

# FREEDOM'S *Phoenix*





# Featured Articles

Pg 3 Nick Barnett - Freedom'sPhoenix Digital Magazine viewing tips

Pg 4 Glenn Jacobs - The Worldwide Evolution

Pg 6 Karen Kwiatkowski - What Would Jefferson Think?

Pg 8 Larken Rose - You Own You; Act Like It!

Pg 10 Pete Eyre - Activists - Strike the Root

Pg 12 David Henderson - The Meaning of July 4th

Pg 13 Adam Kokesh - Take Back Independence Day

Pg 14 Charles Goyette - Obama Gets It Half Right

Pg 15 Brock Lorber - Las Vegas Meetup Hits the Boards for Ron Paul

Pg 16 Powell Gammill - Private Spacecraft

Pg 22 Chip Saunders - THIS MONTH IN GUNS!

Pg 27 Alice Lillie - THE FEDERAL RESERVE HURTS YOU!

Pg 29 Howard J. Blitz - A Liberty Moment - "Committing Treason in Search of Liberty"

Pg 30 IN ARIZONA, NOVEMBER 8, 1994 / IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776

Pg 33 Sentient Void - Why Even Anarchists Should Vote

Pg 35 Sentient Void - Anarchy, Government and the State

Pg 36 Marc J. Victor - Legalize Methamphetamine!

Pg 41 Teresa Warmke - FR33 Aid

Pg 42 Pete Eyre - Ademo Caged for Felony "Improper Influence"

Pg 44 Daniel J. D'Amico - Taking Notes from the Social Science of Underground Society

Pg 46 L. Neil Smith - REBORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

Pg 48 Marc Stevens - Why Liberty?

Pg 49 Ernest Hancock - Publisher's Backpage

Pg Stefan Molyneux - The Handbook of Human Ownership - A Manual for New Tax Farmers – Video/Audio

Pg Getting you up to Speed: Books, Movies, Videos and Music

[Freedom's Phoenix Subscriber Tutorials](#)



**SUBSCRIBE NOW!**  
(CHECK OUT OUR SILVER PACKAGE)

## Credits:

**Editor-In-Chief**  
Sierra Hancock

**Publisher**  
Ernest Hancock

**Technical Advisor**  
Nick Barnett

**Graphic Design**  
Jeff DeFillipi

**Illustrator**  
Scott Bieser

**Sales Manager**  
Thomas Costanzo

**Webmaster**  
[Freedom'sPhoenix.com](http://Freedom'sPhoenix.com)  
Tyger Gilbert

**Contact Us :**  
[Freedom'sPhoenix.com](http://Freedom'sPhoenix.com)

The domain and name of Freedom'sPhoenix are servicemarks of Ernest Hancock. All rights reserved worldwide. Feature articles, columns, artwork and illustrations should be examined to determine the copyright status claimed by each individual creator.

Ernest Hancock  
4886 W Port Au Prince Lane  
Glendale, AZ 85306 USA.

PERMISSION is Granted to Forward this magazine in its entirety.





# FreedomsPhoenix Digital Magazine viewing tips

By Nick Barnett

(For continuous updates to enhance your digital magazine experience use links below)

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

## iPad/iPhone

## SmartPhone

## Andriod Device

## Other



The Freedom's Phoenix digital magazine has been optimized and tested for use on the iPad with the "GoodReader" application. Since Apple's products do not have native support for interactive publications, you have to purchase the application from the iTunes digital download store. You can either follow [this link](#) to be taken to the application purchase page or use your iPad's AppStore and search for "GoodReader."



Once GoodReader is installed, you can optimize your digital magazine experience by changing a few default options in the application. Launch GoodReader and click the settings icon (it looks like a little gear in the bottom left of the screen). In the "General Settings" tab, it is recommended that you set the "Asks for link action" option to OFF. In the "PDF files" tab, you should ensure that "Horizontal swipe" is set to ON, and "Fit page to width (portrait)" is set to ON.

Once you have made the above changes, you will be able to swipe left and right to "flip" through the digital pages and the pages should appear as intended, just like a real paper magazine, but with modern paperless interactivity.

To obtain the Freedom's Phoenix digital magazine, launch GoodReader and click "Browse the Web." To get to this option, you may need to expand the "Web Downloads" sub-window found on the right hand column of the application. When you click "Browse the web" you

will be presented with GoodReader's internal web browser, just type in [www.freedomsphoenix.com](http://www.freedomsphoenix.com) in the address bar and hit "Go" on your iPad onscreen keyboard.

Once Freedom's Phoenix has loaded, click on "Magazine/Radio/TV" in the website's navigation bar, then choose the option for "Online Magazine List." You may be prompted to enter your Freedom's Phoenix username and password at this point. Choose the digital magazine you wish to download and you will be taken to a page with a link that says "Download Magazine File." Once you click this, GoodReader will begin downloading the file. Once the file has finished downloading, you will be able to access it from the "Recent Downloads" menu in the "My Documents" screen of GoodReader.



The best software for all [android devices](#) so far has been the FREE software from the Andriod Market: [ezPDF Reader](#)

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)




**FREEDOM'S Phoenix**  
Reigniting the Flames of Freedom  
**FreedomsPhoenix.com**  
Uncovering the Secrets & Exposing the Lies

**www.FreedomSummit.com**

PAST SPEAKERS: JACOB G. HORNBERGER - DON BOUDREAUX - ROBERT A. LEVY - BUTLER D. SHAFFER - VIN SUPRYHOWICZ - CLINT BOLICK - KATHERINE ALBRECHT - JAMES BOYARD - NATHANIEL BRANDEN - RON PAUL - PETER D. SCHIFF - GEORGE H. SMITH - EDWARD STRINGHAM - ALAN BOCK - DOUG CASEY - CHARLES GOYETTE - JUSTIN RAIMONDO - MARY RUWART - KEN SCHOOLLAND - CLAIRE WOLFE - RICHARD BODDIE - HARRY BROWNE - HANS-HERMANN HOPPE - ERNEST HAMCOCK - BOSTON T. PARTY - MARC VICTOR - DONALD "MAC" MACPHERSON - RICHARD MORRIS - WALTER BLOCK - LEW ROCKWELL - JOHN PUGSEY - LARRY PRATT - SHARON HARRIS - LOUIS JAMES - JOHN BUTTRICH - L. NEIL SMITH - MARSHALL FRITZ - DR. STEVEN GREER - CHRISTOPHER HEWARD - KAREN KWIAKOWSKI - JANE SHAFFER - SUNNI MARAVILLOSA - DR. BRIAN WOWN - DAVID D. FRIEDMAN - STUART KROHE - ADAM KOKESH - BUD BURRELL - JOEL SHOUSEN - JOHN TAYLOR GATTO - JEFFREY A. SINGER - DAN BARNER - JAMES P. GRAY - MARC STEVENS - WILLIAM BUPPERT - SCOTT HORTON - LAWRENCE W. (LARRY) REED - STEFAN MOLYNEUX - JORDAN PAGE - THE CARTRIDGE FAMILY BAND

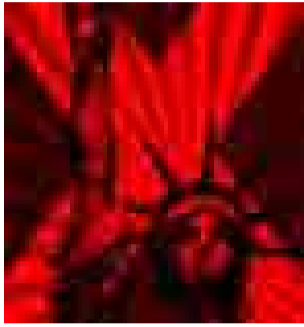
"WHERE THE GREAT MINDS OF THE MODERN FREEDOM MOVEMENT COME TOGETHER"



# The Worldwide Evolution

## by Glenn Jacobs

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



THE American Revolution began long before the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776 or even before the war's first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord a year earlier on April 19, 1775.

Years after the war, John Adams would reflect that *"the Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people. This radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments and affections of the people was the real American Revolution."*

While friction caused by the British mercantilist system served as the physical spark for the Revolution, the rejection of the monarchical political system was its intellectual fodder. Thomas Paine, for instance, wrote in *Common Sense*, "of more worth is one honest man to society, and in the sight of God, than all the crowned ruffians that ever lived."

Thus, Thomas Jefferson's declaration of universal individual rights was an idea whose time had come: *"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."* No longer would one man or group of men be superior in the eyes of the law.

But was all this really revolutionary? Certainly, putting these ideas into practice and breaking

the political bonds with Great Britain were revolutionary acts in that they represented a departure from the past, but the ideas didn't start with the Founding Fathers. Jefferson's enunciation of nature rights, for example, was simply a rewording of John Locke's theories.

After much soul searching, the colonies finally seceded from Great Britain because they felt that the King was violating the British constitution, the traditional rules that governed the King's relationship with his subjects. In other words, the Revolution began as a reaction to a violation of conservative, i.e. traditional, norms. The colonists were forced to consider radical ideas because the existing order denied them redress of their grievances.

The Founding Fathers, however, were still men of their time and operated under their own particular philosophical premises. Their fatal premise was that coercive government was a "necessary evil." The best of the Founders, broadly speaking Jefferson and the anti-federalists, sought a government limited to the protection of life, liberty, and property. The worst of the Founders, Alexander Hamilton and his ilk, didn't have a problem with the British system per se. They just had a problem with the fact that it was administered by the British and not them. The Hamiltonians sought a powerful State which they would eventually control. Their limited government rhetoric was simply that--rhetoric designed to camouflage their real

**Continues on Page 5**

## Continued from Page 4 -The Worldwide Evolution

goal. Just compare what Hamilton wrote in the Federalist Papers addressing concerns that the central government which the Constitution created would be a threat to individual liberty, with what he wrote after the Constitution was ratified. Once the Constitution was adopted, Hamilton immediately went about enlarging the scope and power of the federal government. This was exactly what the anti-federalists feared.

Many libertarian revisionist historians now recognize that the U.S. Constitution was not the final chapter of the glorious American Revolution as civics textbooks portray. The 1787 convention in Philadelphia was a coup d'etat which subverted the libertarian aspects of the Revolution and created what would become the biggest, most powerful government the world has ever seen.

Thus, what began as a revolution ended as merely an exchange of masters. Americans swapped the royal “we” for the democratic “we”. Unfortunately, one of our most difficult tasks is convincing folks that “we” are not the government. While we can influence the State to some extent, the government is a specific set of individuals and institutions which are distinct from society itself. Pointing that out often evokes resistance and sometimes outright hostility.

Nevertheless, it is imperative that we question the premises upon which contemporary political philosophy is based. At the very least, we can inject a different point of view into political discourse. Right now, this may seem futile. However, we never know what the future holds and what opportunities it may present. Human history is not the linear progression that we have been taught. It can best be described as a series of radical upheavals during which almost everything suddenly changes followed by longer periods of relative stability (often coming at the expense of liberty) in which things change very slowly. We are currently on the precipice of one of those radical upheavals.


Just like the colonists in 18th century British America, today's Americans are finding that the current system is a fraud. As the economy continues to unravel, many more will come to this conclusion. The question is, what will replace our system. Will it be one that enhances individual liberty or one that crushes it?

There is much to learn from the Founding Fathers, but unlike Conservatives who treat the Founders as the American pantheon, the most important part of the lesson can be derived from their failures. Many of the Founders were courageous and placed their liberty ahead of their lives and fortunes. We can certainly admire these qualities. Unfortunately, slavery and the treatment of native Americans were inexcusable and will always be a tragic blight on their legacy.

In addition to these defects, as an anarcho-capitalist, I find the Founder's other major shortcoming in that they did not reject the State altogether. There is no such thing as limited coercive government. Inevitably, the State will expand and liberty will contract. History has now proved that no piece of paper can stop this process for long.

Even so, the American Revolution was an important, if imperfect, step in our political evolution. While reading Ludwig von Mises's Human Action recently, I was struck by the contrast between the classical liberal Mises and his student Murray Rothbard, the anarcho-capitalist. Like the American Founders, Mises arrived at the conclusion that a limited government holding a monopoly on the initiation of force was a necessary evil. Building on Mises's work, Rothbard came to the opposite conclusion: the State is not necessary; it is simply evil. Despite this irony, without Mises there probably never would have been a Rothbard. Mises's classical liberalism served as a bridge that ushered in Rothbard's anarcho-capitalism.

The same can be said about the American Revolution. We are now engaged in the process that Adams identified. By injecting the ideas of individual liberty, free markets, and peace into the political discourse, we hope to bring about “*radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments and affections of the people.*” We are continuing the American Revolution, building upon the work that the classical liberals of that era left us. But it's not a violent revolution that we hope for. And it's not confined to America.

