



Episode 1,425: Women Need Guns

Guest: Liberty Doll

WOODS: You are such a an extraordinary content creator. You've got, as I'm looking at it now, almost 111,000 YouTube subscribers, which is terrific.

LIBERTY DOLL: Yeah, it's pretty intense [laughing].

WOODS: That is intense. You were telling me that it really kind of picked up quite a bit over the past year. I mean, you've got videos with several hundred thousand views on them, which is not a small feat.

LIBERTY DOLL: No, it's really strange.

WOODS: Considering how many other videos people could be watching, right? And that's really amazing.

LIBERTY DOLL: Yeah, it's actually been a pretty surreal experience, especially – last month? Yes. Was it last month? Well, within the last month or two, I got a YouTube Play Button, which was really surreal and bizarre to me, because I never thought that my channel would get this big, and I never thought that YouTube would actually approve my channel to give me a Play Button in the first place.

WOODS: So is a Play Button, is that a recognition of 100,000 subscribers?

LIBERTY DOLL: Yes, but once you hit 100,000, you still have to go through like a channel audit. So YouTube has to go through and make sure that they haven't randomly decided that you violate one of their 5 million undisclosed and undefined policies, and then they decide to reward you with it if they think that you're good enough, basically.

WOODS: All right, well, I'm looking at the topics you cover. Very interesting. I wanted to start off with the gun issue and then there are other possibilities, but as somebody who releases material on a regular basis, how do you pick the topics? Is it what interests you, or is it an intersection of what interests you and what you think is likely to resonate with the audience? Or does that not factor? Are you like one of these artists who say, I can't be hemmed in what by what people want of me; I must do what my soul leads me to do? How do you pick? How do you figure this out?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, so on any given week, there's usually about five dozen topics that I would want to cover. No, not really, but there's usually three or four. And just by the nature of the fact that I am a one-woman show, with a full-time job outside of YouTube, I kind of have to go with what interests me the most, but also what I think that my viewers might like. Sometimes I just say screw it and go with something that I think is really interesting and important, but I do try to consider both things. And sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't.

WOODS: Okay, okay. Is it possible – I know you have a rewarding career; we're not going to disclose anything about it. But do you think – now, leaving aside the uncertainty around YouTube for everybody these days. Let's pretend that's not a factor. Is it conceivable that if you really wanted to, you could potentially be in a position to have a YouTube career?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, so interestingly enough – it's fine to disclose my career, I suppose, because a lot of people that follow me know about it already, because I've mentioned it before. But so I am a mental health therapist in the state of Massachusetts. And being a YouTuber, but not only that, a libertarian YouTuber that many people just assume is conservative, and many people just assume that, you know, I'm a red-hatted Trump supporter, just because I'm not on the left, I have to kind of live a double life, like a double agent or a Russian spy or something, for lack of a better term right now. I know that "Russia" is not like the best word to say. But no, I have to live this double life. And it's come to a point where I've had clients stumble upon some of my videos and stumble upon my channel. And luckily, no current clients watched the videos. They chose not to, which was very good, because I sit in my office, and day after day, day, after day, I hear people coming in with anxiety and depression about how the world is going and about how Trump is ruining the world and liberals need to take over. And I mean, it's a legitimate problem. I have people coming in talking about wanting to commit suicide, because there are people that are not in favor of the Green New Deal and things like that. So I have to be really, really careful about some of my exposure. And being now that my channel is getting so much bigger and there are other outlets asking for me to appear on their shows, it's come to a point where I've actually kind of had to make a decision, as long as I'm going to be in Massachusetts – and I am not in Massachusetts by choice right now. So I've kind of decided that, yeah, towards the end of the year, I'm going to try to make that move and shift more towards doing more YouTube and podcasts and things like that, just because, you know, the internet is forever, and like I said, the environment that I live in is kind of forcing my hand in having to make that choice and having to make it actually a lot sooner than I thought I would have to.

