We live in a culture of guns, a culture of violence, a culture of fear (see, e.g., Furedi, 2006; Giroux, 1996; Melzer, 2012). We see it every day. Columbine. Aurora. Virginia Tech. Sandy Hook. AR-15s. The NRA. The 2nd Amendment. Home protection. Sport. Death. As Charles Fruehling Springwood (2009) has written, in American society today, "guns are everything: a hard won-symbol of individual freedom, an index of crime and disorder, a whole industry legitimately contributing to the economy, a popular piece of sports equipment, and an object of desire, endlessly duplicated by toys, video games, and films."

It is in this context that debate over guns in the United States rages on, from Senate hearings to workplace and public square conversations, from talking heads on cable news to clergy in the pulpit. Amplified by the horrific school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in December 2012, which saw twenty children and six staff members murdered by a single shooter, the topic of guns has once again moved to the center of popular and political discourse. But guns in America are nothing new, and nor is the debate over their place in our society. Multiple constituencies are represented. Teachers. Hunters. Victims. Historians. Policymakers. Military. Collectors. Manufacturers. Lobbyists. Academics.

We are thus inviting contributions that help us think our way into and through the place of guns in the United States, both historically and in the historical present.

We encourage contributions from within or against the (inter)disciplinary divides on topics related to: social class; race; gender; American studies; mass media; entertainment; sport; political economy; education; immigration; prisons; war; violence; social inquiry; the arts; performance; history; and political science.

Manuscripts are due by September 1, 2013, with a word length of no more than 3,000-6,000 words inclusive of references, notes, and so forth. Manuscripts should be submitted via email as MS-Word documents to Michael Giardina (mgiardina@fsu.edu) and Norman Denzin (n-denzin@illinois.edu) for an initial review.

Submit your manuscripts online at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cscm