It's nothing less than a peaceful worldwide evolution. 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





# What Would Jefferson Think?

By Karen Kwiatkowski

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



AMERICA celebrates Independence Day with many flags and no reflection. We refer to the day as July 4th rather than Independence Day, and rightfully so. The United States has become a country where half of the people pay all the taxes, so the other half (both poor and disenfranchised, wealthy and connected) can happily receive the central government's redistributed benefits. The United States has become a country where one in seven Americans, 44 million people, depend upon food stamps, conveniently issued as nondescript "debit" cards so as to hide their prevalence from their fellow shoppers, and to funnel fees into the major banks for the privilege. Forty-four million people constitute the population of a mid-size nation, like Colombia, Tanzania or the Ukraine. The USDA Food Stamp program has created a sub-nation inside the borders of the United States wholly dependent upon the government to eat.

This nation also has 56 million people who receive Social Security benefits, and many of those recipients absolutely rely upon this money to maintain their lifestyle. Yes, most paid the social security tax for many years, and some of them have not yet consumed all that they paid in over their working years. Regardless, this 56 million is nearly the equivalent to having the whole population of France or Italy within our country's borders, dependent on what the rest of the country produces.

It is not enough to consider the dependence of the 44 million Americans on the federal food stamp program, or the 56 million Americans dependent upon the federal Social Security program. We must also include those who are dependent on government jobs (direct or contracted) and on government pensions. This includes active duty and retired military members and their families, the Guard and Reserve, civilians employed by the federal government, government-dependent contractors, and public education workers from preschool to the state universities, and the private colleges, that rely on federal government grants and federally funded student aid programs. Americans who work directly for the federal government now number 22 million (about the population of Ro-

mania or Taiwan) – and that doesn't count the government contractors, those who work in the massive defense industry, and state employees, especially those employed in public education.

We are indeed blessed.

President Thomas Jefferson offered a prayer for our nation in 1801. It's a lovely petition, and worth thinking about today. He wrote,

Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable ministry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people, the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endow with Thy spirit of wisdom those whom in Thy name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth. In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This is clearly a Christian prayer, and there is a tendency in modern America to either apologize for Christianity, to diminish its import, or just ignore it because so few Americans who claim to be Christians are truly interested in walking the walk. Why not, when a recent "born again" Christian president of the United States said of Afghanistan, "I must say, I'm a little envious. If I were slightly younger and not employed here, I think it would be a fantastic experience to be on the front lines of helping this young democracy succeed." "It must be exciting for you ... in some ways romantic...."

We have a current president, also claiming a Christian influence, who with his bankers, oil corporation advisors, and military men but without consulting Congress, or asking for a Constitutional declaration of war, began massive military attacks on Libya four months ago. The current president continues his predeces-

**Continues on Page 7**

## Continued from Page 6 -What Would Jefferson Think?

sor's similarly contrived decisions to call on his militarized intelligence agencies to fight undeclared wars in Yemen and Pakistan, all without public explanation or Congressional approval. The current president's failure to end the ongoing and apparently interminable wars started by his born again predecessor in Iraq, Afghanistan and Colombia must also be mentioned. The past few presidents have all gone beyond the Rubicon in counterbalancing Jefferson's plea to "Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way."

Jefferson's prayer reminds us of the great bounty of our great land, itself persisting and lovely even as our government has devolved from republicanism into socialism and proto-fascism. Might we still strive to be worthy of the great blessing of religious and economic liberty, even as that blessing suffers the death of a thousand cuts by a government that despises our freedom, and a population that presumes the government, upon which they have become so dependent, must be correct about its distrust of our liberty?

Jefferson hoped for sound learning and pure manners, wise government leaders, justice and peace. The evolution of the United States has instead led to government schools, no manners, no justice unless you can afford it, and perpetual war. One would be tempted to think God never heard this particular prayer for America.

We have had times in our country's history when everything Americans had come to know, to believe in, to trust, was swept away. The end of the antebellum South, for many, was such a time, and the destruction and reconstruction of the Southern states as a Federal conquest represented a major turning point against liberty in America, even as the 13th Amendment claimed that slaves were now free, the 14th established that they were citizens, and the 15th, ratified in 1870, claimed they were not to be discriminated against in that citizenship. Even with these federal mandates, the cultural and societal prejudice against former slaves and their descendants was not overcome in any great way until over one hundred years later, and many recognize that even today, prejudice and injustice has not been eliminated. Today, we have no slavery, but rather than being a liberated people, we have become dependent on a federal state, regulated from dawn till dusk, monitored by, directed by, owned by and fearful of the state. That is the very definition of a slave's existence. Our own homes, our property, businesses, and economic activity, as Ron Paul reminded us in his recent presidential debate, is only leased from the state, which demands its annual rent in the form

of taxation and fees, under threat of confiscation and imprisonment.

These transformational shifts are not only for communities and nations. In our own lives, there are times when what we have come to believe in as true and unchangeable, becomes untrue, and changes. We call these moments crises, and we usually come out the other side of those storms wiser, braver, more confident, and stronger. This faith is also part of Jefferson's prayer, this hope in the future. It may be the only part of the prayer that resonates on this Independence Day.

On the other side of these crises, we find the meaning of independence. We find out what is real and what is important. As the fictional character from "Gone With the Wind" tells his daughter, "Do you mean to tell me, Katie Scarlett O'Hara, that Tara, that land doesn't mean anything to you? Why, land is the only thing in the world worth workin' for, worth fightin' for, worth dyin' for, because it's the only thing that lasts."

I suspect it was not by accident that the first line of Jefferson's prayer is about the land we have been given. What has lasted in this nation is indeed the land, and among many of the people, an abiding faith in the promise of liberty, and a continued hope for the blessings of peace and justice. Beyond this, very little may be honestly celebrated on July 4th, 2011.

There is good news. An imminent return to independence, a national rise in fundamental self-sufficiency of individuals, families and communities who have weathered a great storm, and the unstoppable growth of the people's confidence and fresh gratitude as a result of a battle for liberty in America forced and won, is more thrilling than all of the fireworks we will enjoy across the country this week  
Happy Independence Day! 🌸

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





# You Own You; Act Like It!

## by Larken Rose

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



"WE won't stand for this! We demand you stop this!" How often have people zealously made such proclamations at those in positions of power? Almost constantly throughout all of history, and throughout all of the world. How often did

they actually mean it? Hardly ever. Even today, in this country, such "demands" usually mean little more than this: "If you don't stop treating me like dirt, I'm going to wait a few years, vote for the lesser of two evils, and lose anyway!" Not surprisingly, that sort of thing rarely makes tyrants quake in their boots.

**"If you ask for permission you deserve to be told NO!"**

Due to prolonged, intentional indoctrination, almost everyone has a huge aversion to disobeying a perceived "authority." They don't just want to be free; they want "government" and "authority" to approve of them being free. They don't just want to control their own lives; they want "the law" (the decrees of the politicians) to tell them that they are allowed to control their own lives. So they spend huge amounts of effort, time and money trying to get "government" to change its decrees. However, if you beg tyrants and thieves for freedom, while continuing to faithfully obey them as they rob you and boss you around, then your physical enslavement is not the problem—your mental enslavement is the problem. If

you don't want to be a slave, stop thinking like a slave, stop talking like a slave, and stop acting like a slave. Stop begging the "massuh" for anything. As Ayn Rand put it, stop offering the parasites and crooks of the world the "sanction of the victim" by acting as if they have a right to do what they do to you. They don't. You own yourself. Act like it.

Most people, including those in the freedom movement, hugely underestimate how much depends upon the perceptions of the public. Imagine if tomorrow, a couple hundred million Americans woke up, and suddenly felt no obligation to be robbed, even when the robbery is called "taxation," and felt no obligation to obey the commands of control freaks, even when their thuggery is called "law." What would happen? If someone was in the presence of a state mercenary ("law enforcer"), he might still do as he is told to avoid trouble. But the politicians' hired thugs cannot always be everywhere. In short, if the general public didn't believe in the superstition of "government," the parasite class would soon be ignored out of existence, without the need for any election, any change in "legislation," or any revolution.

Of course, as long as the majority remain firm believers in the cult of "government," there will be risk involved in behaving as if you own yourself. But ultimately, the only road to freedom has nothing to do with "political action" (begging the tyrants to let you be free), and every-

**Continues on Page 9**



## Continues from Page 8 -You Own You; Act Like It!



thing to do with people's willingness to ignore, disobey, and/or resist those claiming to be "authority." There is always risk involved in disobeying any gang of thugs, but even a relatively small number of people, if they refuse to comply and cooperate with the control freaks, can be extremely powerful. If the people don't accept the legitimacy of the controls being imposed upon them, and don't accept the "authority" of the thugs trying to do it, controlling them becomes extremely difficult, even if they never forcibly resist. I happen to have firsthand experience with a fine example of this, from spending a year somewhere that is more closely monitored, and more constantly controlled, than any country in the world. It's called "prison."

In prison, people are held captive, and their possessions and behaviors are continually scrutinized and limited. There is no currency allowed in federal prison. There is no trade allowed. There are no cell phones allowed. There are no cigarettes allowed. There are no drugs allowed. Lots and lots and lots of things are strictly forbidden in prison. In fact, they pretty much give you a short list of what you are allowed to have, and what you are allowed to do, and you can just assume that everything else is "against the rules." However, as it happens, lots of items and behaviors which are "against the rules" in prison also happen to be abundant there. I was only in a "minimum security" federal prison, but most of the people there had been at higher security facilities before that, and they confirmed that such things happen constantly even there.


Even when you put human beings in a concrete box, take away almost everything they have, constantly search what little you allow them to keep, and have them always under surveillance, and completely forbid any sort of trade at all, a system of commerce will magically appear out of nowhere, almost instantly. Even in a constantly patrolled and monitored cage, where all trade is "outlawed," I saw a thriving economy, with make-shift currencies, bartering, all manner of products and services for sale, and so on. (It's no big secret I'm revealing here. Everyone at every prison, including the guards and "administration," know their so-called "rules" are constantly broken, no matter how nasty they get about it.)

How could this be, in the ultimate totalitarian paradise (prison)? Simple: most inmates don't care what their captors think. They feel no obligation to obey. In many cases they submit to commands, just out of self-preservation, but if they can disobey and "get away with it," they don't feel a shred of guilt about it. Most inmates do not view their "keepers" as a righteous authority, but as a hostile enemy, a collection of power-happy thugs and buffoons, and most inmates don't feel the slightest moral obligation to obey them. And though I hate to say it, that makes most prison inmates more free mentality than the average American--maybe even more than the average "freedom movement" activist. They can still be physically controlled to a certain extent, but aside from the occasional "Stockholm syndrome," they rarely feel any loyalty to their controllers. They feel no obligation to obey, and feel no guilt when they don't.

Of course, some inmates also have no respect for the rights of other individuals. The point here is not that all inmates are noble freedom advocates, but that most of them are no longer

constrained by the "authority"-worship that has been trained into almost all of the "free" people out here. For example, do you take pride in being a "law-abiding taxpayer"? Would you resent being called a "criminal"? In other words, do you still imagine yourself to have a moral obligation to obey the decrees of the liars, thieves and murderers who wear the label "government," and who call their thuggery "law" and their robbery "taxation"? Until you overcome that programmed-in mindset, nothing is going to free you from tyranny, because the chains that bind you are inside your own head. On the other hand, once you overcome your tendency toward loyal subservience to some imagined "authority," a huge number of possibilities open up to you, even if you're still geographically stuck inside a collectivist police state.

If you want to live free, do not wait until freedom is "legal." It never has been, and it never will be. Nor does it need to be. If any significant number of people understand that they own themselves, and act accordingly, it becomes literally impossible for those in power to maintain control over them. When people stop caring what is "legal," and only pay attention to what is right, tyrannical regimes fall apart. When one grasps the degree to which "law-makers" and "law-enforcers" are outnumbered by those they seek to control, it becomes obvious that brute force alone is not what keeps the masses compliant and "manageable." What keeps most people subdued and controlled is the fact that most of "the masses" feel a patriotic duty and a moral obligation to obey those in "government." If the people stopped imagining liars and thieves to be legitimate rulers, and stopped viewing their idiotic commands and demands as "laws," the power of the politicians would simply dissolve.

