

- [Kevin Tuma \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [John Stacy \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [langbert \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [Lisa Graas \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [MichaelW \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [John Calvin \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [John Bergstrom's Attack Cartoons \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [James W. Alexander \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [Jeff Matthews \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [Joe Kaufman \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [Brian Carpenter \(RSS\)](#) (1)
- [PFountain \(RSS\)](#) (1)

Powered by [Authors Widget](#)

Info

- [Stoning in Afghanistan Illustrates Taliban Extremism](#)
- [Court Strikes Down Key Provisions of Arizona Immigration Law](#)
- [They're Off! Election 2010 Begins in Illinois.](#)
- [Launching the Broadside](#)
- [Columnists: Get a Gravatar](#)
- [Guidelines for Editors](#)
- [Register Now](#)
- [Firing off a Broadside!!](#)
- [Becoming a Contributor](#)
- [Editorial Guide](#)

Review: *Guns and Weed: The Road to Freedom*

By [admin](#)

Sometimes genius surfaces in strange places, and there is certainly an element of genius in the new movie *Guns and Weed: The Road to Freedom*. The film is not perfect and it's certainly not the slickest production, but it's one hell of a smart, informative and entertaining film.

It starts from a brilliant idea: looking at gun rights and the legalization of marijuana as two linked issues which between them expose many of the problems with our government and in our society from a libertarian perspective. By looking at one right which is constantly under threat and another which has been taken away arbitrarily, the film explores the broader issue of the ongoing diminishment of our civil liberties by intrusive government.

The film is basically a documentary composed mostly of interviews and discussion, but what makes it unique is that it comes with a sly sense of humor and a sense of fun which is much more appealing than the preachiness you'd expect on such a serious subject.

The film was made by Michael W. Dean and Neema Vedadi. Dean is the writer and director. Vedadi is a featured performer and producer. Dean describes himself as a [punk rock libertarian](#) and is the former Chairman of the [Republican Liberty Caucus](#) of Wyoming. Vedadi is a weekend news anchor on ABC affiliate [KEPR](#) in Wyoming. Dean mainly appears playing backing guitar for Vedadi in some hilarious rap numbers. Iranian-American punk-rap is a musical genre I never really expected to see. Vedadi also plays a variety of roles in small skits and dramatizations in the film and he's damned funny. Another asset to the film is a very pretty girl who fires a lot of guns while wearing a nice sun dress and does some excellent narration, credited as J-Tizzle. Also very effective were some of the medical marijuana users, especially a young couple afflicted with Kohn's Disease and Multiple Sclerosis who use marijuana to ease the pain and discomfort of their conditions. I also found some of the detailed insights into the mechanics of the medical marijuana business very interesting.

The most familiar of the interviewees is [Sheriff Richard Mack](#) who is very highly regarded in civil libertarian circles, but the less prominent participants, many of them local gun owners, marijuana entrepreneurs and civil libertarians from Wyoming and Colorado are articulate and make lots of good points. They give personal and substantive perspectives on issues like the medical value of marijuana, prisons overflowing with non-violent offenders, the whole milk ban, problems with the justice system, free speech, the Mexican drug cartels, abuse of government power, the failures of democracy and a web of other issues which all link surprisingly logically to the two core subjects.

There are a lot of libertarian films out there and most take themselves way too seriously and are no fun at all. Quite a few shade over into areas of fringe politics and radical rhetoric which make them threatening to a mainstream audience. One of the great accomplishments of *Guns and Weed* is that it doesn't take that route. It's approachable and relatively non-threatening and doesn't get preachy. It manages to soften its very serious message with humor, music and engaging performances. It's informative but it's also enjoyable.

Perhaps best of all, the whole of *Guns and Weed* is on YouTube in a series of linked segments and you can watch it in an hour and a half. I recommend it to everyone, especially those who still think the War on Drugs is a good idea. It might be just the thing for some of my Republican friends who understand the right to bear arms but haven't yet realized how interconnected all of our civil liberties are. Go watch

it and help it go viral!

Last 5 posts by admin

- [The Patriot Act - Repeal or Revise?](#) - January 31st, 2011
- [The Fallacy of Wealth Redistribution](#) - January 22nd, 2011
- [Vouchers Could Save Broke School Districts](#) - January 21st, 2011
- [Happy Confederate Heroes Day!](#) - January 19th, 2011
- [Court Strikes Down Key Provisions of Arizona Immigration Law](#) - July 29th, 2010

This entry was posted on Wednesday, January 12th, 2011 at 2:12 pm and is filed under [Exclusive](#), [Featured](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed.

Leave a Comment

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website

FoxNews

- [Bush Daughter Endorses Gay Marriage in N.Y.](#)
- [FDA Rejects New Diet Pill Over Heart Concerns- Signs of a Heart Attack](#)
- [Pakistan Won't Free U.S. Diplo Accused of Murder- Freed U.S. Hiker Ordered Back to Iran](#)
- [Muslim Dignitaries Pay Their Respects at Auschwitz](#)
- [English-Only Bills Gain Steam in Some States](#)

National Review

- [CPAC's Culture Club](#)
- ['The Patience of Politics'](#)
- [A taste for democracy, &c.](#)

- [A 'Crusade' for Liberty](#)
- [After the Revolution](#)

Reason

- [Wet at Last](#)
- [What's the Matter with Provincetown?](#)
- [The Terminator vs. the Constitution](#)
- [Reason.tv: Another Mexico - A Conversation with Storyteller Sam Quinones](#)
- [The Anti-Cop Trend That Isn't](#)

CQ Politics

Washington Times

- [PRUDEN: The First Amendment under 'progressive' siege](#)
- [GREENSTEIN: More stimulus requires fiscal relief](#)
- [PRUDEN: Day of reckoning for the GOP](#)
- [PRUDEN: Obama wingnuts get a toke of respect](#)
- [DAVIS: Universal coverage, private competition and reduced deficits](#)
- [GRISWOLD: Obama's protectionist policies hurting low-income Americans](#)
- [PRUDEN: Christmas arrives early for Putin](#)
- [VERSACE: What kind of recovery lies ahead?](#)
- [BUTLER: Learning from Sweden's school voucher success](#)
- [HAAKE: Afghanistan is worth U.S. commitment](#)

The Scottsman

- [Opposition leader sings praises of Idi Amin at Ugandan election rally](#)
- [Tombstone owners given new rights](#)
- [Australia now faces 160mph battering from Cyclone Yasi](#)
- [Eating sushi off a model 'un-PC'](#)
- [Security tight as Burma opens new parliament](#)

Archives

Select Month

Meta

- [Register](#)
- [Log in](#)
- [Entries RSS](#)
- [Comments RSS](#)
- [WordPress.org](#)

Editorial Board

Editor & Publisher

Dave Nalle

Senior Editor

Phil Norman

Editors

Nancy James
Patricia Fitch
Brian Alterman

Contributors

Eric Dondero
Alan van Norstrand
Carl Jones



Free Game  Big Kahuna Reef  [Download today](#) Privacy Information

Copyright © 2011 [National Broadside](#). All Rights Reserved.

Based on Magazine Basic theme designed by [c.bavota](#) with modifications by Dave Nalle.

Powered by [WordPress](#).