WOODS: I will say – let me just say one word in defense of Massachusetts. I know the politics is all messed up and all that, but I grew up there, and I miss it like crazy.

LIBERTY DOLL: Really?

WOODS: There are so many areas that are picturesque and beautiful. There's so much culture in the city, so many things to see and do. I would never, ever be bored there. And there are cute little historic towns, whose histories go back nearly 400 years.

LIBERTY DOLL: Yes.

WOODS: You can't replicate that anywhere else in the country.

LIBERTY DOLL: That is true. That is true. But you know, I have spent some time — I honeymooned in South Carolina, and we spent some time in Charleston, and it felt really similar to some of the old parts of Boston. And I mean, I grew up in a big city. I grew up in a horrible city, Springfield, Massachusetts, which was for a few years in a row in the top 20 most dangerous city in the country.

WOODS: Yeah, I don't recommend Springfield, right.

LIBERTY DOLL: No. So I grew up there, and now I'm at the point where I would really be happy living out on, like, five or ten acres, maybe half an hour from a city or something, and just being by myself [laughing].

WOODS: All right, so you and I, we'd have to just sit around having drinks or something, because I'm the exact opposite. I'm so sick of that. I'm so sick of living in the middle of nowhere. I've just had enough of it. I want the connection to a city. But anyway, this is really not why people tuned in to *The Tom Woods Show* [laughing], to hear my petty grievances about the world.

Let's switch gears and talk about an issue that's been dear to your heart, namely guns. And in particular, what I want to talk about, given that this is a week where I'm bringing female content creators onto the show, it's not like we just need to talk women's issues the entire time, but nevertheless, there is a particular angle on guns that does apply more or less exclusively to women. So how would you make the case to women that this issue matters — that there's a particular way in which it matters to them?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, because no matter which way you cut it, this whole feminism argument about women and men are completely the same and completely equal is kind of just a crock. No matter what way you cut it, men's bodies and women's bodies are built differently. Even if you take like a female bodybuilder, she's only going to have a third of the upper body strength of a man and half of the lower body strength of a man. I mean, that's just the way that we're built mechanically. So feminists and a lot of women talk about being worried to walk down the street at night and talk about being afraid of being attacked or assaulted. Well, you're not going to be able to physically fight off a man. That's just not going to happen, even if you, I don't know, are well-trained in jujitsu or something. So having a firearm, carrying a firearm is the great equalizer. It's for women to defend themselves. It's for disabled people to defend themselves. It's for people who are elderly and feeble to defend themselves. It can help you feel empowered to be able to walk down the street at night without fear. And that's why I think that gun rights are so important for women. You want to protect yourself and potentially protect your family, small children.

WOODS: I want to say quick thing about Massachusetts, given that I was singing its praises. Let's take an opportunity to knock it down a few notches, as long as we're on the subject of guns, because I'm quite sure you would have things to say about gun laws in Massachusetts. Now, what would those be?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, if you enjoy shooting sports, Massachusetts is probably the worst place to be. I mean, I suppose it's a toss-up between Massachusetts, New York, and California. But I see these headlines and these videos about people being like, *Oh, my God, this horrible new law is being introduced in this state or on the federal level or what have you*, and I'm like, yeah, Massachusetts already has that and has had that for probably ten years or something. So

these gun laws that are being proposed in other states and on the federal level is just not surprising to me. I think I've even developed like a little bit of apathy about it, because I just sort of expect it at this point.

WOODS: What would you recommend – I think I had – it's been a long time. I'm pretty sure that I had a guest on, a woman a long time ago, and she was part of a group that helped to train women in firearms use. So supposing you lived in a state where, let's say, the laws were a little bit more favorable, what exactly, what specific advice would you give women? Like, what kind of a gun do you recommend that they get? And they need to be trained and so on and so forth. I mean, what do they need to know, basically?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, I would say that your best bet is to – I mean, I don't know how ranges work in other states, but their best bet is to find someone with a collection or find a range that lets you rent a gun for the hour or whatever, and to try out a bunch of different ones until you find one that you are comfortable shooting, because that's the number-one thing. You want to be comfortable using it if you have to. You don't want to be afraid of it. You want to have a healthy respect for it, of course, but you don't want to be afraid of it. So lots of practice, choosing a firearm that fits you, and also, if you can, 9 millimeter or higher. I've heard stories of like 22s getting stuck in screen windows, so that's not really going to help you any.