So what should those who want freedom do? Instead of focusing time and energy on "political action," become anti-political. You wouldn't petition a rabid dog to stop biting you, why would you petition the parasites in Washington for anything? Why would you imagine that you need their legislative permission to be free? Do whatever you can to avoid being injured by unthinking, inhuman beasts, whether they are rabid dogs or "law enforcers." But trying to reason with them is pointless. Begging them to be civil is pointless. Whether you prefer to avoid them, deceive them, sabotage them, scare them, or physically combat them is a personal choice. But whatever you do, **STOP BOWING TO THEM!** Because as long as you view them and treat them as your masters, they will view you and treat you as their slave. When you reach the point where you view them and treat them as what they are--murderers, thugs and thieves pretending to be "authority"--then you are most of the way to being truly free already. 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

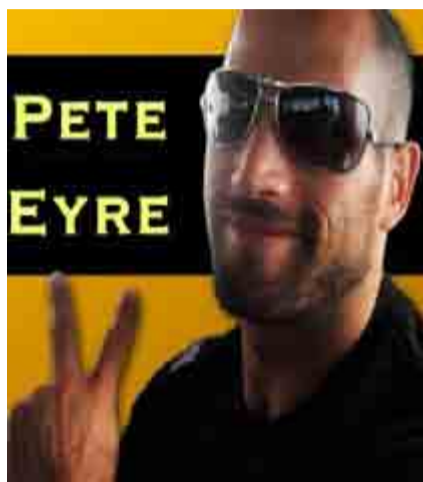




# Activists - Strike the Root

## By Pete Eyre

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



THE goal of activism is to persuade - to encourage others not just to think about a specific issue or idea in a different way but to be motivated to act accordingly.

If you're reading this text it's likely that you're already freedom-oriented and looking to become more effective in your outreach. But before delving into tactics and strategy let's first take a moment to differentiate between working "within the system" and working "outside" or "around the system." It's that important.

Some choose to allocate their scarce resources (time, talent and treasure) to get elected a new "leader" or to collect signatures for a petition or any number of actions done per the guidelines and procedures set and interpreted by those who claim arbitrary authority based on their title. Meanwhile others - in growing numbers and I'd argue, percentages - are working to bring about positive change through consensual interactions using reason, logic and emotion. Individuals in the latter group do not focus on man-made legislation or election cycles but on real, tangible interactions at the individual level.

Let no uncertainty remain, a top-down, centralized model that grants some the "legitimate" right to use force under auspices of "security" or "public good" will never lead to a freer society. Don't waste your time in that arena. Instead,

strike the root - advocate for complete liberty, where individuals are free to act so long as they don't initiate force. Plant a flag and point to the ideal. Communicate that theft or murder is wrong, no matter the person's uniform or place of employment.

Still not sold? Consider the moral argument - if you agree that aggressive force is wrong then how can you engage in politics? Getting 50% of others to agree with you does not make you correct, and it certainly does not magically grant you the right to steal money from others so that you can force your views on them. Consider the efficiency argument - if you agree that your goal is to maximize freedom what's the surest way to make that happen? Through an increasingly-centralized and unaccountable bureaucracy that's sheltered from market signals or by planting seeds in the minds of others, who will in turn become spokespeople to those in their sphere?

You own yourself. Act like it. As voluntaryist thinker and author Carl Watner noted, "If one takes care of the means, the end will take care of itself."

That point made, let's move on.

Before engaging in activism make sure you have a solid foundation in the ideas of liberty. Doing so will make you more effective since you'll be comfortable engaging others in conversation and because you'll be more clear during such

**Continues on Page 11**



## Continued from Page 10 - Activists - Strike the Root

interactions. Also, it should go without saying, but have a clearly defined goal - ideally to advance the voluntary society.

Activism can be a very effective outreach method but as with all other things in life, there are opportunity costs - when you're doing A you cannot do B. If your goal is to persuade, take the time to evaluate how you can have a bigger impact. Don't be content with specific tactics simply because it's what was done last time around. Take what you've learned from others and from your own actions and modify your actions accordingly.

If you worked at Acme Metallurgy you could compare quarterly sales, the tensile strength of certain alloys, and other quantifiable things to create better products and grow your business. Unfortunately the same objective analysis is not available to us as activists since we peddle ideas. It's difficult to analyze or discern for certain the effectiveness of a particular form of activism.

Still, it's very beneficial to do a brain dump after engaging in activism. What went well? What could be improved upon? Where did unanticipated pinch-points exist? What language or phrasing seemed to go over well? Capture your thoughts on these and related questions while they're fresh so you can improve upon your efforts next time around. A conversation or brilliant idea may be at the forefront of your mind now but life happens, and soon the details become a bit more fuzzy, and the take-aways more vague.

Figure out what works for you and share it with others. This will lessen the asymmetry of information and the barrier to entry for activism, which translates into more individuals trying more things. The decentralized, open nature of our movement are major strengths. Exploit and add to that. Successful tactics will be replicated and built-upon and we'll all gain because of it.

Disseminate your content. If your particular form of activism involves the creation of a video, graphics, presentation, stencils, etc. share it in as many mediums as possible. The more hooks the larger your potential audience and the easier it will be for people to find and be exposed to your ideas.

Have talking points. Before hitting the street determine how to best communicate your ideas, whether interacting with a random passerby, thousands at an event or the media. Try to couch your perspective in easy-to-grasp sound bites that are both concise and informative. If your perspective is easily understood and appeals to that individual you're golden.

Make it personal. The same argument won't appeal to everyone so after initiating a conversation, listen, find common ground and continue the conversation from there. If someone tells you that they have the right to keep and bear arms to defend themselves, help them tease their underlying rationale - that they own themselves and thus have a right to defend themselves. Then expand that to other areas - such as drug use, because again, if they believe in self-ownership then an individual has the right to ingest whatever substances they choose, or taxes - because, if they've earned money through their own labor then taking it would violate their rights, whether done by you or someone who works for the IRS. Similarly, if someone with whom you're interacting believes that Agency X or Program Y must exist and you disagree, ask them if they'd put a gun to your head to force you to fund it. When the violence behind their claims is read-

ily seen, it'll be much more difficult for them to support such stances.

Be relevant. Leverage your message by tying it to something timely. If you plan to engage in a specific activity, could you do it on another date or another location to help get more eyes (and minds) on it? Could you loop-in others interested so that their audience is exposed to your actions and ideas?

Follow your passion. If you're doing something you enjoy and excel at chances are you'll be much more effective. And the same holds true if you're working with others (which is ideal). Someone could cultivate media contacts while another writes a press release. Or someone can create graphics while another person markets the event through social networks. Or someone can film while another edits.

Be sustainable. Since you're so passionate about an issue or idea that you're actively working to introduce it to others it can become easy to try to do everything at once, to let it consume you. If this becomes the norm you stand a high likelihood of burning out. While work ethic is paramount, so too is finding a balance. If you're out of commission you're of no help to yourself or the ideas you seek to share.

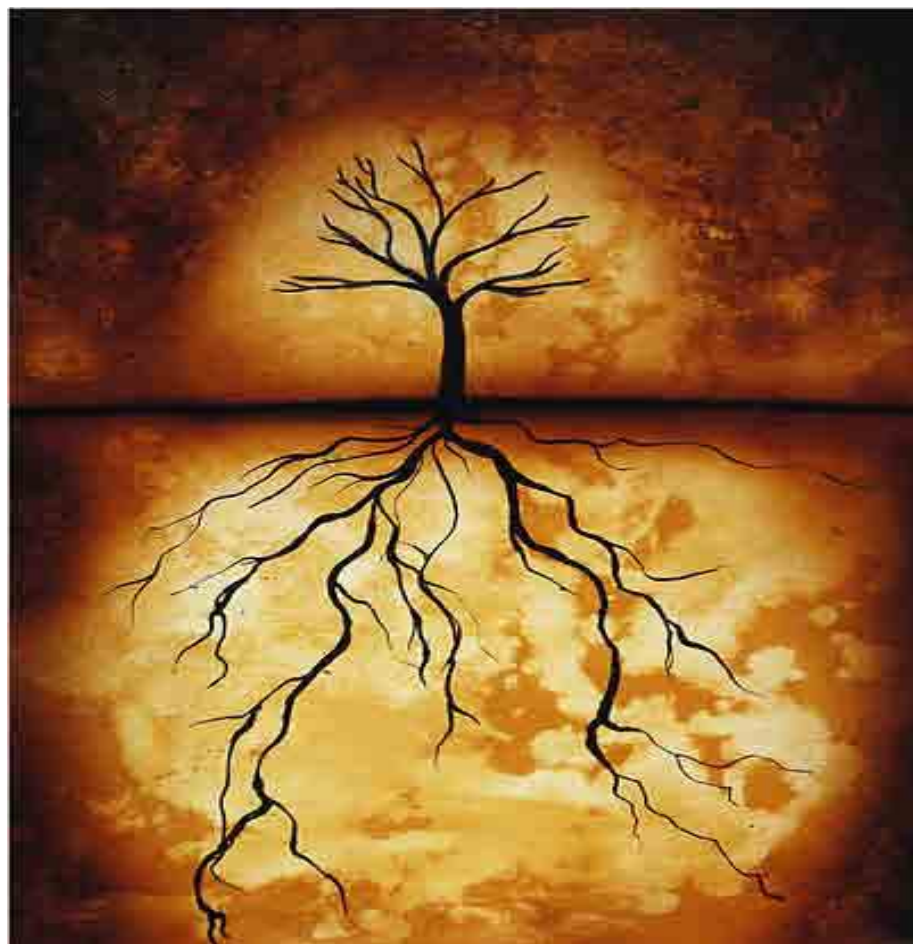
Recognize risks involved. Individuals wearing badges have been known to kidnap and cage others for chalking public property, or for not walking fast enough or for any number of arbitrary "justifications." Have a "what-if" plan figured out. Should you leave a spare set of car keys with a friend? Should you bring your wallet with you? Do people you trust have the names and numbers of those you'd want reached in case something happens?

Effective activism ultimately comes down to the individual. Your ability to effectively communicate the ideas of liberty to other individuals, and to get them to think for themselves, is what will make the difference. I'll conclude this piece with a quote from Ludwig von Mises, which underscores the importance of being an effective activist for the ideas of liberty:

“Everyone carries a part of society on his shoulders; no one is relieved of his share of responsibility by others. And no one can find a safe way out for himself if society is sweeping towards destruction. Therefore, everyone, in his own interests, must thrust himself vigorously into the intellectual battle. None can stand aside with unconcern; the interests of everyone hang on the results. Whether he chooses or not, every man is drawn into the great historical struggle, the decisive battle into which our epoch has plunged us.”

-Ludwig von Mises 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





## The Meaning of July 4th

### By David R. Henderson

[Make a Comment](#) • 
 [Email Link](#) • 
 [Send Letter to Editor](#) • 
 [Save Link](#)



BIT by bit, the meaning of July 4th has been lost. It now involves far too much celebration of the U.S. military and far too much deference to governments. I am a big fan, in many ways, of the U.S. military. As a professor at the

Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, I have taught military officers for the last 22 years. I have come to admire, respect, and, frankly, love hundreds of the U.S. officers I've taught. But the current emphasis on praising the U.S. military is out of all proportion to the military's role.

July 4th has been traditionally thought of as a celebration of our independence from an oppressive government. It's true that the original U.S. military helped gain that independence and that, without them, the United States might still be a British colony. So let's give the military its due. But the goal the U.S. military fought for a quarter of a millennium ago bears little resemblance to the goals it fights for today. Chalmers Johnson, in his book *The Sorrows of Empire*, cites (on page 154) a Department of Defense study statistic that the U.S. government has 725 foreign bases in 38 countries. Virtually none of the countries these bases are near threaten Americans' freedom in any serious way.

Take Iraq. Please. Even though President Bush talks about how the U.S. military is fighting for Iraqi freedom and democracy (often seeming unaware that freedom and democracy are not the same thing), even he is less and less willing to make the case that the U.S. military is fighting in Iraq to preserve American freedom. And no wonder. That case is hard to make.

Think about what freedom is. It includes freedom of speech and the press, the freedom to exchange goods and services with others, the freedom to move around without being stopped by government officials, the right to keep what we produce, and the freedom to choose whom we associate with, to name just a few. Oh, yes, and the freedom not to be imprisoned unless charged with a crime, the so-called right of [habeas corpus](#). Habeas corpus is a precondition for the other freedoms. If the government could imprison us without charging us with a crime, then all the other freedoms would be meaningless. The government wouldn't have to pass any laws restricting the other freedoms; it could simply jail anyone it wished for any reason at any time.

