



volume 1

number 7

VIRGINIA LIBERTY

SEPT.
1985

An Alternative for Americans

by Jim Turney

Are you a liberal or Conservative? How many times do each of us confront that choice? Most people seem to choose the only alternative they know of: "I'm not interested in politics." Usually that's not an exactly correct answer, but, it is true that most people don't want to be messing with others' lifestyles, or dictating how anyone should use their hard earned wages. And most people want to be left alone by those who want to control. But, everybody agrees that society should try to stop murder, assault, theft, and fraud.

The problem is, liberals want to control everybody's money and the conservatives want to control everybody's lifestyle. And neither group usually delivers on promises. Twenty years and hundreds of billions of dollars since the liberals started the "War on Poverty", we have more people on the poverty rolls who are a hopelessly unemployed class. After years and more billions of dollars fighting drug use, the conservatives have only a shameful record of abuses of individuals civil rights and a record high of drug use to show for their effort. And who can forget Ronald Reagan's promise of a balanced budget by the end of his first term, and his near hysterical criticism of Carter's deficit spending (which he has now more than doubled)?

It's no wonder that few people want to be associated with either of these idealistic and politically power hungry factions. But, it is a shame that these people feel excluded from influencing the powers that try to control their lives. Half of all eligible voters have never voted (Reagan won his "landslide" with less than 29% of the vote). Part of the reason this large group of citizens are not easily iden-

specifics of their areas of disagreement were many, but one area that produced little debate was that of the right of the people to privately own and bear arms. Anti-federalist leader Patrick Henry stated "The great object is that every man be armed... everyone who is able may have a gun." And his close friend Henry Lee wrote "To preserve liberty, it is essential that the whole body of the people always possess arms and be taught alike, especially when young, how to use them." Likewise, federalist Samuel Adams stated "The said constitution... shall never be

tifiable is that there has been no popular label to describe them. What do you call someone who wants lower and simplified taxes, deregulation, civil liberties and a non-interventionist foreign policy? Not a majority, for sure -- but if the political polls are to be believed, then there is a group that outnumbers the liberals and conservatives that claim to represent them.

"Libertarian" is the name for this group that has enjoyed wide acceptance so far. This name is used mostly to describe the "activists", but, if the government continues to interfere with the lives and incomes of people who are decent and productive citizens, there will be more and more people taking an active role in the political scene.

Public school daze

By Dimitri Rotov

The side effects of public education are so toxic, they've infected the very debate about state schooling. We are reduced to discussing the single issue of "quality."

Simplified to a question of "quality," absolutely everyone can join the discussion: Marxists, ecclesiastics, anarchists, monetarists, the deaf, the retarded, non-English speaking—everybody. And everyone can have something to talk about: standards, criteria, national tests, teacher competency. Liberals want more money for quality. Conservatives think choice, or national teacher standards or closer community monitoring will breed quality. The discussion of "voucher systems" is becoming more widespread (parents would be issued with government credit letters that could be redeemed by any school their children attended). Few seem concerned

that a government (or even community committees) should assume responsibility for the formation of their children's intellect and social habits. Instead, reformers, left and right, focus on money and level of government control. Like any handout, "free" schooling has created its own army of gravy train riders, perhaps the most potent in the country. These are the public educated and the public educators.

The very first public school system in the U.S. appeared in Boston about the time of the revolution. To enter a city-funded grammar school, however, the indigent seven-year-old applicant had to first pass a literacy test and prove he could meet certain standards. Public schools competed for attendees with tutors and private institutions like academies, charity and church schools. An early 19th century census of Boston

children (cited in Stanley Schultz's *Culture Factory*) showed over 4,000 chose private education and only 2,360 were taking theirs "free." In the entire city, only 243 school-age children were not enrolled somewhere. And this was before education became compulsory.

The early public schools were funded much like our so-called private colleges; a combination of tuitions and tax-derived grants might keep a single institution going. These community schools were set up to "help the poor" and perform some of the same day-care functions they do today. Now, of course, they constitute the fecund married middle-class's single biggest perk and it's quite common to drive through a well kept suburban neighborhood thronged with playing kids and see tuition-sized luxuries everywhere: second cars, boats, trailers, sun decks. Somewhere in the same

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Gun Control: Legal? Wise?

by Thomas S. Ross

Gun Control. Like so many "controls" set by government, this one is not a control on some inanimate, lifeless object; it is a control on people. People that happen to enjoy the shooting sports, buying guns, selling them, fixing them, or carrying them around.

Unlike most of our political leaders today, those who ratified our federal and state constitutions almost two centuries ago had a great respect for individuals. They held, as one of their highest values, the belief that all men had certain inalienable rights. One of these has been called the "right to life", or the right of self-ownership. We own ourselves, conversely, no one else may own or enslave us. Those who try to rob us of

our life should recognize that they are violating our rights and are subject to our actions of self-defense, violent if necessary.

The revolutionaries who debated the ratification of our federal constitution had, only a decade before, fought with gun in hand to secure their freedom, and were keenly aware that widespread ownership of guns, and freedom, go hand in hand.

The ratification process did not go smoothly. In fact, the nation in 1787 was split into two bitter factions: the federalists and the anti-federalists. The federalists believed that a central government with the power to tax was imperative to the survival of our nation. The anti-federalists felt that the constitution would lead to an all powerful despotic government. The

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GUN CONTROL

construed... to prevent the people of the United States, who are peaceable citizens, from keeping their own arms." And Thomas Jefferson said, "No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms."

Ultimately the constitution was ratified, but a bill of enumerated rights was attached to it, to appease the anti-federalists such as George Mason, who refused to sign the constitution without the amendments. The Second Amendment reads:

A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

Just as people today think the word "liberal" means the exact opposite of what it originally described, so the word "militia" seems to have taken on a different definition in the minds of most people. Attorney David T. Hardy, reporting on the results of the 1982 US Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution, writes "Regarding the argument about 'well regulated militias' meaning that the Second Amendment only guarantees the right of a state to have national guard units, the Subcommittee gives two replies. First, the "militia" referred to a universally-armed people, not to organized units. When the framers referred to the equivalent of our National Guard, they universally used the term "select militia". Indeed, the debates over the constitution constantly referred to organized militia units as a threat to freedom comparable to a standing army, and stressed that such organized units did not constitute, and indeed were philosophically opposed to, the concept of a militia."