WOODS: Fair enough. How did you first get into the whole world of guns?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, let's see. Basically, in 2010, I was in the dating world, and I met someone, and he basically was like, *Hey, Ron Paul*. And I was like, *Who's that?* And he just basically laid all of Ron Paul's work down in front of me and Bastiat's *The Law* and a bunch of different materials, and I was like, *Wow, this makes sense*. And at the time, I was also living in the wonderful neighborhood of Dorchester, in one of the most dangerous parts of Dorchester –

WOODS: Well, see, this is why you don't like Massachusetts. I lived in North Andover and had a wonderful childhood.

LIBERTY DOLL: [laughing] Okay, well –

WOODS: Okay, go ahead, all right.

LIBERTY DOLL: We had different experiences. And I lived in this one building there for about, I think, ten months, and I was the only one in the whole building that did not get mugged during that ten-month period. And I was like, wow, I should probably do something to protect myself. And at the time, I had pepper spray that my loving grandmother had given me, not realizing that it was illegal in the state of Massachusetts at the time. And I was like, this doesn't feel like enough.

And then through my career, when you start out as a mental health therapist, you start out having to do in-home therapy, which means that you are taking people on these state insurances that are low-income and live in the projects, in places that are terrible, violent places. You know, Fall River, New Bedford, Roxbury. At one point I very narrowly missed being caught in a drive-by shooting. I was working with gang members, Bloods, Crips, Latin

Kings. And you know, they're protecting themselves; well, I should probably protect myself if I'm going to be in their neighborhood, right? And so I mean, it all kind of stemmed from there, I would say.

WOODS: I've heard some people say that it's easier to get a gun than it is to get contraception. And I think you've answered this, but the kinds of things they say or that, *As a woman, if only I had as many rights as a gun*, which is just so preposterous when you actually list out all the restrictions on guns that no woman in her right mind would want to have placed on her.

LIBERTY DOLL: Yeah, that's actually a video that I'm working on right now.

WOODS: Oh, good; oh, good.

LIBERTY DOLL: I would say it's a lot — I mean, even if you're getting an illegal gun, it's probably still easier to get birth control, because even with an illegal gun, you've got to find the guy on the street corner in Brockton that knows a guy that knows a guy. So it's probably still easier, I would say, to get birth control [laughing]. But I mean, as far as getting a gun, if you do it legally, it's not easy at all. If you do it illegally, then you just have to find someone that knows someone that knows someone in the inner city. And that's about it.

WOODS: What are the laws in Massachusetts relating to open carry?

LIBERTY DOLL: So, open carry is allowed; however, because it is such an anti-gun environment, technically speaking — and this has been told to me by firearms lawyers. Say you decide to open carry. Someone sees it. Someone freaks out. They call the police. The police come, and you get charged with disturbing the peace. Or there was a guy that went into an emergency room while he was carrying, and he was charged with brandishing a firearm, even though it was holstered. So you get charged one with one of those. And Massachusetts is a may-issue state, so even if you pass all the many, many requirements for your firearms license, it is at the discretion of the local police chief. So he could hypothetically look at your record and be like, *Oh, you got charged with disturbing the peace or brandishing a firearm? You know what, I don't think that you are able to responsibly carry a gun*, and then they could take away your license. So it's allowed, but discouraged and with a lot of — it's just not a great idea.

WOODS: You've done a video on the assault rifle question.

LIBERTY DOLL: Yes.

WOODS: And it seems that that's one of those issues where, if you know even one paragraph's worth of knowledge on this subject, you know more than anybody who's criticizing it?

LIBERTY DOLL: Yes.