Now ask yourself: Did Saddam Hussein threaten any of these freedoms? No. How about Ho Chi Minh, the head of the North Vietnamese government during the Vietnam war? No. That is not to say that your freedoms weren't and aren't being threatened – but who is threatening them? Look closer to home: Washington, D.C., the state bureaucracy, and your local city hall.

A New York judge said, in 1866, "No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session." But he understated the case. Even when the legislature is out of session, presidents and petty bureaucrats typically are eating away at our freedom. President Bush, for example, claims the right to tap our phone calls if they're made to certain countries and has claimed the right to hold even U.S. citizens in prison without charging them with a crime. This latter means that he has tried to undercut the above-mentioned [habeas corpus](#). State governments regularly violate freedom of association by telling employers whom they must hire and what rules they must follow before they fire. In my town of Pacific Grove, Calif., the local government tells me how thin the branches on my tree can be before I have "permission" to cut them.

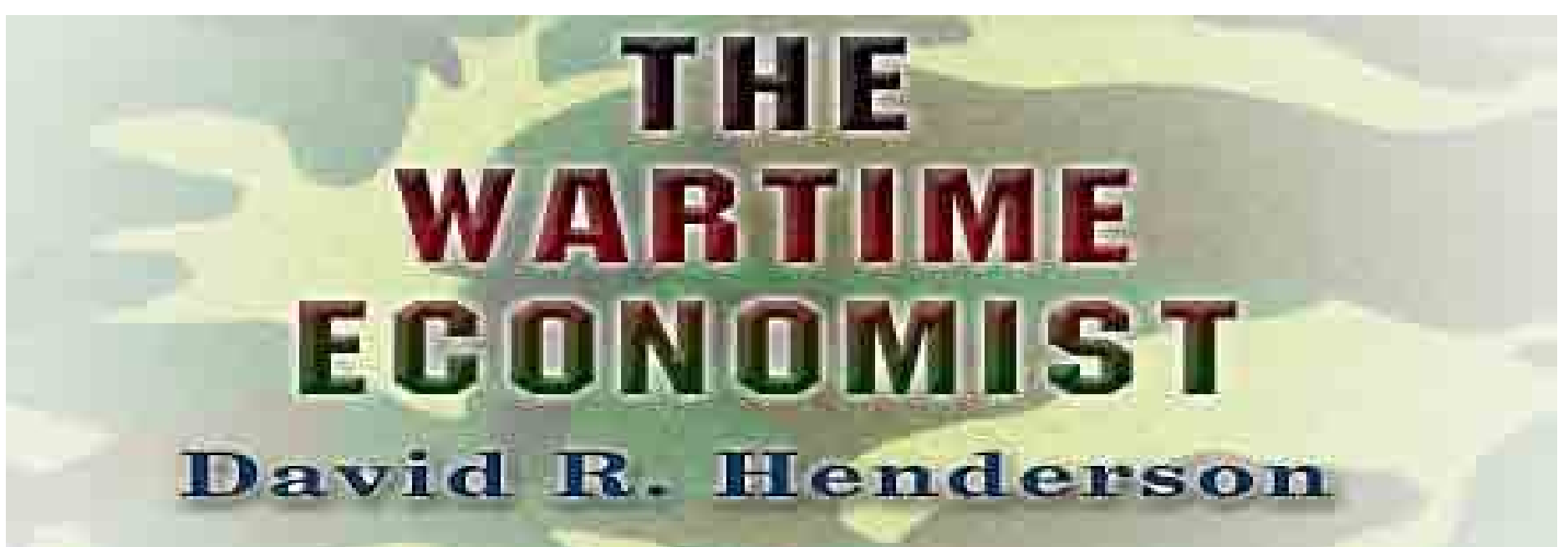
These are the daily assaults on our freedom, and there is little our military can do to stop these assaults. It could organize a coup, but who wants that? Military governments have often been more oppressive than the civilian governments they replace.

We often hear officials tell us to celebrate July 4th by showing up at the parades that these government officials organize. If, instead, we celebrate by, say, having a barbecue or going to a movie or lighting off large firecrackers, the most rabid of these officials accuse us of not being patriotic enough and, in the case of the firecrackers, even try to get us arrested. But the most patriotic thing we can do on this sacred day is to celebrate the real spirit of July 4th. And that means not only celebrating the overthrow of the British, but also ignoring the oppressive life-arrangers in our current governments. 🌿

July 3, 2006

-----  
 © Copyright 2006 by David R. Henderson. For permission to reprint, please contact [Antiwar.com](#).

[Make a Comment](#) • 
 [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • 
 [Save Link](#)





# Take Back Independence Day

## By Adam Kokesh

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



THERE is nothing more anti-American in the world today than the American government. I am proud to be a traitor and a patriot. I am a patriot because I love my country. Not only the people and land and cul-

ture contained within our arbitrary government borders, but what makes a true American patriot is a belief in the ideal of America as a free country and an inherent faith in the self-evident truths the nation was founded on.

It's 2011 and the true patriot is still a scarce figure. Brave, hated, scorned. In America today, the patriot is a traitor to a government that has demonstrated itself to be an enemy of freedom.

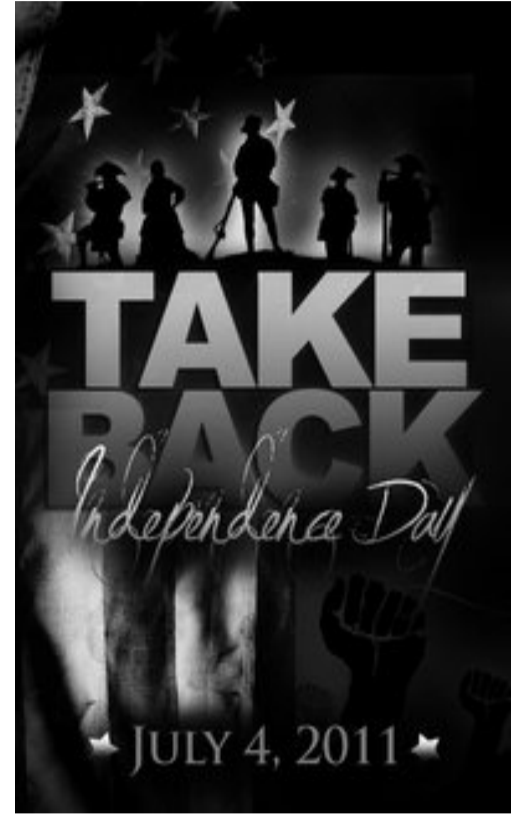
The anniversary of our independence is approaching and it is time to take it back. The founders never intended the 4th of July to be marked by blind nationalism and petty indulgences. If you think everything is hunky dory in America, wear red white and blue on Independence Day and celebrate the illusion of freedoms Americans pretend to enjoy.

If you feel as I feel that America is a shadow of what it could be, a nation on the precipice even, then I ask you to join me in making this Independence Day a chance to reclaim what it means to be American, what it means to be a patriot. If you want to do something about getting those freedoms back, wear black on Independence Day and tell people why. Tell them what you would do to make America better.

I hope you'll join me in this simple act of defiance and create an opportunity to have a forthright conversation about where we are as a country. Maybe next year, we'll actually have something worth celebrating. 🍂

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=206151566087404>

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





## Obama Gets It Half Right by Charles Goyette

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



EXPECTING insight about the economy from Barack Obama is like hoping to learn about Paul Revere from Sarah Palin.

However, inadvertently, the President seems to have gotten something right.

President Obama stumbled into the truth at an appearance with German Chancellor Angela Merkel when he said that he is not worried about a second recession.

Although the evidence is both mounting and credible that the economy is sinking deeper, it is foolish to think the downturn will mean a second recession. That's because the first recession, the one that officially started in December 2007, never really ended.

The pronouncements by the National Bureau of Economic Research are regarded as definitive statements about when economic downturns begin and end. By their calculation, the worst downturn since the Great Depression ended in June 2009 after eighteen months, and the recovery got underway.

Never mind that it took them more than a year after the fact to reach that conclusion.

Look, if the economy hasn't recovered, then a recovery couldn't have begun. It's like saying an airplane took off, even though it never left the ground.

Something was going on that created the illusion of a recovery, but now, two years after it was supposed to have started, there is no recovery in sight.

The price of oil, which when high can really slow the economy down, had been on a tear back when the recession began; it's as high today. The price of gold has almost doubled.



After three and a half years, GDP is virtually unchanged, while retail sales are actually lower.

Some recovery.

More Americans are on food stamps and the unemployment rate is almost twice what it was when the recession began.

In fact the signs of the economy slowing even

more now are visible in the latest jobs numbers. For May the feeble addition of only 54,000 jobs means the unemployment rate ticks up.

Last time the bureau declared a recession over, in November 2001, unemployment didn't pick up for two years.

So where did the bureau get the idea this time that the economy was recovering in June 2009? It must have been influenced by Obama's \$830 billion "stimulus" package. While Bush's billions for bankers were still fresh in the their hands, the new president came into office and began throwing more cash around. There was cash for clunkers, cash for automakers and unions, cash for home buyers, cash for transportation boondoggles, cash for politically-connected green projects, cash for government buildings, cash for the arts.



You get the idea. Everybody was high on Obama billions. It was like Saturday night at the Roxy. But given enough cocaine you can probably even get a corpse to show a pulse.

It must have been a fun party. The Keynesian economists and other statisticians thought that it would go on and on and the bill would somehow take care of itself.

The takeaway from all this is to beware of all such boards, bureaucrats, and bodies, especially those with designs on managing the economy. The economy lives in the experience of people and not in seasonally adjusted statistics and weighted aggregates. If you and sixteen million people like you don't have a job, you're still in a recession.

So when the president says he's not worried about a second recession, and that you shouldn't panic, he's half right.

The first recession never ended. 



Charles Goyette is the author of the New York Times bestseller *The Dollar Meltdown: Surviving the Impending Currency Crisis with Gold, Oil, and Other Unconventional Investments*.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

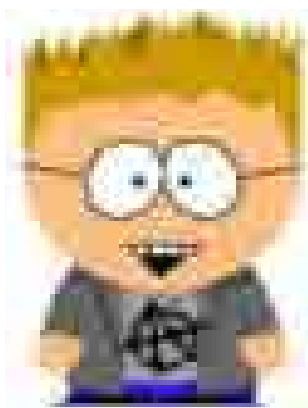




# Las Vegas Meetup Hits the Boards for Ron Paul

## By Brock Lorber

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



“NEVER underestimate the power of 80 mph winds,” Jim Cullen told us on the first visit to the Desert Star Ranch (*More fun than should be allowed!*), co-owned with his brother Jeff.

Although “they” say tracks in the desert take 100 years to “heal,” the trails we cut to the billboards are all but unrecognizable four years later. Scouring winds and vegetation have obscured the tracks which only lizards and sidewinders have traversed lately.



Although all boards had been primed on six sides, attached by hundreds of screws and reinforced by new stringers, the [Big Ron Paul Billboards](#) have nonetheless taken a beating over the last four years. The hillside overlooking the I-15 between Las Vegas and Los Angeles now promotes the “ON PAUL EVOLUTION” (which may be a better slogan!) and “BON PEIL RETIRE THE AWARE” (think about it).


Four wheel drive is helpful but not sufficient to get to the signs, as the '07 crew, who watched Ernie Hancock bury a man lift in the sand, will attest. Carducci (who pushes all credit toward Matt Kingsley and Jimmy Barber) and his brother have contracted with a professional sign company that is also supposedly having troubles getting heavy equipment to the worksite.

But, thanks to a group of Las Vegas fanatics, the big billboards will get a 2012 upgrade.

The signs are printed on new vinyl and ready for installation as soon as the backing boards can be repaired. The signs will be fitted with a solar panel and lights for night illumination.

### A Quarter Century Fuse

In 1986, Mark Carducci started med school. As a former trader on the board of trade he had read the books and done the math: the economy of the United States, courtesy of an unaccountable Federal Reserve Bank, was on an unsustainable course. Surveying the political scene, Carducci was drawn to a Texas OB/GYN who was vying for the presidency of the United States – Dr. Ron Paul.

