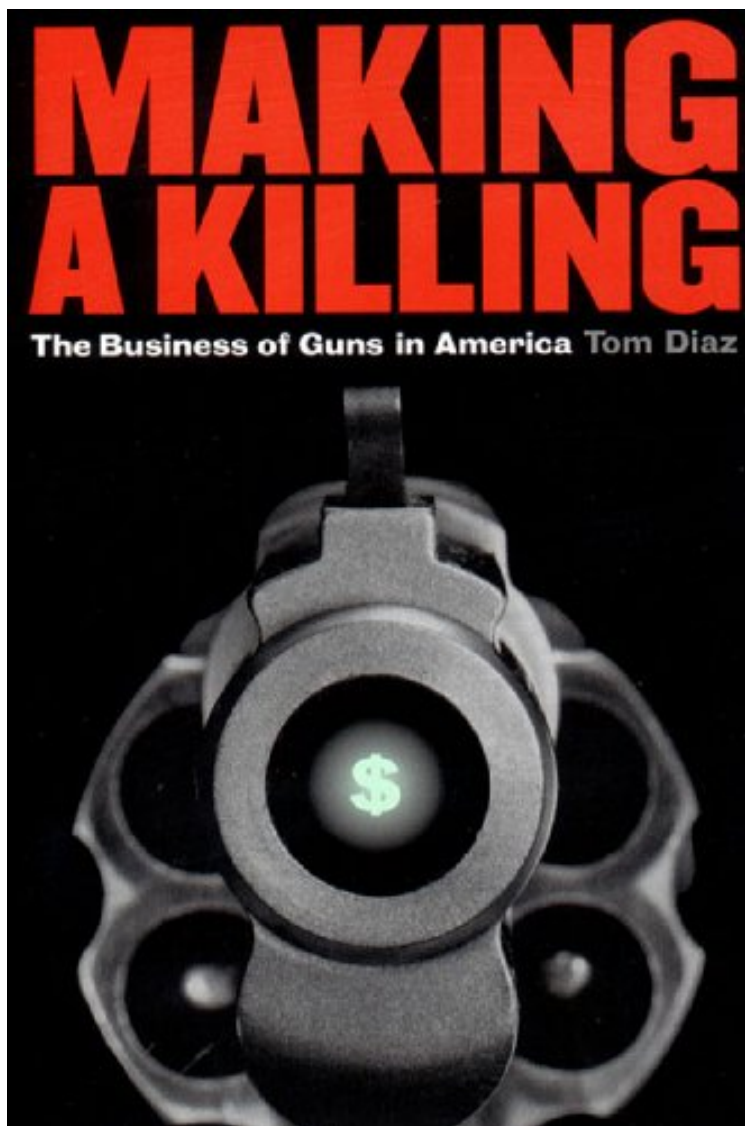


Making A Killing

Tom Diaz

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Tom Diaz : Making A Killing before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Making A Killing:

8 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Shocking, informativeBy A CustomerAn astonishing picture of depraved indifference that will leave you gape-mouthed. The writing style is more like a thesis or research paper, but the case presented is so dramatic and appalling, and the evidence so frightening that they overshadow the somewhat disjointed chapters.0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. as promisedBy petuniaItem received as described and when promised. Thanks!4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Shocker and an Eye-OpenerBy F.

Webster Tom Diaz's book is a brutal eye-opener. As a former target shooter, and former NRA member, I never really bought the extreme pro-gun position that firearms should be essentially unregulated. But what I didn't know about the gun industry and its backers and how they operate would have filled several large books. Diaz's book shocked me into harsh reality. It is crammed with data, statistics, and analysis that should appall and horrify any reasonable reader. The gun industry and its apologists (not just the National Rifle Association, but multiple other organizations as well), peddling fear and loathing while flooding the nation with deadly guns that are suitable for neither hunting nor target shooting, disclaims all responsibility for the resulting carnage. How many thousands of lives have been ruined as a result? Diaz cites hundreds of examples -- many as direct quotes from the gun industry's own spokesmen -- as proof that the gun companies' primary motive is to maximize profits, and never mind the deadly toll they take.

A comprehensive expose of the gun industry's efforts to increase profits by aggressively manufacturing and marketing more lethal and concealable guns. The gun industry is the last unregulated manufacturer of a consumer product in America, with a level of secrecy that makes the tobacco industry look like a model of transparency. *Making a Killing* blows away the smoke and offers a provocative new analysis of gun violence in our society. Tom Diaz argues that despite endless rhetoric about the right to bear arms, the real story behind the epidemic gun violence in America is the systematic increase in lethality by manufacturers. Diaz shows how over the last two decades the gun industry has sought to reverse declining profits by dramatically increasing the killing power of its products; designed and distributed guns with more ammunition and greater concealability; and aggressively sought to build a wider market by collaborating with the "gun press" and by targeting women and minorities as vital new consumers. *Making a Killing* goes in depth to explore the fascinating but little known business side of this \$1.4-billion-a-year industry, revealing the inner workings of what one executive described as "a little money-making machine." Finally, it outlines a series of practical regulations that would help clean up the mess. Facts about the gun industry from "*Making a Killing*": guns are less regulated than toasters or teddy bears; most gun deaths in America are not crime related; by 2003, firearms are expected to supplant motor vehicles as the leading cause of product-related death in America.

.com Author Tom Diaz makes no bones about his animus toward guns: he wants to regulate the U.S. firearms industry to death--literally. Guns are responsible for about 36,000 deaths each year in the United States (more than half are suicides), and so Diaz views them as a public health hazard requiring a massive government intervention. *Making a Killing* is hardly a dispassionate treatment; Diaz himself is a political activist (and a former Congressional aide). He suggests adopting strategies used against cigarette makers and admires the success antismoking zealots have experienced in their crusade. Much of his treatment focuses on the business of gun making, especially its lightness of regulation and what he considers to be its obsessive secrecy ("The firearms industry is a business so secret that it makes the tobacco industry look like a model of transparency"). He is also appalled that manufacturers make profits from these products and mortified that several leading firearms producers are foreign-owned (is he equally alarmed about who makes most of America's VCRs?). *Making a Killing* probably won't bring any new soldiers into the antigun camp, but for those already there it is a ready source of information and outrage. --John J. Miller
From *The New England Journal of Medicine*
A compelling cry for government regulation. Examines how gun manufacturers have gotten around basic consumer product regulations and evaded responsibility for the damage their products inflict. --
Boston Herald
Fascinating... frightening and enlightening. --
Ft. Worth Morning Star-Telegram
Meticulously researched [and] powerful. --
Business Week
The latest and most detailed addition to the argument [over gun control]. --
The New York Times, Fox Butterfield, 14 February 2000