Senator Orrin Hatch wrote in the Subcommittee report, "The conclusion is thus inescapable that the history, concept, and wording of the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as well as its interpretation by every major commentator and court in the first half century after its ratification, indicates that what is protected is an individual right of a private citizen to own and carry firearms in a peaceful manner."

Many of the revolutionaries didn't rest upon ratification of the federal constitution. They returned to their home states and began to erect a second barrier to state suppression of our natural rights -- the state constitutions. The Connecticut constitution was enacted in 1818 and Section 17 reads "Every citizen has a right to bear arms IN DEFENSE OF HIMSELF and the state." (emphasis added.)

Then in 1865 the Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified. It forbade the states to "make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States..." Through the Fourteenth Amendment, every citizen of Connecticut and the United States became protected not only by the provisions of the Second Amendment, but also by Section XVII (17) of the Connecticut constitution.

Perhaps in 1985, we should look at the condition of our Second Amendment and Section 17 rights in Connecticut. Most of us can still keep and bear arms. But not all of us, and not all arms. Those of us who still can own some guns, find our rights have been infringed. Consider that anyone who buys a firearm in Connecticut has the transaction recorded on several government documents, the ultimate use of which the government refuses to specify. Then, if his purchase is of a small gun (with a barrel less than 16" long and BATF-approved), the buyer must either wait two weeks before taking possession of his purchase, or circumvent this by getting a "permit to carry". Getting this permit is a lengthy process of government investigations which can be made almost indefinite by an uncooperative local government "police chief". Many Connecticut residents cannot purchase any gun legally because they committed some violation of our legislature's decrees, regardless of whether or not these residents are peaceful citizens.

Further, no one in Connecticut may own a firearm that fires more than one shot for each squeeze of the trigger, or a non-rifled gun with a barrel less than 18" long, without more government investigation and the payment of a \$200 tax.

All of these infringements are unconstitutional, for all the reasons mentioned above, and also due to sections of the Fifth and Ninth amendments of the United States Constitution, and certainly others. The fact that these violations exist without fervent opposition is a frightening development for those who love liberty.

It is also an occurrence that can be seen happening in similar ways to guarantees of others of our rights. The trend is toward more and more government intrusion into the lives of peaceful citizens. Let us all hope that this trend can be reversed before it engulfs us.

(Tom Ross was the Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Connecticut at the time he wrote this, and is a firearms expert. -- ed.)

PROBLEMS ?

EDITORIAL

Are you dissatisfied with "the way things are going?" How do you like all of the government intrusions that have become part of everyday life in America?

Those of us getting ready to graduate from high school or college to begin our careers have many scary things staring us in the face. The Draft has already made a partial comeback with the return of Registration; taxes are out of control, restrictions and regulations on every facet of our bedroom, financial, and social lives are inescapable, and our Social Security "safety net" is looking more and more like the bankrupt, fraudulent pyramid scheme politicians always knew it was.

Those of us in middle age are watching our incomes eroding in purchasing power, as bracket creep burns the candle at the other end. As we work harder at improving our living standard as our parents did, we get called, usually contemptuously, "Yuppies", the "Me Generation", etc. ad nauseum.

Those of us in our Golden years watch helplessly as government-caused inflation takes its relentless toll on our fixed pensions; increasing local taxation on the house that we thought we had paid off long ago makes it hard to pay for the necessities, like food, clothing, heat, and other expenses. We paid all those dues that the government said we owed before, why are we now being forced to pay them again when we are less able?

Indeed, why does anyone have to pay any of those dues at all?

The truth is, no one should have to. These are bills that one special interest group or another demands that everyone else pay, using the politicians and their enforcer, The State, to take hard-earned money right out of our hides.

At present levels of federal, state, and local taxation, you do not work for yourself until about May 14, according to the Tax Foundation. Years ago, that figure was sometime in January. Even feudal serfs only paid 25% of their yearly revenues to their masters. How long can the backs of productive American people carry this kind of load? We suspect not much longer.

What are the problems? Libertarians could answer that with one word, but instead, let's examine the symptoms that most people would think of as "problems". You'll agree that our solutions are worth hearing, I think.

1) The Trade Deficit

Japan and Europe bashing is a rather popular sport these days. Why? Because, some think, they are 'dumping' cheap goods on us and ruining American industry and jobs. Think about it: is that really possible? Yes. But why?

a) because businesses in those countries do not contribute as much towards their own defense as we do, therefore they've less overhead. Is that their fault or ours? It isn't theirs -- they can hold no gun to our head to force us to give them a free ride. Why not let them pay for their own defense, thereby relieving the burden from US businesses and consumers?

b) Because various federal, state, and local governments in the US have chosen to take on so much debt that interest rates have gone way up, attracting large sums from foreign in-

vestors and inflating the value of the dollar. Isn't it time to take away the toy that governments have shown that they are too childish to handle?

c) Because American workers refuse to compete with cheaper foreign labor and supplement their refusal with demands for government laws that force businesses to pay what they ask (minimum wage laws are an excellent example), and when that doesn't work, hollering and screaming for protectionism follows shortly. Most Americans cannot afford to buy a car that an unknown autoworker built while earning \$30 per hour, between wages and benefits. Removing government from the picture by removing taxation, regulation, minimum wage standards, binding arbitration laws, and anti-"union-busting" laws will do much to correct the skewed labor market.

2) The War on Crime

Politicians have been promising for years to get tough on drugs and other victimless crimes, (such as gambling, gun ownership, prostitution, cohabitation, speed limit 55, etc.) and have indeed done so with frightening ferocity. After billions of dollars spent in enforcement, thousands of lives lost and probably millions ruined forever, drugs are still around, as are all of the other vices, and are cheaper and more available than ever before. Worse, drug money flows directly to collectivist terrorists, revolutionaries, and their supporters worldwide. We finance, by our illegalization of many things, the very people we think we are fighting in Viet Nam, Nicaragua, Angola, Cuba, and elsewhere. The solution to this problem is to allow private detox and education clinics to operate to reduce the demand for drugs. The demand, however, will never entirely disappear, and any notion that it will by illegalizing them is idealistic and utopian. Therefore, we should shift our battle against them and other victimless crimes from public enforcement to private persuasion. Elimination of victimless crime laws is long overdue.