The group has also put up billboards along the Las Vegas 215 beltway, I-40 in Tucson, and I-90 in Montana. 

“I’d fallen in love with all his things,” Carducci said. However, 25 years later, in his zeal to support the 2012 candidacy of the same Ron Paul, Carducci has run upon a substance no love can overcome: the sands of the Mojave desert.



### Getting There is Half the Battle

The trail from the former Stuckey's (which now sports a convenience store, bar and restaurant) is neither interesting nor remarkable. Any vehicle wandering a foot off either side, though, quickly finds itself buried in the fine sand beneath the brittle desert crust. Getting to the ancient, creosote soaked poles is just one of a million logistical concerns at the sites, which are a quarter mile from the trail.

Donations to the big billboards (no matter how big or small, all are appreciated) can be made to:

Desert Star Ranch  
C/O Jim Cullen  
45307 Afton Road hcr-2  
Baker, California 92309

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





# We're Going to Space and Government is NOT invited!

## by Powell Gammill

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



GOVERNMENTS have always had a monopoly on spaceflight. I remember as a kid seeing the movie, *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Space travel to orbiting space stations, and the moon were trivial and people went there

for business or a holiday. This was the promise that the U.S. government foisted onto a trusting populace to justify their being looted for a government (and secret military) space program. It was a promise they never intended to deliver. Indeed, NASA persuaded the Justice Dept. to prosecute those who from time to time attempted to fly or help those fly as a tourist on a Russian space flight.



*Scene from 2001: Chatting in the space station*

We had a civilian moon program, Apollo that never had a single civilian astronaut until the final mission, Apollo 17. And even then a civilian geologist-astronaut, [Jack Schmitt](#), only got to go because they kicked one of the military as-

tronauts off to make room after scientists made a stink.

We have had a low orbit space shuttle that really had no purpose. A low orbit space station that goes around and around and really has no purpose. And yes, we finally have civilian astronauts for these civilian missions. But to what end? Where is it going? And do we even care?

Every generation produces dreamers, and sometimes those dreamers get to be very wealthy and being dreamers they risk their wealth on what would be an unimaginable dream to the prior generation. So it is this time with space travel. More than one entrepreneur knows damned well if they are ever going to space they will have to do it themselves. This is the story about the first of them.

### 1. SpaceShipOne



*WhiteKnight*

Famed unconventional aircraft designer, Burt Rutan's [Scaled Composites](#) unveiled a gawky looking airplane in 2002 that had people scratching their heads. It looked to be capable of a fairly high altitude flight. It stood taller than normal leading to speculation it was a mother-

**Continues on Page 17**



Continued from Page 16

## We're Going to Space and Government is NOT invited!

ship designed to carry something up to altitude and drop it. It had a very strange cockpit window design. The aircraft was named the [WhiteKnight](#).

A decade previously, Burt Rutan gained experience designing the wing on the first stage of an unmanned rocket, *Pegasus*, designed to be launched at high altitude from a B-52 or a converted airliner and allowing a small satellite to be put into low orbit.



In retrospect, looking at the WhiteKnight's cockpit windows it seems obvious that a manned spacecraft was intended to be dropped. [The WhiteKnight's cockpit is a mockup of the SpaceShipOne's cockpit and therefor forms a flight simulator for SpaceShipOne.] But at the time this was to be a well kept secret. Unveiling the secret SpaceShipOne with [a press release in 2003](#), several test flights consisting of glide drops and a rocket test would occur thereafter. And finally it was announced the first powered space flight of [SpaceShipOne](#) would take place on June 21, 2004.



*SpaceShipOne gliding*

I posted that in my daily newsletter at the time, the *Arizona Liberty News Service*, which had been initially intended to help two local talk show hosts and friends Charles Goyette and Ernest Hancock with up to date statewide news. Ernie called me up and asked if I thought we should go. Hell yes, great idea! Ernie had this vision of making some signs and having some activist fun. I learned [how to make signs from Ernie](#) the next day at his house. We departed for the Mohave desert on June 20th with a rented Dodge Grand Caravan full of freedom lovers. And the rest became history.

Imagine a spontaneous gathering--unbidden--of tens of thousands of people in the Mohave Desert. Fierce sand bearing winds howling at one on the morning after driving all afternoon to get there. Everyone there knowing that if anything went wrong before launch the mission would be postponed. Although I did not see him, Burt Rutan made the rounds that early morning amongst his fans in the throng. And as promised, after the sun started to rise the winds



*Paul Allen, astronaut Mike Melville and Burt Rutan (L-R) in front of SpaceShipOne*

vanished and a beautiful crisp day arrived. We ran into several libertarian friends who had traveled to be there to witness history, including one who had flown in from England.

Billionaire Paul Allen had spent \$25 million to exclusively fund Rutan's dream of a true reusable civilian sub-orbital spacecraft. SpaceShipOne had already become the first non-governmental funded craft from a privately funded company (that is, not a government funded defense contractor) to break the sound barrier.

Now SpaceShipOne had taken off attached beneath the WhiteKnight mother ship, to attempt to become the first non-government funded spacecraft. At its controls was soon to be first civilian astronaut pilot Mike Melville --- a close friend of Burt Rutan's who had inaugurally test flown many of Rutan's designs. He came close to being killed on this flight due to a design flaw.



*SpaceShipOne attached below the WhiteKnight*

There were occasional blasts of communication over the public address system that had been set up for the crowds to listen in as the WhiteKnight spent an hour laboring to climb up to its release height of 50,000 feet. Eventually becoming a spec against the clear blue sky.

Then came time for the release. The sun was overhead and interfering with the view, but we could hear the countdown and then the confirmed release. Eyes straining to catch a glimpse when all of a sudden SpaceShipOne fires its unique throttlerable solid fuel rocket motor (literally, he burns rubber) and the plume is an unmistakable trail flying up and into the sun (or at least it disappears crossing the sun) to reappear many seconds later over the "top" of the sun. Approximate altitude readings are being given as it climbs towards the Internationally recognized (if arbitrary) designation of space: 100,000 kilometers.



*SpaceShipOne starting up on its maiden space flight*

But soon some new phenomenon starts with a somewhat corkscrew spiral on the exhaust contrail. Little do we know but astronaut Melville is fighting to keep control of the ship pointed upward that is spinning around its axis on its way up. Besides combating increased gravity from the spiral he is increasingly losing surface control that keeps his nose pointed up. Finally he thinks he has made it and cuts the engines to let momentum carry him the rest of the way.

Weightless and completely silent, he gets a view of the curved earth down below. On the ground below we know something has gone wrong because the PA has stopped and those with short-

Continues on Page 18



**Continued from Page 17**  
**We're Going to Space and Government is NOT invited!**

waves tuned to the cockpit have heard Melville has heard a loud bang (actually turned out not to be a problem, but it understandably concerned him greatly) had a great deal of trouble maintaining control of the ship (including a failing trim control---he thought about switching to backup and aborting the climb).

Up in the spacecraft, Melville has successfully repositioned the rear tail to make the re-entering spacecraft brake like a shuttlecock and begins his drift back down to re-entry.



An agonizing wait when thoughts of what a catastrophe could mean for the world's first private space ship. And finally word he is gliding in for a landing. And then to silently see that small SpaceShipOne come sailing in for an almost perfect landing (with a bit of a scrape on the rear). History made.



*SpaceShipOne landing*



When the crowd was being wowed by a procession of SpaceshipOne being slowly drawn for a victory parade down the tarmac Burt Rutan is seen to sprint over to the crowd behind the wire and talk to an individual waiving a sign (can be seen in the Discovery Channel commemorative video). The individual, Ernie Hancock, gives the sign to Rutan who hands it up to Melville standing a top SpaceShipOne. What message does Rutan want to convey?



*Rutan hands a sign he got from Ernie Hancock to astronaut Melville "SpaceShipOne - Government Zero"*

After lengthy analysis he successfully passed the 100,000 kilometer "space" by a little more than 300 feet.

There would be two more space flights for SpaceShipOne. But not until the flawed tail design was extended so it would stably work with more tail surface in the extremely thin atmosphere as you flew into outer space. Then two more flights were made: One with Melville again on Sept. 29, 2009 in which the electrical systems failed as he neared the apex of his climb and fortunately the backups worked and he could deploy the shuttlecock re-entry design.



*Tail position rotated up 90 degrees for re-entry*

And then the world's second private astronaut pilot Brian Binnie, on Oct. 4, 2004 in a flawless, efficient and fortunately uneventful flight. Accomplishing two flights in a reused 3 passenger spacecraft in under two weeks turn around secured the \$10 million dollar [Ansari XPrize](#) for Paul Allen's SpaceShipOne.



*Anousheh Ansari, engineer, astronaut and space tourist*

Also watching the launches was another billionaire, Richard Branson, who contracted with Rutan's Scaled Composite to build [SpaceShipTwo](#) a larger passenger space liner for a new space tourism company, [Virgin Galactic](#), making Rutan's dream come true. [Branson's Virgin Atlantic had sponsored another Rutan project [GlobalFlyer](#) which flew around the world nonstop, un-refueled by solo passenger/pilot [Steve Fossett](#) in a record 67 hours.] Flight testing has already begun and the first flights will start in 2012. And yes, it is a toy for millionaires. But it is a beginning and frankly I like the idea of millionaires getting to see how small and fragile the Earth looks below. Obviously over time costs will fall, but being a passenger will probably still remain a wealthy man's purview.

If SpaceShipTwo is commercially successful, an orbital version SpaceShipThree, will be built. This will not be a design without many challenges. Also, Burt Rutan has retired from Scaled Composites on April 1, 2010 and moved back to his home in Idaho where he is "working on one last design."



**Continues on Page 19**



**Continued from Page 18**  
**We're Going to Space and Government is NOT invited!**

**2. The Rocket Racing League**

While at Rutan's Scaled Composites hanger in the Mohave desert we became aware of a adjacent hanger containing a company, [XCOR](#), that was attempting to create a private spacecraft using rockets with a ground takeoff and landing. Ambitious because that takes a lot of fuel.

While they have yet to accomplish that, they evolved into a [Rocket Racing League](#) which is an amazing air race idea in which people flying rockets complete a race around a 3D course above the ground for the quickest time. And wow, will rocketships be fast! I am reminded when aircraft first started it wasn't long before the air races began. This will help propel the technology to new skills, efficiencies and performance just as car racing has done.



Financial problems of getting half a dozen pilots who can afford (or get sponsored) the rocket planes have delayed the first official race, but sooner or later it will, ahem, take off.



**3. Genesis**

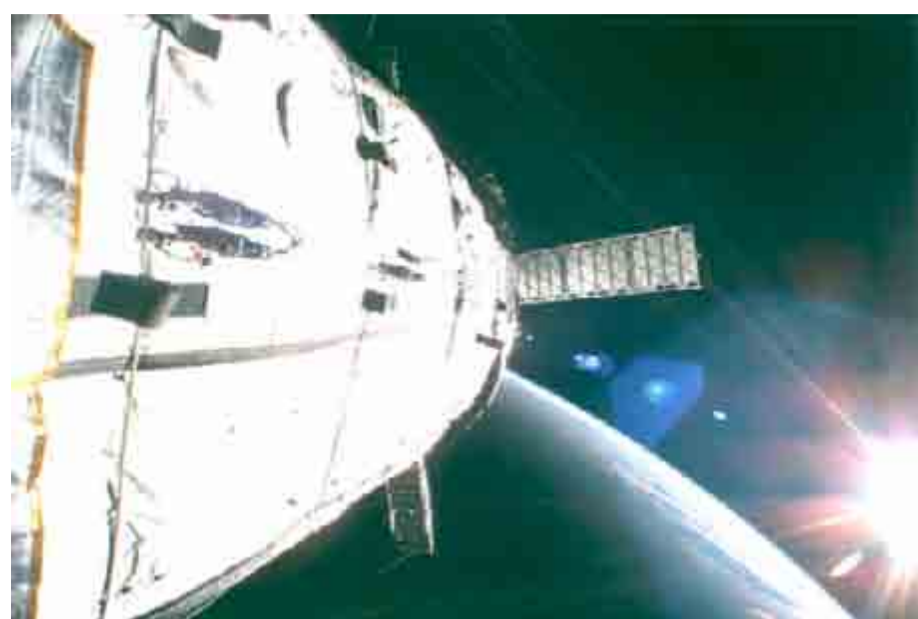
How many of you have heard of the International Space Station (ISS)? How many of you are aware that two private space stations have been orbiting the Earth over 160 miles higher than the ISS? In fact, the first private space station, Genesis, will be celebrating it's fifth year in orbit July 12th.



