

2. That he is the owner (has in his possession or control) the following firearms and weapons:

Manufacturer's name Remington Manufacturer's No. 56318
 Calibre 22 and where possible date and Manufacturer's series Model 230
 Manufacturer's name Remington Manufacturer's No. 187609
 Calibre 20-30 and where possible date and Manufacturer's series Model 1894
 Manufacturer's name Winchester Manufacturer's No. 383
 Calibre 12 Gauge and where possible date and Manufacturer's series no date
 Manufacturer's name Colt Manufacturer's No. 19713
 Calibre 44 and where possible date and Manufacturer's series no date
 Manufacturer's name _____ Manufacturer's No. _____
 Calibre _____ and where possible date and Manufacturer's series _____
 Manufacturer's name _____ Manufacturer's No. _____
 Calibre _____ and where possible date and Manufacturer's series _____
 Manufacturer's name _____ Manufacturer's No. _____
 Calibre _____ and where possible date and Manufacturer's series _____
 Manufacturer's name _____ Manufacturer's No. _____
 Calibre _____ and where possible date and Manufacturer's series _____
 Manufacturer's name _____ Manufacturer's No. _____
 Calibre _____ and where possible date and Manufacturer's series _____
 Manufacturer's name _____ Manufacturer's No. _____
 Calibre _____ and where possible date and Manufacturer's series _____

3. That he was born at Saltburg on the 20th day of February A. D. 1907 and that his occupation is Farming

4. Description:
 Height 5'10" ft. eight inches, color white skin, fair eyes, gray hair dark

Dated at _____, Montana, this _____ day of _____, 19____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 19____

<https://mhs.mt.gov/education/Textbook/Chapter16/chapter16.pdf>

<https://granitecountyhistory.blogspot.com/2017/01/gun-registration-in-montana-during-wwi.html>

Just random spot checking showed a fire code and two racist, anti-immigrant laws. No wonder they have to hide it.

The moral of this story is 'Never trust what an anti-gun advocate says'. Even when they provide primary source materials, they will obfuscate, edit, and outright fabricate things so it says what they want it to.