3) Deterioration of Education

This issue is an interesting one, for it faded rapidly as a "problem" after the socialistic NEA and allied politicians were able to convince us that all that needed to be done was to spend more money, hire more teachers, spend more money, give teachers ill-defined merit raises, spend more money, better facilities, more money, etc. There is now enough money floating around out there to satisfy the politician's desire for higher salaries for (themselves and) their teachers, at least for a little while, until the time is ripe to generate another "crisis". The average teacher is now paid about \$24,000 (remember, they only work 3/4 as long as the rest of us), and it is too scary to bother thinking about what those bureaucrats they call "Administrative" employees are now making per year.

Why continue this white elephant? NEA members should be asked to find jobs in the private sector. If they are as competent as they think they are, they will have no trouble. Schools should be privatized; the school industry should be de-taxed, as is the religious sector; and people should not be discouraged from trying to teach ghetto children, as is the case today.



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Public school daze

town, retired couples and singles who aren't even using the public schools are paying for those luxuries.

The expansion of local systems at the expense of private schools is deftly described by Sam Blumenfeld in his NEA: *Trojan Horse In American Education*. Although Mr. Blumenfeld is mightily interested in (and disturbed by) anti-religion forces in public schooling, his volume also offers an excellent outline of the rise of government-as-teacher. The people running public education were primitive socialists and "progressives" of a Central European type. Indeed the American taxpayer of 1985 is saddled with an 18th century royal Prussian school system. As early opponents of state education pointed out, this is ideal for producing little Prussian civil servants.

The growth of public education (and taxes to support it) led to organizational opportunities for its champions, the left. By 1918, proto-totalitarians had seized control over the debate and were functioning as a shadowy Ministry of Education. The dissemination of their influence, through patronage and propaganda, is sketched out in Blumenfeld's work.

One of the crowning achievements of the educational intelligentsia has been the nationalization of pedagogical standards, so that even private schools have to toe the public education line. On one level, there is the certification process; on another the intelligentsia's consensus (shaped in the public system) of what is right and good to teach. Most private schools simply do what the public ones do, albeit better.

Public education is like public medicine in that it makes the changing tides of professional fashions dangerous by projecting them on hostage millions. In the 1930's "Detoxification" swept through the world of institutional psychiatry and state mental patients had their eth pulled and stomachs opened to drain waste substances imagined to be

the source of their troubles. At the same time, look-see (Dick and Jane) reading systems became the new orthodoxy in state schools, slowly replacing the more natural phonetic method. Detoxification is gone: newly minted psychiatrists have never even heard of it. But look-see is still with us. Experts say that look-see is the reason Johnny can't read (and one of the reasons Johnny can't think). And yet, eradicating a single false doctrine won't change the underlying dynamic, at the center of which is an obedient child doing what the parents think is best. And the parents have abdicated their responsibility to educate, in cases out of necessity, but mostly because of personal priorities. Too many people are too weak when it comes time to say no to a Greek gift. **Public schooling is based on the concept of plundering your neighbor so that a committee of strangers can take children off your hands.** The public school debate is based on discussing what kind of job the committee is doing and how much more plunder is needed to achieve certain quantitative levels of "value."

Aside from these features, there are other interesting, secondary aspects to public education that are worth noting, even in listed summary:

- Schooling is time-oriented, not results oriented. A curriculum is designed

to fill the hours, days and months rather than achieve a standard of proficiency. Children get used to time serving and time wasting, in lieu of achieving.

- Children are socialized by the lowest common denominator in school, unless they have especially strong characters.

- Children are passive consumers of given wisdom. Light homework loads reinforce the consumer-of-wisdom approach over any seeker-of-wisdom role.

- Age oriented, time-serving schooling keeps capable young workers out of the labor market, retarding their development as useful members of the workforce and injuring the local economy.

- Long periods of schooling insulate the child (and young adults) from the company of doers and relegate him to the example of state education bureaucrats.

- Children learn that mediocre efforts get good results and that working at capacity confers little advantage.

- Public schools teach that it is not necessary to reason to get through life.

The remarkable thing is that after more than a century of operation, a system designed by reformers and

progressives should be so admirably suited to producing folks suited mainly to wage "slavery." But slavery is what "progress" (in the modern sense) is all about. Our present system has made

parasites of a large segment of the population. It educates inefficiently and wastefully. Married to the tax system, it spreads and reinforces poverty. It dresses ignorance up as certified

achievement. Its one achievement is to provide okay day care service in cases where children are not robbed, shot or drugged up by their fellows. □

Thoughts on education

"The natural rights of a parent to the custody and control of his infant child are subordinate to the power of the state, and may be restricted and regulated by municipal laws. One of the most important natural duties of the parent is his obligation to educate his child, and this duty he owes not to the child alone, but to the commonwealth. If he neglects to perform it or willingly refuses to do so, he may be coerced by law to execute such civil obligations. The welfare of the child and the best interests of society require that the state shall exert its sovereign authority to secure to the child the opportunity to acquire an education."

—Indiana Supreme Court in a 1901 landmark decision in favor of compulsory school attendance.

... Government schools have one supreme, if unintended, virtue. They are such chaotic and Byzantine bureaucracies, ruled over by herds of inept and dull-witted functionaries, that some good teachers, genuinely devoted to the life of the mind, can often go undetected for years. For some

few students, those dissidents make all the difference."

—Richard Mitchell, *The Leaning Tower of Babel*

"Three generations of Americans have now passed through our schools under compulsory auspices. And in that relatively short time, the schools have become the delivery system of national ideals that demean or even ignore local community, voluntary action, and the legitimate expression of local purpose. They have become increasingly the voice of a vast interlocking bureaucratic order that stands ready to entertain the standardization of education on a national scale."

—Joel Spring, in his essay, "The Evolving Structure of American Schooling."

"The most vindictive resentment may be expected from the pedagogic profession for any suggestion that they should be dislodged from their dictatorial position; it will be expressed mainly in epithets, such as 'reactionary,' at the mildest. Nevertheless, the ques-

tion to put to any teacher moved to such indignation, is: Do you think nobody would willingly entrust his children to you and pay you for teaching them? Why do you have to extort your fees and collect your pupils by compulsion?"