*Genesis 1*

Robert T. Bigelow, Las Vegas real estate mogul and owner of Budget Suites has invested millions of his own fortune in [Bigelow Aerospace](#). His company licensed the abandoned [TransHab](#) design from NASA in which incredible inflat-

able space and planetary habitats were imagined. Bigelow Aerospace came through with modern fabric designs to contain atmosphere and hold up to the harsh environment of space. Genesis One was the first test design of Bigelow's space station habitat module.



*Genesis 2*

Rocketing off of a launch pad in Russia July 12, 2006, the 1.6 foot diameter package inflated in orbit to 14.4 foot long and 8.3 foot in diameter space station of over 400 cubic feet of interior space. Flanking solar arrays (located at either end which serve as docking/attachment ports) are designed to automatically deploy via the energy imparted in inflating the station. In other words, if the station inflates the solar panels must deploy.

**short videos**



Genesis Two, launched June 28, 2007 and is the same size as Genesis One. It is inflated to 10.5psi as opposed to Genesis One's 7.5psi. Both vehicles are continuing to perform flawlessly with re-

spect to their atmospheric pressure maintenance and internal temperature regulation. A bevy of improvements to Genesis Two's internal sensors and maintenance equipment as well as adding the ability to control station rotation and angular momentum without expending fuel.

Things are going so well that instead of launching a bigger test bed version as planned, the first module of the envisioned space hotel (complex) called Sundancer is being assembled. While it will act as a test bed and be the first privately funded human inhabited space station, if all goes as planned it will become the first hub of several even larger modules (called BA330) modules to be added. Sundancer will have an internal volume of over 6,300 cubic feet. The BA330 modules are over 11,600 cubic feet (apiece!).



*Illustration: Sundancer module*

It has not been without its problems though. The United States' government has caused numerous delays under the exporting munitions laws that delayed shipping both Genesis modules to Russia, and the Sundancer module keeps getting pushed back on Falcon 9 (discussed next) launch schedule because NASA needs the rockets for its ISS commitment now that the Space Shuttle is retiring and NASA has no rockets.

**Continues on Page 20**



**Continued from Page 19**  
**We're Going to Space and Government is NOT invited!**

Bigelow is clearly not pleased by this. But they are still committed to a 2014 launch.

I will say of all of the space craft I am discussing today, THIS is by far the most exciting idea. I can see using these small light wight modules that inflate into big structures in space, as space ship modules attached to a support carrier and as habitats on other worlds. They seem as tough as nails. I am confident Bigelow Aerospace will pull it off.



*Illustration 1: Illustration: Linked BA330 modules*

Now besides tourism and exploration we need a genius to figure out a profitable use for outer space and harvesting what is in it. Bigelow has got the working space for you (and indeed envisions leasing space to any nation or company that cannot afford its own complete space program but can afford to lease space on the Bigelow Aerospace orbiting shelter for their own space program and astronauts) and SpaceX (below) has the launch platform to get them there and back.

**4. Falcon 1, Falcon 9**

Elon Musk made his millions in co-founding PayPal and is the youngest of the above entrepreneurs. Like the others, he has dreamed of working in space. And so he set about to make it happen. He created SpaceX to develop a heavy lift launch vehicle.

**Falcon 1**

SpaceX started out with a test bed prototype and commercial **Falcon 1 rocket**. A two stage partially reusable\* rocket with a single engine per stage design. All engines have been designed by SpaceX. The first stage uses a **Merlin 1C engine** that is used on the Falcon 9 and the second stage uses an engine designated the **Kestral** that is designed to operate in the vacuum of space and be re-ignitable. The newer Falcon 1e (enhanced) is capable of putting over 2,200 pounds in low Earth orbit or 1,000 pounds into sun-synchronous orbit for under \$11 million making it the second least expensive payload delivery cost per weight delivery system. The least expensive is the Falcon 9 discussed below coming in at around half the price per kilogram of the Falcon 1!

\* = unproven: never been successfully recovered, heat shielding problems still need to be worked out



*Falcon 1 launch, flight 1*

The Falcon 1 test program was not surprisingly marred -- it is not easy to build a reliable rocket capable of reaching orbit -- by several failures. **The first flight** on March 24, 2006 lasted only 25 seconds before the main engine shutoff due to on-board fire. An investigation revealed the wrong type of washer was used to mount the fuel line that sheared from the vibrations of lift-off immediately allowing a fuel line to rupture on the first stage leading to fire.



*Closeup of first stage on fire*

**The second launch** took place a year later due to the delay of the investigation into the failure/fire of the first test launch. The first stage functions flawlessly, but the second stage prematurely shutdown at seven and a half minutes into the flight with the payload falling back to Earth. The shutdown was caused by a spin imparted into the second stage after the second stage engine nozzle was smacked by the first stage (inter stage) fairing --- in between the first and second stage that the second stage sits on top of. This resulted in an increasing roll (spin) of the second stage that pushes the fuel towards the outside of the tank so its fuel eventually becomes unavailable for the engine.

**The third launch** a year and a half later after a re-designed fairing separation system and interior fuel baffles was another failure as the momentum (from the new Merlin 1C engine increases residual pressures) for the first stage leads it to smack back into the second stage during separation due to a change in thrust delay due to a new modified engine being used.

During each one of these launches there are many successes and they learn and adapt from each mishap.

On September 28, 2008, **the fourth launch** is the charm, with the second stage shutting down on schedule nine and a half minutes after launch **parking the "package" into a 10 year orbit**. They also successfully performed an engine relight in orbit to adjust the orbit. This makes the Falcon 1 the first privately developed liquid fuel rocket to orbit the Earth.



*View from the second stage about half way up*

**The fifth flight** was also successful delivering their first major commercial payload, the **RazakSAT satellite**, into **its intended orbit**. The Falcon 1 has been retired and replaced by an en-

**Continues on Page 21**



**Continued from Page 20**  
**We're Going to Space and Government is NOT invited!**



*Dragon spacecraft splashdown after orbital re-entry*



hanced version, the Falcon 1e that should debut this year for commercial launches.

**Falcon 9**

Elon Musk's dream. A rocket capable of lifting significant payloads in to orbit and leaving orbit. Capable of carrying manned space craft to wherever you want to go. And he is making it happen.

The Falcon 9 is essentially a two stage rocket that uses nine of the same first stage Falcon 1 engines (Merlin 1C) on its first stage. The first stage is also designed to be recovered\* and reused. So eventually will be the second stage be reusable\*, but that will require a full heat shield (*maybe a ballute?*) and an attitude control reentry system.

The second stage is simply a shorter version if the first stage with a single Merlin 1C (vacuum variant) engine which saves money on tooling. The Falcon 9 is capable of lifting 23,000 pounds into low Earth orbit or 10,000 pounds into geostationary transfer orbit.



*Falcon 9 passing through the sound barrier*



Unlike the Falcon 1 program there have been two Falcon 9 launches and both have been stunningly successful! [The first Falcon 9 launch](#) occurred June 4, 2010. The second launch occurred just before Christmas and included the *Dragon* space capsule which successfully orbited the Earth twice and then re-entered with the capsule splashing down within a mile of its target and being successfully recovered, making SpaceX the first private company to successfully orbit and recover a spacecraft!

As a result NASA has now contracted with SpaceX to resupply the International Space Station through 2017 using the Dragon unmanned cargo supply ship. Wanna place bets on the manned version delivering astronauts soon too?

**Falcon Heavy**

[A 28 engine 2 stage variant](#) of the Falcon 9 capable of lifting payload to low earth orbit of 117,000 pounds, or 42,000 pounds into geostationary transfer orbit, or 35,000 pounds into trans-lunar trajectory or 30,000 pounds into Mars trajectory. Sniffing the dream yet?

The Falcon Heavy is essentially a Falcon 9 with two more Falcon 9 first stages strapped on. It is scheduled for its first demo flight next year. I see no reason why three, four, five or even six first stages can't be added to a Falcon 9 under this program's modular design and the Falcon 9's first stage circular dimension for ever greater lift capability.

SpaceX plans its capacity to eventually launch 10 Falcon Heavy and 10 Falcon 9 annually, and it is looking to easily have the customers.

While Virgin Galactic's private SpaceShipTwo will hopefully have a profound inspirational effect on the wealthy and later on as cost's drop 'the well-to-do' that take a trip in it, the SpaceX's Falcon 9 variants combined with Bigelow Aerospace's modular space habitats and extra-planetary shelters IS an extraordinarily rich private space program. Now we need someone to figure out how to make a buck in space (besides Virgin Galactic) which ultimately will be why we NEED to go to space and stay in space. Entrepreneurs? [Robert Bigelow hints at mining the moon for tritium for profit.] 🦃



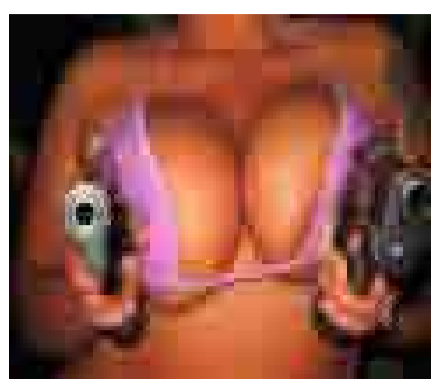
[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



# THE MONTH IN GUNS

By Chip Saunders

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



SO while there are many things that happened this month (or continue on from previous months) which are gun-related, some you may already have heard about in the news, and others not so much. I'll touch on the bigger stories you may already know something about towards the end. But let's start off with some of what you probably heard nothing about.

**BALTIMORE** – Police issue intelligence bulletin threat warning to officers regarding stickers on cars showing support for 2nd Amendment:



Criminal Intelligence Section issued an “*Intelligence Bulletin*” warning officers about persons displaying the 2nd Amendment decal pictured here.

For context, understand that this graphic is inspired by one police are all familiar with, which is the “Thin Blue Line” sticker that many law enforcement supporters display prominently on their driver's side rear windows.



The stickers started out as an exclusive item that used to only be available as a token gift for donating money to various police benevolent associations who care for surviving family members of cops killed in the line of duty. (Today they are available via ebay and others.) The black field represents the deadly danger cops face, while the blue represents the cops themselves. Conversely, the 2nd Amendment sticker's black field represents the dangerous world around us all, while the silver boundary of the center black stripe represents the protection and codification in law of the 2nd Amendment, delineating the center black stripe as representing the lethal rights of The People to wield that lethal force when right and proper.

The bulletin contains the following caption in bold red letters:

“...while the individual who is displaying the symbol may not be armed, the presence of the symbol provides an early warning indicator that you MAY be about to encounter an armed individual.”

Why the Baltimore City Police Department feels the need to profile persons who choose to support the U.S. Constitution? James H. Green, of the Baltimore City Police Department tried to explain with the following statement:

“...traffic stops are the single most dangerous encounter for law enforcement. It certainly is practice for law enforcement to ask operators about weapons for safety reasons only. The presence of a decal is NOT justification in itself for a traffic stop.”

It later was revealed that the Intelligence Bulletin did not originate with the Baltimore Police, but rather, was actually a product of WARTAC, the Washington Regional Threat Analysis Center.

So remember kids,...if you show evidence on your vehicle of supporting the wrong elements of the Bill Of Rights or Constitution, you may be profiled by police. Because you are a potential threat. Feel better?

**TUCSON** – Gun rights activists are familiar with Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership (JPFO), which penny for penny and pound for pound is the most hardcore unrepentant and undeterred bad-ass firearms rights organization in America. Founded by Aaron Zelman, their goal is to remind folks that the Holocaust only happened because Jews allowed themselves to be disarmed by gun-control, and fight such deadly and potentially genocidal laws and ideas here with the same “Never Again” zeal modern Jews are justifiably known for. Alas, this is not as easy a task as one might think, since the American Jewish community has a thick wide stripe of leftist collectivism running through its center, going all the way back to before the Bolshevik revolution in Russia. And despite how they were slaughtered during those dark years in Europe, most American Jews today still advocate for disarmament, failing their progeny to learn from their recent past. Aaron Zelman, through JPFO, has worked for years to rectify this, notably by publishing some great works, such as the book which exposes how the United States' own gun-control laws are based on (and sometimes copied directly from, word for word) the same Nazi gun laws that left the Jews defenseless before the SS troops.