WOODS: It's amazing. I mean, that's not true of a lot of topics, but it sure is about this one. So you have a video that I see right now is between eight and nine minutes long. If you had less time than that, let's say, and you had to give a short answer, what should people think about so-called assault rifles?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, they should know that the ban is based on pretty much purely cosmetic features that aren't often on civilian firearms. You know, a civilian isn't walking around with a grenade launcher attachment at the end of their rifle, number one. Number two, things are not technically assault rifles unless they have selective fire, which means they are capable of full auto. Also, mostly not allowed in civilian hands unless you have like an FFL or a tax stamp and are willing to spend several thousands of dollars to get a fully automatic gun. And number three, believe it or not, assault rifles are actually a lot less powerful than hunting rifles, but people think that hunting rifles are okay because they say "hunting." That's the general, really condensed version.

WOODS: So it's on that basis that the hysteria comes?

LIBERTY DOLL: Yeah. Most people think that assault rifles are horribly deadly weapons. And any weapon is deadly if you use it in a deadly manner. But mass shootings aside, which are very, very rare, believe it or not, rifles are used in roughly about 2% of crimes every year, if you look at the FBI crime data. So they're looking to ban something under the guise of it being to stop gun violence, but they're trying to ban something that isn't really even involved in gun violence. And as far as being caught in a mass shooting, you have a better chance of being struck by lightning or drowning in your own bathtub. You have a better chance of hitting the Mega Millions Powerball than being caught in a mass shooting. It's really that rare. It's just the media hype that psychologically makes people think that it's a bigger problem than it is.

WOODS: I remember – and this is surprising, because I am pretty cynical about the media. But I remember being quite surprised to see the breakdown of the number of supposed gun incidents on school grounds. And they say, *Oh, it's been this many this year*. And you look at them, and it could be after hours when there was nobody there, a gun went off by accident.

LIBERTY DOLL: Yep.

WOODS: And they call that a school shooting. I mean, it's stupid. I mean, there's no way that's an accident. There's no way – nobody's that dumb. Obviously they're pushing an agenda there. Well, I guess what I want to know is, it's so obvious to me that women in particular, for the reasons you mentioned, would want to defend themselves. This is obviously a way to defend themselves that equalizes the playing field. It doesn't matter how physically strong the man is, because you've got a gun.

LIBERTY DOLL: Right.

WOODS: So my question to them about that would be: it would seem to me that feminists, above all, would favor the idea of women being armed, *above all*. And so what I want to know is, given that I know that's not the case – I know you can find Feminists for Firearm Rights. I know that. But the fact that they would need to name their organization that indicates that it's unusual. What is it that they're saying in response to your arguments? That you should just call the police?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, they're saying you should call the police or, *Well, we shouldn't have to carry anyways, because men should know not to do dangerous things*.

WOODS: Oh, are you kidding me? Is that the argument?

LIBERTY DOLL: [laughing] Yes. Which, I mean, okay, sure. But it's not your average mentally stable, healthy male that is attacking or assaulting people. So the average man knows right from wrong and knows that assaulting people is bad. So someone that doesn't have that sense of morality, you can't teach them not to do something immoral.

WOODS: Yeah. Yeah, no kidding. No kidding. But that's true of – really, these people would, therefore, logically – they would have to be against the US military completely, because why should we have to respond with violence? *Those people shouldn't be invading us.* Okay, they shouldn't. That's true. But I would want to defend myself. Now, okay, I know the US military is a controversial thing, but you see the point. My point is, there's no way they're being consistent with this.

LIBERTY DOLL: Oh, absolutely not.

WOODS: That's a surprise. Lack of consistency?