—Isabel Paterson, *The God of the Machine*

"Should the government be permitted to remove children forcibly from their homes, with or without the parents' consent, and subject the children to educational training and procedures of which the parents may or may not approve? Should citizens have their wealth expropriated to support an educational system which they may or may not sanction, and to pay for the education of children who are not their own? To anyone who understands and is consistently committed to the principle of individual rights, the answer is clearly: No."

—*The Objectivist Newsletter*, June, 1963

The Department of Education

A Cabinet-level department, established by Congress in 1979. Its functions were previously housed within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Estimated 1985 budget: \$16 Billion

Employees: 5,400

Mission: To oversee the federal education effort as outlined by Congress

Major divisions and offices:

- Office of Civil Rights
- Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Office of Vocational and Adult Education
- Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
- Office of Postsecondary Education
- Office of Educational Research and Improvement
- Institute of Museum Services
- Rehabilitation Services Administration

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Virginia figures

Average teacher salary

	1983	1981	Increase
Virginia	\$18,535	\$14,649	26%
Ranking	31st	42nd	
Nationally	\$20,603	\$17,360	18%

Pupils per teacher

	1983	1982
Virginia	17.4	17.8
Ranking	19th	22nd
Nationally	18.7	18.9

SAT scores

	1984	1983	Increase
Virginia	894	888	6%
Ranking	9th	11th	
Nationally	897	883	4%

Per-pupil expenditures

	1983	1982	Increase
Virginia	\$2,620	\$2,397	9%
Ranking	35th	36th	
Nationally	\$2,948	\$2,724	8%

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education

The Crusade Against South Africa

by Murray N. Rothbard

For many years, America's campuses have been sunk in political apathy. The values of the 1950s are supposed to be back, including concentration on one's career and lack of interest in social or political causes.

But now, suddenly, it begins to seem like a replay of the late 1960s: demonstrations, placards, even sit-ins on campus. The issue is apartheid in South Africa, and the campaign hopes to bring down apartheid by pressuring colleges and universities to disinvest in South Africa. Coercion against South Africa is also being pursued on the legislative front, including drives to embargo that country as well as prohibit the importation of Krugerrands.

I yield to no one in my abhorrence of the apartheid system, but it must never be forgotten what the road to Hell is paved with. Good intentions are scarcely enough, and we must always be careful that in trying to do good, we don't do harm instead.

The object of the new crusade is presumably to help the oppressed blacks of South Africa. But what would be the impact of U.S. disinvestment?

The demand for black workers in South Africa would fall, and the result would be loss of jobs and lower wage rates for the oppressed people of that country. Not only that: presumably the U.S. firms are among the highest-paying employers in South Africa, so that the impact on black wages and working conditions would be particularly severe. In short: the group we are most trying to help by our well-meaning intervention will be precisely the ones to lose the most. As on so many other occasions, doing good for becomes doing harm to.

The same result would follow from the other legislative actions against South Africa. Prohibition of Krugerrands, for example, would injure, first and foremost, the black workers in the gold mining industry. And so on down the line.

I suppose that demonstrating and crusading against apartheid gives American liberals a fine glow of moral righteousness. But have they really pondered the consequences? Some American black leaders are beginning to do so. A spokesman for the National Urban League concedes

that "We do not favor disinvestment... We believe that the workers would be the ones that would be hurt." And Ted Adams, executive director of the National Association of Blacks Within Government, warns that disinvestment would "come down hard on black people," and could wind up "throwing the baby out with the bath water."

But other black leaders take a sterner view. A spokesman for Chicago Mayor Harold Washington admits "some concern that the most immediate effect of disinvestment may be felt by the laborers themselves," but then adds, on a curious note, "that's never an excuse not to take action." Michelle Kourouma, executive director of the National Conference of Black Mayors, explains the hard-line position: "How could it get any worse? We have nothing to lose and everything to gain: freedom."

The profound flaw is an equivocation on the word "we," a collective term covering a multitude of sins. Unfortunately, it is not Ms. Kourouma or Mr. Washington or any American liberal who stands to lose by disinvestment; it is only the blacks in South Africa.

It is all too easy for American liberals, secure in their well-paid jobs and their freedom in the United States, to say, in effect, to the blacks of South Africa: "We're going to make you sacrifice for your own benefit." It is doubtful whether the blacks in South Africa will respond with the same enthusiasm. Unfortunately, they have nothing to say in the matter; once again, their lives will be the pawns in other people's political games.

How can we in the United States help South African blacks? There is no way that we can end the apartheid system. But one thing we can do is the exact opposite of the counsel of our misled crusaders.

During the days of the national grape boycott, the economist Angus Black wrote that the only way for consumers to help the California grape workers was to buy as many grapes as they possibly could, thereby increasing the demand for grapes and raising the wage rate and employment of grape workers.



The theory of Communism may be summed up in one sentence: abolish all private property.

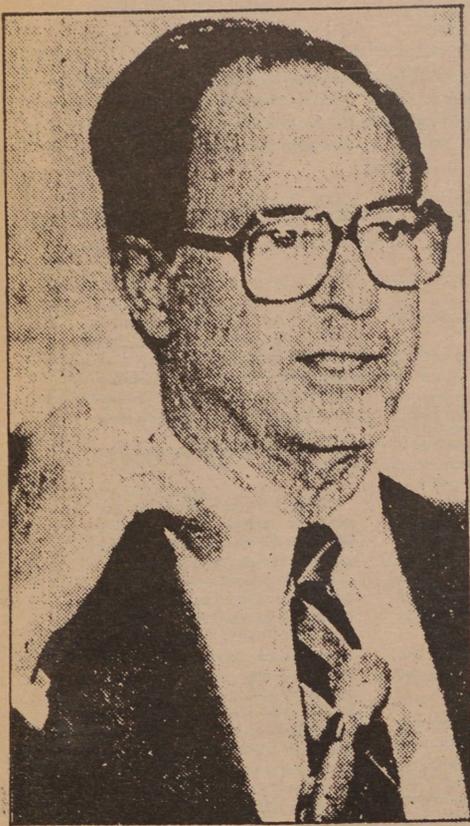
Karl Marx & Frederick Engels
1848

editorial. cntd.

These are a few of the pressing "problems" society faces today. What the government has been teaching you and your children for years is that the solution to any of these is to throw more money at them. Your money, that is. But if the government created the problems in the first place, then they cannot be called "problems" -- just failed government projects.