Tragically, the iconic Mr. Zelman passed away in December. Many have wondered what would become of JPFO, the organization created by this patriotic and dedicated American.

It was announced this past week that a new Executive Director for JPFO has been named. And for me, it is personally very satisfying to say that I have known the man for many years, and he is a fellow Arizona gun rights and political activist, Charles Heller. Chuck is a political refugee from Chicago, where he grew up as the son of a cop and grandson of a judge. A certified firearms instructor, radio show host and personality, he is also one of 4 co-founders of the Arizona Citizen's Defense League (AZCDL), which in a short time has become **THE** premier lobbying force in Arizona politics on behalf of gun-owners. A real bulldog, with a similar Chicagoesque stature to match, Chuck Heller will no doubt do his best to fill Aaron Zelman's very big shoes and do honor to the role he has been entrusted with. To learn more about JPFO, check out their website <http://jpfo.org/>

**PHOENIX** – Do medical marijuana users/sellers have a right to self-defense?

While individual rights have been under assault on an even wider scale in the last decade in the name of the fight against terrorism, two such rights that have been bucking that trend and gaining ground have been gun rights and personal medical rights. Ill-conceived gun restrictions of all kinds all over the country have been in retreat. Likewise, the decriminalization of marijuana for medical purposes at the state level has also been advancing. It was only a matter of time before these two trend lines met in some sort of way that would cause courts,

**Continues on Page 23**



## Continued from Page 22 - The Month in Guns

cops, legislators and common folk to all gasp and pause to wonder.

Generally speaking (which means I understand that the following statement is not *universally* true, but is mostly accurate), those who support liberalizing access to marijuana are of a much different political paradigm than those who support the same for guns. Gun folks tend to be from the conservative camp, while medical marijuana folks tend to be from the liberal/progressive side of the tracks. And while they may occasionally in spirit support the other, each side looks at the other as a liability to their own pet passion. Both sides work hard to show that their particular freedom they are fighting for is not inherently dangerous to society and should be regulated less than it currently is.

Which is why both weed and gun supporters alike winced and cringed recently at the news about a grower/seller of medical marijuana who defended himself against armed robbers this month, killing one of them. Arizona has been a leader in both the marijuana and gun freedom movements, so it just makes sense that this happened here. Law Enforcement types have tried to scare the public with claims that decriminalizing weed will lead to increased crime in residential neighborhoods, while gun-control types have similarly tried to convince folks that gun freedom will result in blood running in the streets. While, rather obviously, none of these is true and quite ridiculous on their face, the June 3rd shooting in Phoenix is being spun by the critics of both issues to support the return to a heavy government hand in controlling these items.

Nearly 4 weeks later, the Phoenix Police and Maricopa County Attorney's Office have still not released the name of the victim who defended himself,...nor have they levied charges against him. Which for us Phoenix residents is kind of odd, because our knowledge of the personalities running those organizations informs us that they would desperately like to string this individual up for a public flogging. Why has there been no movement on this case? Well, let's look at some few specifics that are known:

**Issue #1.** The seller received his state-issued card on May 25th. But began advertizing and had mature plants for sale almost immediately. To a prosecutor, this might suggest the defendant/victim/grower was not such a strict observer of law and regulations as having complied with the state's program might suggest. To have those plants on hand that week, he had to have grown them before he was licensed by the state. That could get sticky for him.

**Issue #2.** On May 24th, Gov. Jan Brewer directed Attorney General Tom Horne to file a lawsuit asking a federal judge to weigh in on the legality of the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act (AMMA). Citing concerns that state employees who process AMMA applications approving medicinal marijuana dispensaries could be jeopardized with federal prosecution for violating federal drug laws, Brewer claims to seek some sort of direction from the courts that state employees may move forward. But until such a response is received, the governor has directed that the application process be placed on hold (which WAS due to begin accepting dispensary applications on June 1st). Thusly, when the licensee involved in the shooting received his card the next day, on May 25th, there would be no dispensaries for the foreseeable future. It seems he decided to try and fill that void in absence of an operating state. In the vacuum left by the state's abdication of its role in implementing the program approved by the voters and the state government, was the grower within or outside of the law in filling that void? The decision may rest heavily on the answer to issue #1 above.

**Issue #3.** Possession of both drugs and guns at the same time. Because the feds have pioneered the sen-

tencing enhancements for having both items at once, the state of Az. hasn't really focused on doing this at the state level. But the fact that Az. has been liberalizing (making more free) its laws in regards to carrying guns, legislators, courts and gun rights activists are sensitive to whatever might cast these efforts in a disparaging light. There are those who will seek to use this incident for such ill aims. Some gun rights advocates have been hesitant to say that those rights extend also to medical marijuana patients and staffers, and would be perfectly willing to throw them under the bus. Despite this, however, both Oregon and Rhode Island have affirmed that medical marijuana card holders retain all gun rights as the average citizen. Odd for states that are havens for liberalism, except when seen in light of trying to make Med. Marijuana work. Arizona, however, is quite Republican, and this could play differently here, even though the Arizona gun culture and community is perhaps the most ardent and vigorous in the nation. Currently, state law does not say having a gun and medical marijuana together is illegal,...yet, neither does it say that it is *not* illegal. This presents an opportunity for prosecutorial mayhem and recklessness involving Arizona gun law. All of which is completely separate from the federal liability this man is facing. Regardless of what does or does not happen to him at the state level,...I would bet my first born child he will be prosecuted federally for gun violations revolving around drugs.

This case will get very interesting, regardless of what happens, and it will have far-reaching effects. But it really all comes down to this: **Does a legally-compliant medical marijuana grower have a right to self-defense?** Once again, Arizona will be the focal point of ground breaking developments in the fight for liberty. We will keep you posted.

In a related incident out of Colorado, a woman there growing marijuana legally for medical patients was also robbed, and she killed her attacker. To make a long story short,...woman gets licensed by state to have, grow medical pot. She hires a man to outfit her home with the piping to feed her indoor crop. Knowing she has pot and perhaps money as well, he decides to rob her a few weeks later. That went so well, he decides to come back and do it again. Now he's dead. In this instance, no gun was used. She grabbed a kitchen knife to defend her castle. She is now charged with 2nd Degree Murder.

Why the difference between these two very similar circumstances? Good question.

The Phoenix man went to his attackers' residence to conduct an actual transaction. So he was in the process of selling weed, and took his gun with him.

The Colorado woman was not conducting a transaction, and was merely at home doing nothing at all, and doesn't even own a gun. She was attacked in her own home,...TWICE,...before she acted. Yet she is the one charged with harming someone?

The difference seems to be that the cops and prosecutors in Colorado are even more biased against the medical marijuana movement than they are in Phoenix, and simply seem prepared to railroad someone they disagree with more so than authorities in Arizona. It is likely something similar will happen elsewhere, and we may well see there as well a different reaction by the authorities to the particular circumstances. But my take on all this is that the question will soon become unavoidable and will end up before the courts: **Do medical marijuana users/sellers have a right to self-defense?** So far, the answer depends on where you live,...and could still change.

Continues on Page 24



## Continued from Page 23 - The Month in Guns

**IRAQ** – As US prepares to depart, citizens fearful of future are arming up.

Even during the heart of the violence experienced during the US occupation in Iraq, US forces allowed citizens to keep an AK47 infantry rifle in their home for personal protection. It was a very enlightened policy that nearly no other invading army in the world would ever allow under their watch. And that's nothing new for America. German citizens under occupation were allowed to keep their guns at the end of WW2. (Although that policy was not followed in Japan, where all guns and swords were required to be turned over to American authorities. Racism? Perhaps.) But as the US has been handing more and more authority and responsibility over to the Iraqis themselves, Iraqi authorities have begun (predictably) scaling back the ability for citizens to be legally armed. Many have been required to surrender and turn in their weapons. For a while, many Iraqis complied, convinced to do so by the fact the Americans were doing a somewhat good job of keeping order. But as the departure of American forces draws nearer and citizens are left at the whim of their own notorious over-lords, demand for illicit, unregistered guns has skyrocketed, and fortunes are being made by those who can provide them.

Just like the American drug scene, although the guns are now illegal for all but a few to own, everyone knows where to get them. The only question is whether someone has the money to pay. For the entrepreneur, no other economic activity in Baghdad right now offers as much possibility for financial growth and success as does becoming a gun-runner.

**TUCSON** – When the police screw up, it's time to play "Smear The Victim".

In early May, Tucson PD got national attention when their regional SWAT team raided several homes in a drug investigation to serve search warrants. At one of the houses, where a person on the far periphery of the investigation lived, a shootout ensued, and the suspect was killed. His name was Jose Guerena. A former combat Marine who served tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, Jose awoke to his door being broken in and armed men invading his home. Quite naturally, he grabbed one of several weapons he had. That reaction got him killed.

There has been much debate about the incident. That debate has centered around whether a raid of his residence was truly warranted, and the fact he not only did the resident never fire a round, but the SWAT team appeared to be very reckless and unprofessional in hosing Jose with over 75 rounds, 22 of which hit him. It all has gone very badly for the Tucson PD in the aftermath. The public is hostile to this incident and calling for heads to roll.

Unable to adequately defend their actions, Tucson PD has begun trying to smear the deceased Jose Guerena. Their most recent attempt, and perhaps their most underhanded, was the recent revelation that one of the guns found in the Guerena home was stolen in a Tucson burglary 3 years ago. Because some of the other allegations (unsubstantiated so far) made by TPD against Jose are that he was associated with armed rip-offs of competing drug gangs and hijackings of drugs, this stolen weapon might seem to support TPD's profile of Guerena as a bad guy. But aside from the fact that Jose worked too many shifts at the copper mine where he was employed to have much time to do these activities, the burglary occurred while Jose was deployed overseas, and wasn't even in the country!!

But to average people, especially those outside of Arizona, the fact he was in possession

of a stolen gun seems damning. However, here in Arizona, guns are considered not much different than any other piece of property, and are traded, bartered, sold, given away or made gifts of very frequently, and with the same scrutiny as you would expect with a toaster oven. It is not uncommon for people in the gun community who acquire various guns through private party transactions to occasionally acquire unknowingly one that is stolen. They may never learn that it is stolen until one day they pawn it or encounter a police officer in the field who runs the serial number. And the police are completely aware that this occurs innocently to many unwary buyers. And because of this, the press release by Tucson PD about the stolen gun found in the deceased's home where they killed him is officially a dirty trick.

**CHICAGO** – Chicago: Rahm Emanuel's New Moonbat Police Chief Blames City's Epidemic Gun Violence On "Government-Sponsored Racism" And... Sarah Palin?...

The pervasion of illegal guns in America's black and Latino communities is a result of "government-sponsored racism," akin to "slavery, segregation, black codes [and] Jim Crow," Rahm Emanuel's new police chief, Garry McCarthy, told parishioners at St. Sabina's Church earlier this month.

"This is sensitive. You know, because everybody's afraid of race. Have you noticed that? Everybody's afraid of race. I'm not afraid of race," said McCarthy, who told of growing up in the Bronx with guns, gangs and drugs plentiful.

"Let's see if we can make a connection here. Slavery. Segregation. Black codes. Jim Crow. What, what did they all have in common? Anybody getting scared? Government sponsored racism."

"Now I want you to connect one more dot on that chain of the African American history in this country, and tell me if I'm crazy: Federal gun laws that facilitate the flow of illegal firearms, into our urban centers across this country, that are killing our black and brown children," he said.

McCarthy blasted the NRA, telling parishioners that their communities have paid the price while the gun manufacturers are getting "rich and living in gated communities."

And he told an anecdote of just one night with the New York Police Department. After returning home from investigating a pair of shootings, he said he flipped on the television to relax, only to find "Sarah Palin's Alaska" being broadcast.

"She was caribou hunting, and talking about the right to bear arms," he said. "Why wasn't she at the crime scene with me?"

Richard Pearson, the Executive Director of the Illinois State Rifle Association, said McCarthy is only attacking gun-rights advocates because "he has nothing else to offer."

"He's not talking about what the real problems are. He's not facing the fact his gang unit failing, that the graduation rate in Chicago Public Schools is about 50 percent. He never mentions the economic problems," said Pearson.

