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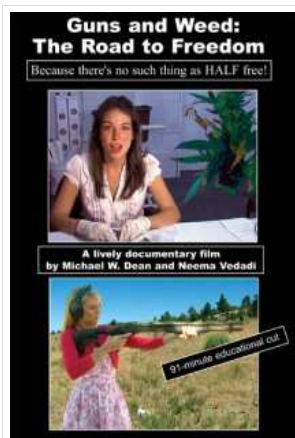
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## Guns And Weed: The Road To Freedom DVD

POSTED BY MARTIJN ON JANUARY - 5 - 2012



Guns And Weed: The Road To Freedom

### Guns And Weed: The Road To Freedom DVD (dir: Michael W. Dean & Neema Vedadi; Angry Peasant Films/MVD Visual)

As an American writing for a publication that has a predominantly European audience, I always wonder a little about how much of what I write (or write about) gets lost in translation. With this film, that concern is amped up significantly, particularly because I have no idea how easy it may be even to obtain a copy of this film in other countries. Hell, it isn't going to be easy to obtain in most US states either. Jackbooted thugs stealing mail and telling us all how to walk and talk aside... get this film. Watch this film. Somehow. Someway. The copy I was able to view is noted as being a Director's Cut, but I'm not sure what that means in this case and I don't think it matters all that much because the message isn't going to be lost unless some government (mine, yours, all of them) gets hold of it – in which case it would be chopped down to a 20-second infomercial in support of

the police state that currently grips all of the Western world. Through a combination of simple facts, primary school level educational devices, humor, music, graphics, testimonials from real everyday people, and an almost impossibly beautiful gun-toting hostess/instructor, this film delivers its message – that every American citizen is born with the innate right to bear arms and to ingest any substance that he or she chooses to ingest, including marijuana – in no uncertain terms, but with no malice, no lowbrow attacks on the opposition, no monkeying around, just with facts. Like any documentary – particularly one that is slanted toward a particular point of view – the facts and statistics get a little overwhelming at times, and are not easy to remember in full at the end, but that's the beauty of the DVD format because one viewing of this film will not be enough. This is a film to show to friends, and to friends of friends, and – for it to be truly effective – eventually to enemies. The film's focus is pretty evenly split between the two titular subjects (guns and weed), and the filmmakers do not shy away from the obvious and confusing problem of the extreme right wing – who are by and large gun nuts and anti-drug zealots in public, though just as likely to be drug users in private as every other group. To paraphrase a key point from the film, 'the left wing wants to take away your guns and your pot; the right wing wants you to keep your guns, but wants to take away your pot and your dildos'... that's a funny way of breaking down the US political system, but it's pretty damn accurate. The fact is, there are no true moral or legal or medical reasons for marijuana to be illegal – quite the opposite in all cases, really – and the filmmakers make a good case without hyperbole or drama, which is more than their foes can ever say. America's 'war on drugs' is a mess, a joke, and a seemingly endless nightmare that has bankrupted hundreds of US cities and several US states, and contributed heavily to the financial woes of the federal government, because so many millions of taxpayers' dollars are wasted every day on enforcing bogus laws restricting people from smoking a plant that – if you believe the right wing who are running this so-called 'war' – was created by their very own god. I don't care what people do to or for themselves in the privacy of their own homes, and neither should the government. I'm not entirely sure why the guns angle was presented so heavily, since the only restrictions on gun ownership in this country are superficial and easily bypassed by honest citizens and criminals alike, but it makes for some interesting clips in the film. There is even a discussion about the history of laws in the UK starting with the banning of individual gun ownership, ending up with the current situation there with closed-circuit cameras monitoring every square centimeter of the country, public and private. It's an interesting side-note in the film, and one that could significantly expand the dialogue created by the filmmakers when considering European viewers. Regardless of your current views on either of the subjects at hand here, let me say again: do yourself a favor and find a way to watch this film. It'll make you think, if nothing else, and that's never a bad thing. **The Impaler**

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Mass Movement is a free (see Downloads section of the site) quarterly, digital magazine that covers Punk Rock, Hardcore, Metal, Comics, Films, Literature, Skating and more. It's written for the obsessive in each and everyone of us by a team of dedicated fanatics with one purpose in mind, to bring madness to the masses...

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