Or, to explain all these problems in one word: "government".

1



UPI

Why Join The L.P.?

by John Covington

Most freedom-loving people are very uneasy about the idea of joining a political party. After all, why should they join an organization that promotes the use of political power when what they really want is to be free? I found myself in the same dilemma before I decided to join the Libertarian Party in 1980. I didn't and still don't like "politics as usual", and the idea of joining a political party seemed totally out of the question. Political parties make use of power only for their own sake, right? Wrong!

The Libertarian Party is completely different. It offers the only real alternative to the tax-and-spending policies of the Democrats and Republicans. Unlike the other parties, the Libertarian Party does not want political power, but rather to do away with it.

For years politicians have used their influence to dole out favors and huge sums of taxpayers' money to special interests, without regard to the economic consequences. I believe that if there were no Libertarian Party, the government would continue to grow at an even faster rate.

Many times the Libertarian Party is the only voice for freedom that speaks out on many vital issues. It is important to have a voice for freedom speaking out, because history has shown that when the government does not hear a call for freedom, it quickly takes it away. I urge all who read this to join the Libertarian Party and help the fight for freedom.

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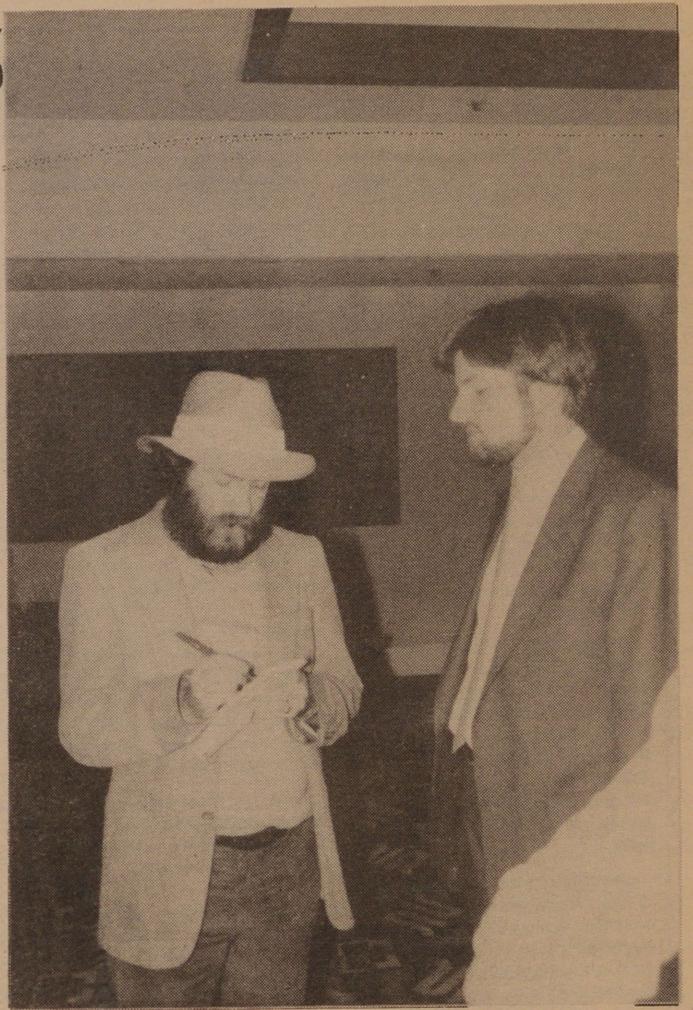


Freedom Reborn



1985 National Convention of the Libertarian Party

3



This is who we are! Shown here are a few faces of the several hundred that could be seen at our 1985 National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. The Convention took place at the posh Hyatt Regency in sizzling Phoenix weather.

Pictures are by Marc Montoni unless otherwise noted.

#1 - This is someone who was not at our convention: Roscoe Egger, Grand Moff Tarkin (remember Star Wars?) of the I.R.S. We can't imagine why he wasn't there.

#2 - This is the very person who was in our hearts throughout the convention because he could not come: he was in federal prison for resisting draft registration. His lovely wife, Rhonda, was able to come. This photo of Paul Jacob was taken at the New York LP convention in May of 1985.

#3 - Newly elected LP National Chairman, Virginia's own Jim Turney, discusses his new position with a Phoenix reporter.

#4 - LP National Committee meeting after the Convention, with new Chairman Jim Turney presiding.

#5 - 1984 LP Presidential candidate Dave Bergland shares a laugh with Peter and Ginger Breggin.

#6 - Jim Walters, Libertarian candidate for Governor of Arizona, shows us one of his business signs.

#7 - Dick Boddie, of the Motivators, Inc. and traveling partner of Dave Bergland during the Presidential campaign, discusses the finer points with conventiongoer.

#8 - A little nostalgia for Virginia LP members - the sign for our delegate station.

#9 - The LP Bulletin Board. It told everyone where to go & what to do!