LIBERTY DOLL: [laughing] Oh, for a second, I thought you were serious, and I was like, *Oh, no* –

WOODS: Oh, for heaven's sake. No, no, never take me seriously on stuff like that. All right, so that's an issue where, the thing is, it comes up in cycles, because the issue of guns seems to come up, of course, when there is a mass shooting. And then suddenly, everybody's talking about it, and everybody's trying to score political points with it, and it just feels – see I have an eBook called *Your Facebook Friends Are Wrong About Guns*, and so I like to promote that eBook at times when – I give it away for free – at times when people are thinking about guns. And in fact, the website is called WrongAboutGuns.com, all right? Really easy to give away. But even I feel funny pointing to that right after there's been a mass shooting, because even I feel like that's manipulative on my part, so I don't really want to get caught up in this. But yet, I don't know what else to do, because that's the very moment everybody's screaming and caterwauling about the need to suppress guns.

LIBERTY DOLL: Right, it's tough, because you don't want to cheapen a tragedy with an agenda. But unfortunately, that's what the anti-gun politicians are doing, and so it kind of forces your hand, where you don't really have much of a choice but to do that, and be like, Hey, look. *Well, okay, this is terrible, but also look at this counterargument.*

WOODS: Right, right, right. So if you can conduct yourself that way, then I think it's legitimate, certainly, to be discussing it. What would you say, in the course of discussing this issue over the years, have been maybe the greatest misconceptions that people have in the general public? People who don't really have an axe to grind one way or the other, they're not ideologues one way or the other, but they all seem to be repeating the same falsehood.

LIBERTY DOLL: Hmm. Well, I think number one, when they say guns kill people. Because no, it's people that kill people. And I know that that's an argument that's heard a lot, and a lot of people dismiss because they're like, oh, well, the gun is the weapon. But the reality of it is, if someone is intent on doing harm, they're going to do harm no matter what the weapon. In my field, everyone says, like, oh, guns are responsible for suicide. And it's like, well, yes, guns are used in suicide, but I've seen someone try to commit suicide by swallowing a battery. I've seen someone try to commit suicide by eating their mattress, or using the spring in a toilet

paper holder roll. So I mean, people will find a way, no matter what. More people are hurt in incidents with hands and feet than with guns. And people love to use Australia for an example, and it's like, okay, well, sure, they banned guns, and so suicide rates by gun have gone down. But if you Google, suicide is still the number-one cause of death for people ages 15 to 44 in Australia. So it's not the guns that are the issue, number one.

The number-two misconception is probably the idea that if there's a gun in the room and no one is touching it, that it's just magically going to go off.

WOODS: Right, right. Seriously, it's like there's some crazy superstition about the power of guns. And even if people might come back with: well, I see what you're saying about suicide, but the fact is a gun and particular types of guns can do a lot of damage in a short amount of time when you're in a very crowded space. You can take out a lot more people with a gun in that case than you can with your fists. But then the answer to that would be, just along the lines – or one of the answers would be, along the lines of what you've said – even leaving aside the possibility that somebody in that crowd could be armed and just take the shooter out. Even leaving that aside, if you don't have access to guns, then people will just make bombs.

LIBERTY DOLL: Right.

WOODS: I mean, one way or another, you want to take out a lot of people there. Or they'll drive their car into the building.

LIBERTY DOLL: Exactly. Yep. Yeah, I mean, look at in England, guns are banned, and they've been having crazy knife crime. And there was a few months where they were having more homicides than New York City, and it was people using knives.

WOODS: Yeah, absolutely crazy.

LIBERTY DOLL: Yep.

WOODS: So there's that, but there is also I think as a common misconception, and you've hit on this a little bit, but there is this misconception that the reason that the US has problems with its murder rate or with mass shootings is that it has liberal gun laws compared to other countries. Now the thing is, there are plenty of countries that have liberal gun laws where things aren't working out quite so well. They never cite any of those. It's always these certain European countries. But I mean, it is very similar to the arguments we hear about national health care. They say, *Oh, in Europe, things are so much better, but we're stupid and backward here*. What's the real story of that?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, first of all, the US is bigger than most of those countries in Europe and has more people than most of those countries in Europe, number one. Number two, it's a different culture. This country, whether you believe leaving the Constitution or not, was founded on freedom and these individual rights, and not every other country has that. America very was founded on this very like bootstrapper attitude that you won't find in other places, so you can't compare that at all. And people say, *Oh, well, the liberal gun laws*, but you look at places like Arizona, and there's very few gun laws and also very few gun crimes.

