

## Lessons From Theater Shooting

By Jeremy Pinson

If anything can be drawn from the massacre in Aurora, Colorado by deranged shooter James Holmes it is that America needs, not should, needs to rethink our laws on guns.

Simple questions highlight the absurdity of the current law and the NRA's rabid and overbroad protection of the Second Amendment. Why does any law abiding citizen need an AK-47? An AR-15? An SKS Assault Rifle?

Home protection can be accomplished through possession of a handgun and standard rifles and shotguns are adequate for hunting and recreational purposes. There is simply no legitimate use of a person having an assault weapon.

Sure the old maxim "Guns don't kill people, people kill people" is true but people kill people at a rate of nearly 9,000 per year with guns. James Holmes likely would have killed people with anything at his disposal given his obvious mental dysfunction but the carnage likely would have been less.

What is the purpose of a right to bear arms if some of us will die en masse every few years as a result of a refusal to properly regulate that right? Alcohol, tobacco and pain pills are regulated so why not AK-47's? If now isn't the time when will it be time?