

# 'ASSAULTED' REVIEW: DOC ARGUES SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS ARE CIVIL RIGHTS



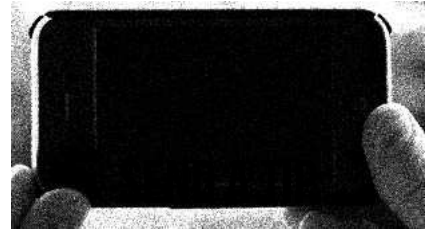
by [AWR HAWKINS](#) (/COLUMNISTS/AWR-HAWKINS) | 27 Nov 2013 | [12](#) | [POST A COMMENT](#) (/BIG-HOLLYWOOD/2013/11/27/DEAD-PATRIOT-FILMS-2ND-AMENDMENT-RIGHTS-ARE-CIVIL-RIGHTS#COMMENTS)

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 **Dead Patriot Films' Assaulted: Civil Rights Under Fire** pulls together scholars, judges, Civil Rights attorneys, law enforcement personnel and others to educate Americans on one basic fact: Second Amendment rights are Civil Rights.

The film is narrated by Ice-T, and the rapper uses this role to control the flow of the film and keep it on point.

Minutes into the film, Ice-T asks:

Some politicians and scholars argue that the Second Amendment to our Constitution is outdated and no longer valid in our society. But can we throw out the foundation of our country, and the individual bricks called "Civil Rights," in the name of public safety? What did our Founding Fathers envision when they wrote the Second Amendment?

This question is answered by various scholars, among them David Kopel, PhD: "Guns have been part of American culture ever since the first Europeans showed up with their guns four centuries ago. And ever since [then] they've been an important part of what America stands for."

Kopel continues by noting that the Founders used the 2nd Amendment to recognize a preexisting right:

Just like your First Amendment right to assemble, your First Amendment right to freedom of religion, [and] your First Amendment right to freedom of speech, your Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms was not created by the federal government. [Rather,] those were all seen by the framers as fundamental, preexisting human rights which all humans had, simply by virtue of being human.

The film stresses that our Founding Fathers hedged on the right to keep and bear arms for two chief reasons: 1. Self-Defense. 2. To repel a tyranny. After witnesses and scholars speak to the critical self-defense component Ice-T narrates the history of the Battle of Athens: a post-World War II clash of arms in a sleepy Tennessee town where recently returned veterans had to use their rifles to "[liberate] the ballot boxes" from a corrupt Sheriff who had bullied the people into submission while the war was going on.

The film then makes this same point--perhaps more forcefully--by showing what happens to Americans when they don't have guns with which to defend themselves from armed criminals or a tyrannical government. To do this, they cover the illegal confiscation of firearms that took place in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. Homeowners who had been able to defend their property from looters suddenly found their firearms looted by their own local government and then found themselves easy prey for the gangs of civilian looters that followed.

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