WOODS: One of the things, a lot of times we'll hear we need "common sense gun laws," right? We need this regulation or that regulation. And of course, as usual, the voices are the most shrill after a tragic event. But these regulations that they propose, from what I can see, are very similar to the proposed financial regulations after the financial crisis. They're regulations, all right, but they would not have prevented the episode that just occurred. So yeah, we're going to regulate this and this and this. Okay, even if we had those regulations, you still would have had the financial crisis of 2008, so this is just a pretext to get something that you wanted for other reasons anyway. I mean, it's like the Patriot Act. You still would have had 9/11 with the Patriot Act. So they wanted the Patriot Act anyway, so they used this opportunity to ram it through. So can we in fact – are my instincts correct about this, that the so-called "common-sense gun laws" they proposed would not actually have prevented the general run of these major shootings?

LIBERTY DOLL: Well, of course not, because number one, criminals don't follow laws, but on a broader sense – so say, look at the red flag laws that are coming through in a lot of places. They say, okay, so if we believe that someone is dangerous, we want to be able to take away their guns. Well, you see, laws like that pretty much already exist. If you are a therapist, a doctor, social worker, anything like that, you are bound by mandated reporting laws. Every state has mandated reporting laws, and most states also have something called Tarasoff laws. So mandated reporting is, if you believe someone is a danger to themselves or to children or something like that, then you need to call, say, Department of Family Services or the police or a hospital, whatever that state's regulation is. Tarasoff is specifically around, if you believe someone is a danger to someone else, and warning that person if you believe they're in danger. And anytime you have to do a Tarasoff or mandated reporting, then that person automatically has to be evaluated by a mental health clinician at a hospital, and the police have to get involved in order to bring the person to that hospital.

So if there's someone that's dangerous in some way, that's in danger of causing imminent harm, they're already being seen by all of these other people along the way. And if they are so dangerous, that they get hospitalized or get a charge or something like that, well, that makes them a federally prohibited person right there, and so the police are going to come and take their guns. We don't need these extra laws and these things that go around due process to take people's guns, because that stuff already exists. And that's just one example of these laws, that it just wouldn't stop anything.

WOODS: Yeah, that is about what I suspected without knowing for sure. It seems to be a pattern over and over and over with the state, that it takes advantage of these terrible episodes. So your channel is Liberty Doll. How do people get there? Just type "Liberty Doll" into YouTube and you pop up?

LIBERTY DOLL: I should, yep. Or you could just type in [YouTube.com/c/LibertyDoll](https://www.youtube.com/c/LibertyDoll). So I'm on YouTube. I am also, for those of you that are boycotting YouTube right now over the Crowder-Maza-Vox adpocalypse, I'm also on Bitchute and GunStreamer. I have started uploading all my newer episodes to all the major podcast sites, so I am on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher, Podbean, and Google. You can also find me on Twitter, Instagram, and the gun videos specifically are uploaded over onto Full30.com.

WOODS: Wow, tremendous. Okay, well, I will put some links up at [TomWoods.com/1425](https://www.TomWoods.com/1425), so people can easily click on them and follow you. And I appreciate – I know you had a long day, and you somehow managed to carve out some time for *The Tom Woods Show*.

LIBERTY DOLL: [laughing] Every day is a long day. I'm used to it.

WOODS: Yeah, well, for me, this is the sixth episode – I was on somebody else's podcast first thing in the morning, and then after that, I did five episodes of my show in a day. And so yeah, I'm about ready to go do something else at this point [laughing]. But I'm very glad that we were able to fit this in before this day came to an end. So thanks so much, and continued good luck. I hope that before you know it, you'll be at 200,000.

LIBERTY DOLL: Oh, thank you, and thank you so much for having me. It was a blast.