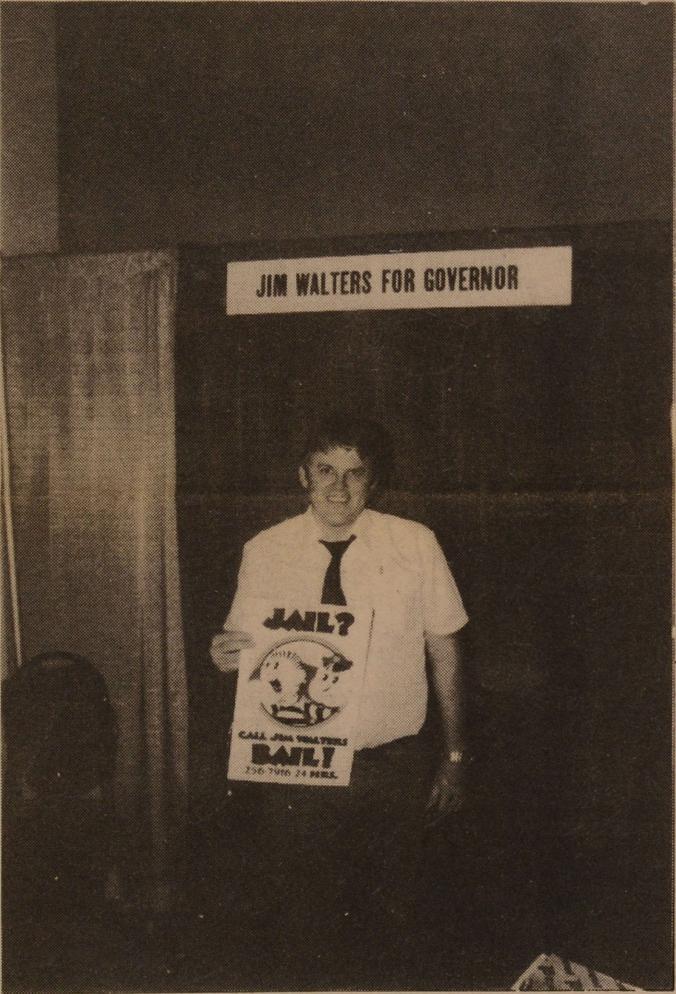
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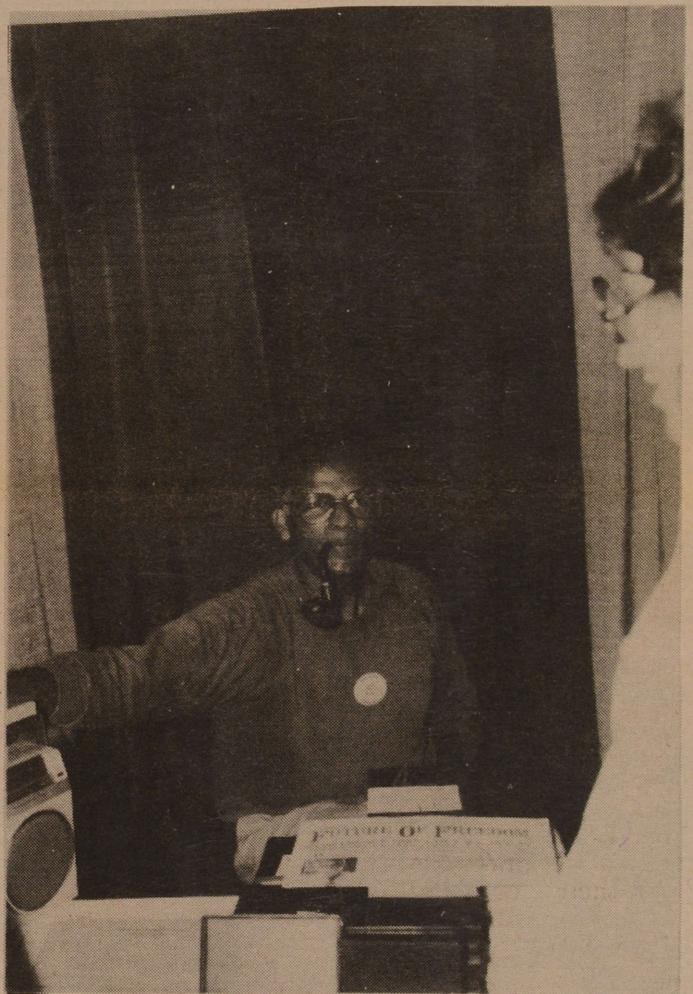
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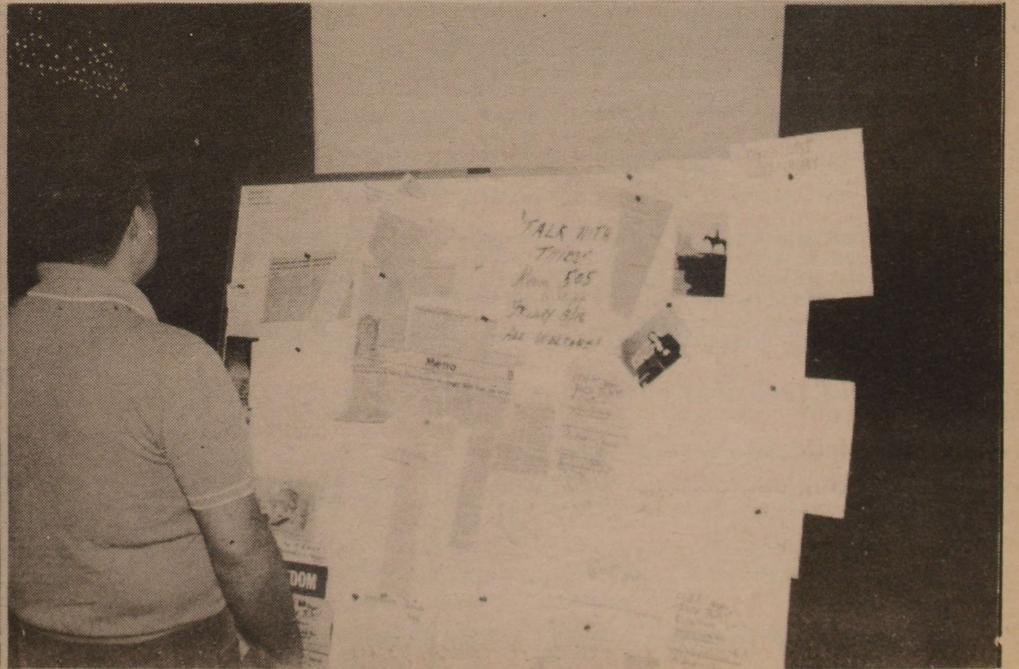
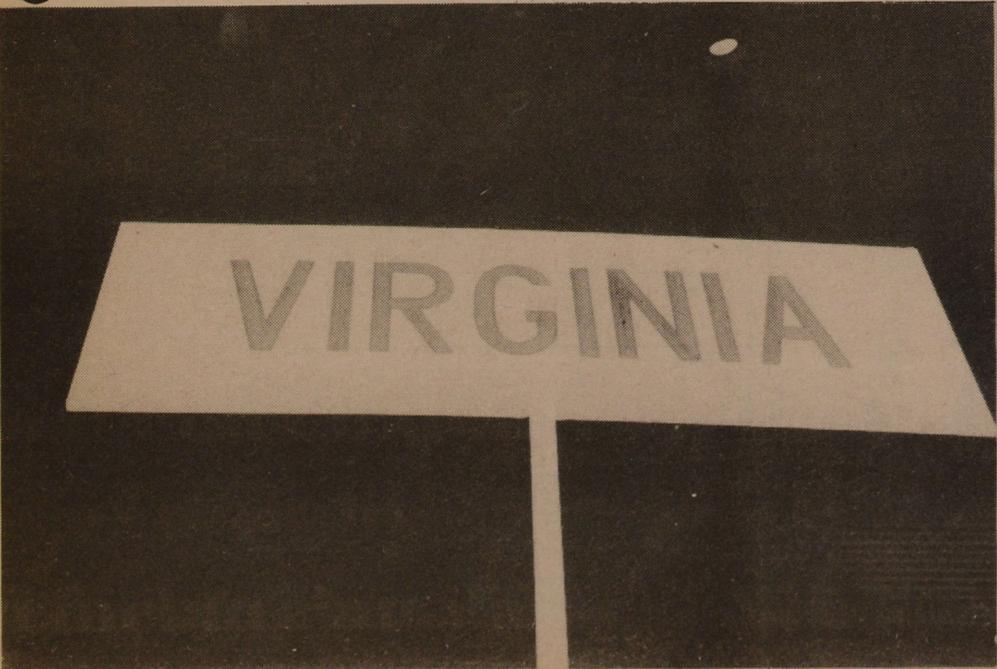


