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Carol X. Vinzant

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Lawyers, Guns, and Money

ONE MAN'S BATTLE WITH THE GUN INDUSTRY

CAROL X. VINZANT



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Lawyers, Guns, and Money: One Man's Battle with the Gun Industry

Carol X. Vinzant : **Lawyers, Guns, and Money: One Man's Battle with the Gun Industry** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised **Lawyers, Guns, and Money: One Man's Battle with the Gun Industry**:

2 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Excellent History of Gun Control Legal Fights A Generation Ago By StevenThe political fights over gun control in 2013 are not new. A generation ago the same people, philosophical

divides, disingenuous and cynical pro-gun politics were being made as they are in 2013. This book does a very good job telling that history and also showing a side of the gun control fight that has long managed to evade the spotlight--the legal issues that manufacturers manage to evade, both in government regulation and in court. It's well written, detailed, accurately sourced and sadly shows how little has changed among the people who defend guns for reasons that go beyond any rational need to continue the tradition of hunting or legitimate self-defense. 6 of 11 people found the following review helpful. MISGUIDED By Bulworth I truly feel bad for anyone who has suffered because of firearm violence but, going after the manufacture or product dealer is foolish. Think about it, if you can go after firearm manufactures and their dealers when someone misuses their product the same could eventually apply to manufactures and dealers of other products. Just think of what the economic results would be to the manufacturing industry in this country. My problem with the whole gun control view point is that it solely concentrates on "HOW" a crime is committed and not "WHY". Core issues like mental illness, drugs and social economic issues are pushed aside because guns, we are misdirected to believe, are the problem. This book is outdated Bloomberg spent more in one year, supporting anti-gun agenda, than the NRA spent in ten years. I chose this book because I am interested in the subject of "gun control" but to be honest I only read a few chapters of this book and found it to be lacking. I expect my review to get low marks solely based on the media's constant anti-gun propaganda and my belief that most people are sheep. 4

of 8 people found the following review helpful. Poorly written...next time hire a fact checker By Big Mike

0311 Although I feel sorry for the author being shot with no chance to defend himself, the bulk of this book is a polemic attack on the firearms industry. Now that's to be expected from a typical NYer and a victim, but what is most troubling about the book is the factual inaccuracies, particularly about the history of firearms development in the US. The author tries to smear arms manufacturers as racists and incorrectly draws parallels to Nazi Germany. Next time hire a fact checker and maybe even someone with a mere high school education will take this book halfway serious.

This inspiring book recounts the heroic efforts of Tom McDermott, a lawyer and victim of the infamous Colin Ferguson rampage on the Long Island Railroad, to take on the gun industry. He is among the leaders of an innovative and promising strategy to circumvent the NRA's political power and courts constrained by interpretations of the Second Amendment. Through civil action he hits the gun companies where it hurts most: the bottom line. Making insurance difficult for manufacturers to get, he has helped reduce the number of cheap hand guns, "Saturday Night Specials," often used in crime. This is a riveting account of tragedy turned into action, and how the law can be used to defend victims rather than enrich corporations.

From Publishers Weekly Guns are like any other business, says this absorbing study of the nation's gun industry; unworthy of "special legal protections," they should be regulated like automobiles and tobacco, even though they are designed to kill and have long been protected by the gun lobby's dubious interpretations of the Second Amendment.

The crusader of the subtitle is Tom McDermott, a lawyer who survived the 1993 Long Island Railroad shooting rampage and afterward devoted himself to prosecuting gun manufacturers who had taken advantage of loopholes and feeble regulations to flood the country with vast quantities of cheap weapons. Journalist Vinzant is a vivid storyteller with a flair for thumbnail sketches of people and situations and an entertaining guide to the labyrinthine worlds of product liability laws, insurance scams, low-end gun production and the surreal aspects of the NRA. McDermott's painstaking progress is enlivened with many startling facts (America has more licensed gun dealers than gas stations, for example) and useful capsule summaries of the legal and technical issues involved. Occasionally these grow too clotted and the story slows to a crawl, but there is enough drama here that the book reads like the real story behind a bestselling legal thriller. There is no convenient happy ending, nor is it a black and white morality tale. This is a balanced, intelligent and scrupulously researched portrait of a controversial industry. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. The more people read this very well written and compelling book, and encourage others to read it, and the more we all act on it's advice--the safer America will be. If you read only one book this year, make it this one. The lives of those you love most may depend on it. Amitai Etzioni, author of *How Patriotic is the Patriot Act: Freedom Versus Security in the Age of Terrorism*. (Routledge, 2005) An intimate look at a world few of us know, but most of us fear. A fascinating, memorable, and disturbing book by a gifted and tenacious reporter. Joe Queenan, author of *True Believers* and *Queenan Country* *Lawyers, Guns and Money* is an excellent book. It's the dramatic and moving story of Tom McDermott, and how a shocking chance encounter changed his reason for living. It's also a terribly cogent look at the National Rifle Association, its history, its disproportionate influence, and its bogus arguments. Finally, it's the intricate tale of how scamming insurance dealers enabled the most dangerous gun dealers to stay in business, and how Tom McDermott began unraveling the connection. Carol X. Vinzant deserves thanks and praise for the skillful way she has woven these stories together to produce a riveting and enlightening book. Jamie Malanowski, Managing editor of *Playboy* *Lawyers, Guns, and Money* is an excellent book that exposes the manipulations of the gun industry - anti-government rhetoric from one face, professed loyalty to police and the Pentagon from the other. Providing the gun industry's unauthorized history, surprising even to a long-time firearms expert, it follows the gun industry's methods of disenfranchising the public

while intimidating legislators. And it provides reason for hope, in the promising efforts to find new ways to control the damage guns do to society. Whit Collins, national firearms litigation and policy consultant Carol Vinzant superbly tells a story that can help change the story of gun violence in America. Gun manufacturers will hate this book, and that's precisely why it's so valuable to the rest of us. Gavin de Becker, Bestselling Author, *The Gift of Fear* About the Author Carol X. Vinzant is editor of *BusinessWeek Stock Trader* and has written for *Fortune*, *Slate*, *Spy*, and *The Washington Post*.