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6 Voluntary Defense Survey

Please take a few minutes of your time to fill out this questionnaire. The Lexington County Libertarian Party is conducting a survey concerning voluntary financing of national defense, and your help is needed in order to gather important information. This survey does not concern U.S. defense policy - just the financing of national defense.

It is important for you to answer every question as accurately as possible. When deciding on your answers, assume that the United States has already made significant progress towards being a true free-market society based on libertarian principles.

Please answer all questions. Send your completed form to the address listed at the bottom of the form. If you wish to receive a copy of the results of this survey, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to the Lexington County Libertarian party.

1. What is your annual income? \$ _____
2. If national defense were funded from voluntary contributions, what percentage of your income would you be willing to contribute each year? _____ %
3. If national defense were funded both by tax money and by private contributions, and if each person who voluntarily contributed to a national defense program received a tax credit for the amount of the contribution, what percentage of your income would you be willing to contribute each year? _____ %
4. If the Soviet Union or another totalitarian nation initiated an attack against U.S. territory or shipping, would you be willing to volunteer immediately to serve in some military capacity to defend the U.S.? Yes _____ No _____
5. In the situation described in question 4, if you were unable to serve in a military capacity, what percentage of your income would you be willing to defer in order to support an emergency defense effort? _____ %
6. a) How many weeks per year would you be willing to spend learning without pay some defense-related skill and keeping your training up-to-date in case of a defense emergency? _____ weeks
b) If you received 50% of your usual salary during this training, how many weeks per year would you be willing to devote to this? _____ weeks
7. If a freedom-loving nation were invaded by a totalitarian state, would you volunteer your services to help that nation defend its citizens? Yes _____ No _____
8. In the situation described in question 7, if you were unable to volunteer your services, what percentage of your income would you be willing to send to help defend that nation? _____ %
9. Below are listed some voluntary methods of paying for national defense. Please give your opinion of their relative effectiveness by placing the number 1 beside the one you believe to be the most effective, the number 2 beside the next most effective, and so on, with the number 8 placed beside the one you believe to be the least effective.
 - _____ Voluntary contributions
 - _____ A national endowment for defense funded by voluntary contributions
 - _____ Voluntary levy (a percentage of wages, salaries, interest, dividends, etc. to be withheld voluntarily); this would not be enforced by the government, but rather by boycotts and pressure from businesses and individuals
 - _____ Lotteries
 - _____ Damage insurance (insurance companies would offer damage insurance and provide defense in order to minimize their claims)
 - _____ Contract fee (a fee charged by the government for any contract that is to be recognized and enforced by government courts)
 - _____ Site protection fee (a voluntary property "tax" tied to a package deal including defense, police protection, and the enforcement of contracts)
 - _____ Other (please specify _____)
10. If the money spent on installing a fallout shelter could be deducted as a credit against your taxes, would you invest in one? Yes _____ No _____

Send to: Lexington County Libertarian Party
P.O. Box 2297
West Columbia, S.C. 29171

Dear libertarian,

Exciting things are happening in the First Circuit courts. The Government has been dealt a major defeat in its prosecution of those who oppose the income tax. And our own Mike Reilly has administered the blow.

As those involved in the tax resistance movement know, the Government officially maintains that the income tax is voluntary (its dodge to avoid a conflict with the 5th amendment provision against self incrimination). It therefore cannot prosecute anyone for failure to file taxes and instead prosecutes them for "wilful failure to file."

When tax resistor Dick Aitken was brought to trial last year, it was obvious to the jury that this man sincerely believed the tax rebel arguments. In his own mind he was obeying the law. Could his failure to file then be considered wilful? Judge McNaught, seeing the importance to the Government of getting a conviction, instructed the jury yes.

At this point Mike entered and filed an appeal before the First Circuit Court of Appeals. After presenting his arguments, Chief Federal Prosecutor for the First Circuit William Weld told the court, 'Washington says we can't afford to lose this case.' One of the judges replied, 'Washington can't tell us what to do. This is a court of law.' They dismissed the conviction on the grounds that a person cannot be said to have broken the law wilfully if he sincerely believed he was obeying the law. The Government has declined to retry Aitken and has stopped prosecuting wilful failure to file cases in the First Circuit.

Meanwhile Frank Turano had been convicted on the same charge with the same instruction to the jury. In this case, the jury was so undecided that it returned to the judge twice for instructions. Judge Rya Zobel saw that the only way to get a conviction was to give the jury an "objective" definition of wilful (a la McNaught). Now that this definition has been overturned, Mike Reilly is confident of reversing the Turano conviction as well.

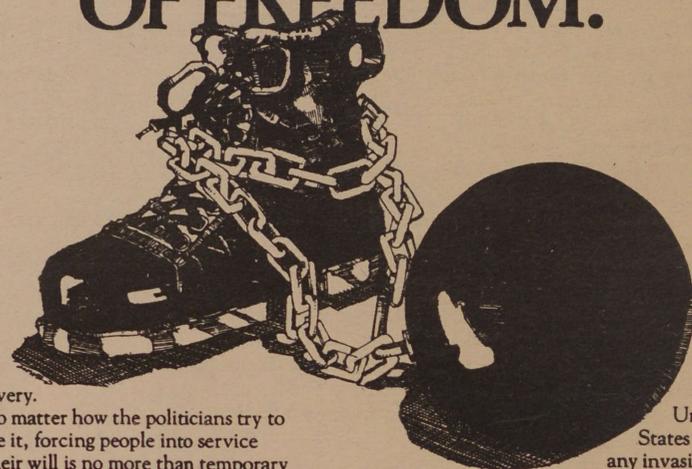
Mike has promised to hold costs of the appeal down to \$5,000. It is important for us to win this case to give the Government a second black eye and effectively put an end to income tax prosecution in New England. So I am appealing to you for donations. Frank has put his liberty on the line. He is fighting the government for all of us. If he can stop them, they won't come after us. He is a gutsy guy, and he deserves as much support as you can give him. Please help. Send donations to: Maureen Turano, PO Box 446, Somerset, MA 02726.

Thanks,

Barry L. Lockard

Barry L. Lockard
Immediate Past Chairman, Libertarian Party
of Massachusetts

SLAVES MAKE LOUSY DEFENDERS OF FREEDOM.



Conscription is slavery.

No matter how the politicians try to rationalize it, forcing people into service against their will is no more than temporary enslavement of those people. For if someone cannot refuse to serve, what is he, if not a slave?

This principle holds true whether the involuntary servitude is military or civil. But it is particularly obscene when someone is forced to kill others and risk his own life involuntarily. And to send conscripts out into the world as "defenders of freedom" is the greatest obscenity of all.

The Libertarian Party is totally opposed to conscription, for any purpose.

We are confident that the American people will voluntarily defend the

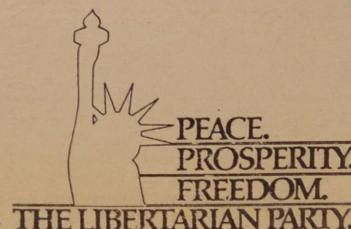
United States against any invasion.

A military draft serves only to facilitate foreign wars, and its re-institution poses the greatest threat to freedom currently facing our nation.

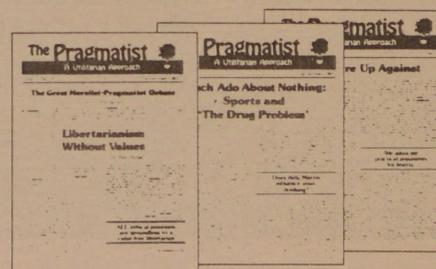
For Libertarians, opposition to conscription is a moral issue; it is not a matter of political expediency. We believe there is no battle more important than the fight against The New Slavery.

If you agree, we invite you to join the hundreds of candidates and thousands of individual members who are working to build a real alternative in American politics.

The Libertarian Party, 2300 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20007.



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Freedom has a basis in fact—and is discoverable through the use of utilitarian, empirical and scientific methods. But where do you find such methods? Until now you really had to figure it all out by yourself—a really tough proposition. Now there's a newsletter that gathers and networks this type of information—THE PRAGMATIST. Only \$6.00 for six issues—a very small price to pay to discover Freedom.

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P.O. Box 392
Forest Grove, PA 18922

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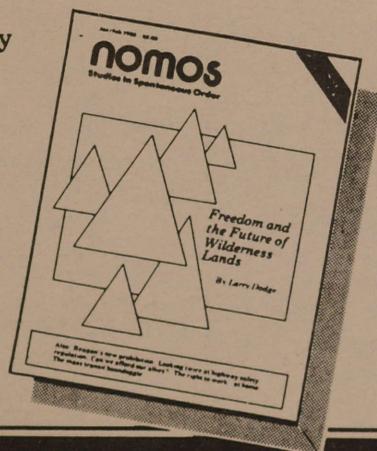
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These Freedom Forum articles will have to meet the editorial standards of the individual newspapers. Writers should anticipate no compensation, but consider their materials as contributions to the cause of Liberty.

Send inquiries to: Writers in Defense of Liberty Project, P.O. Box 21745, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

I would remind union leaders that we are not in business to employ labor... we are in business to satisfy consumer needs and thereby earn a fair return on our shareholder's investment.

Richard Currie
Pres. Loblaws
Canada

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Disobedience Day, July 3rd

(THE Libertarian Holiday)

- * Write letters to your editor
 - protesting a local bad law
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 - with our national hotline numbers and contact data



For more details, send \$1 to: A.C.L.F. / P. O. Box 4394 / Santa Barbara, CA 93140 / (805) 965-2741.

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The future of the libertarian movement, that is.

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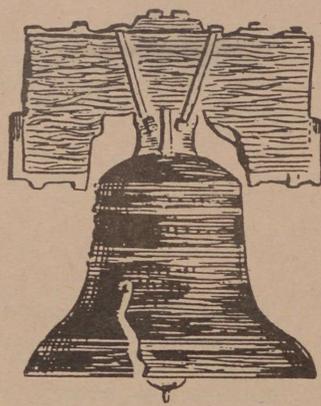
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The tale of the "Pied Piper of Hamelin" is thought to have its origins in the 13th-century conscription of young men from the town of Hamelin to fight in an unpopular war. Townspeople likened the draft effort to a flute-playing devil.



"If the government assumes that the people are basically dishonest, it becomes necessary to create a rule for every detail of life, and to create a bureaucracy to oversee this complex set of rules."

STOP THE DRAFT



Photo by Stephen Buel

"Where is it written in the Constitution that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war in which the folly or wickedness of government may engage it?"

*—Daniel Webster
1814*

Paul Jacob, shown above with daughter Jessica shortly before his trial, was convicted and imprisoned on July 2, 1985, for refusing to register for the draft.

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 1-800-682-1776 LP new member information (outside Texas)
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Libertarian Party Archives: University of Virginia Library
 Volunteers needed to fill the following positions: 1) 4th & 9th District chairman; 2) newsletter editor (beginning mid-1985); 3) publicity chairman. LPVA HQ for info.

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Pledge: \$5 \$10 \$15 (other) \$ _____ per month for 12 24 months, beginning on _____, 1985.

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Please use my contribution for (check all that apply):
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