Source: <http://www.nbcchicago.com/blogs/ward-room/emanuel-mccarthy-sabina-124439094.html#ixzz1QrGf6EA2>



**WASHINGTON DC** – "American Al Qaida" Adam Gadahn releases video telling muslims in America to go to gun shows, buy guns, start shooting people.

With Osama Bin Laden no gone, there is a bit  
**Continues on Page 25**



## Continued from Page 24 - The Month in Guns

of a struggle within Al Qaida to see who shall be recognized as its new leader. In an apparent bid to get followers to do something remarkable and noteworthy towards the Great Satan and thereby show he is worthy of elevation within AQ, Adam Gadahn, the California-born muslim convert from a Jewish family who has been the voice on many AQ videos over the years, encouraged muslims in America to lash out independently.

“Muslims in the west have to remember that they are perfectly placed to play an important and decisive part against the Zionists and Crusaders.” “This is a golden opportunity”, and “America is absolutely awash with easily obtainable firearms. You can go down to a gun show at the local convention center, and come away with a fully automatic assault rifle without a background check and most likely without having to show an identification card. So what are you waiting for?”

While Gadahn is (typically for a Californian) ignorant about how to acquire a machinegun in America today (they are NOT just cash & carry items at gun shows or anywhere else), he none the less plays into the fears promoters of gun-control have been trying to foster for years; that any nutball can go get a gun and start laying waste on the public. Is it likely some muslim in America has seen this message and taken it to heart, and will do something like Gadahn encourages? Perhaps so. But if/when they do, they will soon be cut down by an American citizen with their own gun, and just as in Israel, won't get very far at all. In fact, the reason you see and hear about bombings in the holy land is because this has been tried before,...and failed. So many martyrs for Islam were killed and/or neutralized in Israel before they wounded very many people (or any at all in many cases) with mere firearms, that they turned to the much more effective use of bombs. If we ain't having bombings in cafe's and sporting events and on buses now, I suspect there ain't gonna be a whole lot of jihadist shooting rampages. And any that do occur are just gonna be amateurish examples of Al Qaida desperation.

**WASHINGTON DC** – Bloomberg's Mayors Against Illegal Guns loves Adam Gadahn

And as part of the overall theme to the story above, agent of victim disarmament, Michael Bloomberg, has had his little group Mayors Against Illegal Guns capitalize on the video Gadahn made. Using the emotionally inflammatory tag line that “Terrorists who want to buy guns have friends on Capitol Hill,” Bloomberg has funded a TV ad campaign aimed at closing the so-called “gun show loophole”. Advocating registration of gun-owners themselves, Bloomberg's message is “you're checked against a *terrorist* watch list to board an airplane, but you don't have to be checked when buying assault weapons.”

*Unfortunately for Bloomberg, most Americans have tired of the TSA bullspit many years ago, and the TSA's bumbling inadequacy and penchant for violating people and their rights is known to the common Joe. Perhaps identifying his proposed gun-control schemes with the losers at TSA is not such a winning idea.*

**LIBYA** – *And speaking of putting guns in the hands of terrorists....*

*French officials have reluctantly conceded recently that they have indeed been air dropping rifles, machineguns, rockets and other small arms to tribesmen in the Libyan desert. Tons and tons and aircraft load after aircraft load have been delivered and continue to be. Nothing wrong with that really, as all God's children*

*deserve access to weapons. And Lord knows, without those guns, those tribesmen would be nearly powerless and naked before Gaddafi or whomever else sought to rule them.*

*But various European government leaders are in a tizzy about this. Why? Well, it is well known in law enforcement circles in Europe that many of the truly heavy firepower guns that show up in the hands of criminals there in the disarmed utopia come from North Africa. Currently, the ratio is about 40% smuggled in from the former soviet bloc, 10% are left over from WW2 (which littered Europe with spare guns), and about 35% come from war-torn regions just across the Mediterranean from Europe's southern coast. With most of the governments of the North African coast now in severe state of flux and not operating with full vigor, combined with the ability of local fishermen to now easily acquire these guns, some will chose to sell them into the black market for delivery to Spanish, Italian or French criminal gangs. European authorities fear that with the increased availability of weaponry, they soon might see shootouts similar those going on in Mexico.*

**ARIZONA** – *State police get hacked*

*A couple weeks ago, Arizona's Dept. of Public Safety had several email accounts of their personel hacked, and many documents and other information were shared on the internet with the rest of the world. For those here in Arizona who have permits for carrying concealed weapons (CCW), there was much consternation that perhaps the database of permit holders (which is administered by DPS) might have also been compromised. Aside from issues of privacy, CCW permit holders feared that enterprising criminals would want that information so as to know what residences would make good targets for burglary to acquire guns. But the information inherently held on CCW card holders is so complete, it would also make for very easy stealing and co-opting of identities and fraud.*

*So far, word is that the CCW database was not part of the hack, and supposedly it is a stand-alone system that operators enter and extract info from directly on site only. Perhaps. But we'll see.*

**CALIFORNIA** – *Licensed gun dealers being asked in survey to identify their own weaknesses*

*Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) across the country began receiving this month an offer to participate in a survey of their business. The survey is put out by the University of California at Davis, by one “Project Director” named Garen Wintermute. The cover letter for the survey says:*

*“I am writing to ask for your help in completing the first nationwide survey of businesses and individuals who are Federal Firearms Licensees. We hope to understand better the unique perspective of firearms licensees on important social issues and the firearms business itself. We are also collecting the first nationwide information on the day-to-day business experience of firearm licensees.”*

*That sounds harmless enough. But when you look up who this Garen Wintermute fellow is, suddenly, what at first appears harmless becomes an obvious Trojan Horse.*

*Dr. Wintermute, who serves as the director of the Violence Prevention Research Program at UC Davis, is perhaps best known for authoring the anti-gun report “Ring of Fire: The Handgun Makers of Southern California.” More recently,*

**Continues on Page 26**



## Continued from Page 25 - The Month in Guns

Dr. Wintermute and his team conducted “undercover operations” of gunshows for their report, “*Inside Gun Shows: What Goes on When Everyone Thinks Nobody is Watching.*”

Given Dr. Wintermute’s history, it is clear that this firearms retailer survey will be used as a tool to justify and support legislation to curb the lawful commerce of firearms and the individual rights of law-abiding Americans.

Interestingly, each survey had its own tracking number. Which means that all answers could be permanently assigned in a database to the particular FFL holder who answered. If the conductor of the survey could be trusted to keep all data confidential, that would be one thing. But Garen Wintermute is not such a guy. More importantly, the program is funded with both federal and state tax dollars, and as such, all program materials are by law to be archived for potential auditing, and are able to be reviewed by nearly anyone who can present government credentials and a supposedly valid reasoning for demanding to see the data.

You can see the survey for yourself here:

[http://www.nssf.org/share/PDF/FirearmsSurvey\\_withCoverLetter.pdf](http://www.nssf.org/share/PDF/FirearmsSurvey_withCoverLetter.pdf)

**WASHINGTON DC** – BATF getting grilled for their role in smuggling guns to Mexico

You likely have already heard about the scandal over how the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (BATF) allowed known buyers of guns for Mexican criminal activities to make their purchases and go off into the sunset. They did this supposedly to let the cases “grow” and learn more about where the guns went, how they got there, and other details of these criminal syndicates. All with an eye (it is claimed) toward eventually shutting down a large network of suppliers than just a few small fish. But after 2 ½ years, thousands of guns over the border into Mexico and no arrests, some American law enforcement personnel are now dead, killed by these same weapons that BATF let walk. The scandal earned the moniker Project GunWalker, but its official name was Operation Fast & Furious.

Congressman Darrel Issa (R, Ca.), chairman of the House Oversight Committee, has been conducting an investigation of this ugly turd of a scandal. Issa has been fighting an uphill battle, as the agency and other various other persons with knowledge of the operation have been doing their best to stonewall him and not release any details or information. If it were not for some BATF agents who were upset with their agency and who have agreed to testify before the Committee, the public wouldn’t know much even today.

Recent revelations have included that when Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was shot in Tucson earlier this year, BATF agents familiar with Operation Fast & Furious were in a panic as the news of the assassination attempt broke. After Gun Walker automatic rifles were found at the scene of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry’s murder, an agent testified that “there was a sense like every other time, even with [Representative Gabrielle] Giffords’ shooting, there



was a state of panic, like, oh, God, let’s hope this is not a weapon from that case.”



The weapon involved in Giffords’ shooting turned out to not be one of the “gunwalker” pistols. But it shows the degree to which ATF

agents were aware that it was only a matter of time before guns they let go into the wind ended up causing casualties for which they would be blamed.

ATF has a long history of not tolerating critics or whistle-blowers, and the agents who came forward to testify knew well that they were ending their careers by doing so. The first of these to officially get the ax last week was Vincent Cefalu, who even before *Fast & Furious* had run afoul of supervisors for being a vocal critic of some illegal wiretaps. A 30 year veteran of the agency, Cefalu was sidelined to menial duties and tasks. Determined to play a positive role in cleaning up the agency he had devoted his adult life to, Cefalu and his wife started a website called [www.cleanupatf.org](http://www.cleanupatf.org) where agents could anonymously talk critically about problems in the ATF and what needed to be done. It was at [www.cleanupatf.org](http://www.cleanupatf.org) where agents first began to publicly talk about *Fast & Furious*, with the intent that outside news sources would pick up the story, which they did. After *Fast & Furious* became public news, Cefalu spent most of his time “changing batteries or filling cars with gas.” He has described “Operation Fast and Furious,” as designed to flood Mexico with American guns, as a violation of the law, maintaining “there was no intent to follow the guns... this never had a chance of succeeding.” Ironically, one of the reasons given for Cefalu’s termination was “a lack of candor.” That is code-speak for the fact that Cefalu refused to allow ATF administrators access to his website’s database to discover who the anonymous other agents were participating in the discussion forums, so that then they too could be fired or run out of the agency.

Perhaps not coincidentally, House Democrats Elijah Cummings (D-MD) and Chuck Schumer (D-NY) have decided to [hold their own Gun Walker hearings](#), at which “several gun control advocates” will speak. This has led to discussions on various gun-oriented internet forums where those who are ever suspicious of the ATF and Democrats speculate that there never was any other intent for *Fast & Furious* but to generate imagery and mayhem out of Mexico that would lend to calling for greater gun-control efforts at the federal level. And in fact, several conservative pundits postulate that there need to be answers about who in the federal chain of command knew what, and when did they know it. Many feel that as a minimum, US Atty. Eric Holder probably knew of and gave sanction to *Fast & Furious*, and some feel this likely was made known to and approved by Obama as well. But for the moment, the fall guy seems to be ATF Director, Ken Melson, who is refusing to resign. It might be interesting to see if Issa and Congress can get Melson to roll on his superiors and finger them.

The story continues to unravel and ain’t going away anytime soon. Neither is ATF likely to cooperate, as it seems they have circled the wagons. Curiously, the Mexican government has been oddly silent in criticizing ATF’s culpability in knowingly assisting thousands of guns being delivered to the criminal element in their country. If anyone should be upset, it’s them.

As more becomes known in this ugly mess of government conspiracy and/or incompetence, we will keep you updated. 🌿

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



## THE FEDERAL RESERVE HURTS *YOU!*

by Alice Lillie

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



RON Paul wants to audit the Federal Reserve, and then to end it. His book *End the Fed* explains why. Many readers of Freedom's Phoenix are familiar with Dr. Paul's and Dr.

Murray Rothbard's works on monetary policy, but may have problems in getting these ideas across to others who are just becoming interested in such issues as monetary policy. Maybe some of my ideas can help.

It is absolutely essential that the American people educate themselves on this very important topic. Most of the Presidential candidates, and most voters, are oblivious to this, and Dr. Paul's talk of the Federal Reserve is regarded as off-topic at best and insane at worst.

But, Dr. Paul and the free market ("Austrian School") economists are right. Actions of the Fed have serious consequences. Most people do not agree because most people seem to think that consequences must follow right on the heels of the actions. This is not necessarily true. When you begin a regimen of vitamins, good health does not come in a day. You must continue the regimen for weeks before you begin to feel healthy. By the same token, the results of a change in Federal Reserve policy will not manifest themselves for months, even years.

People must consider the *long term* consequences of actions. An increase in the money supply *will* adversely affect the real wealth of most people in the long run.

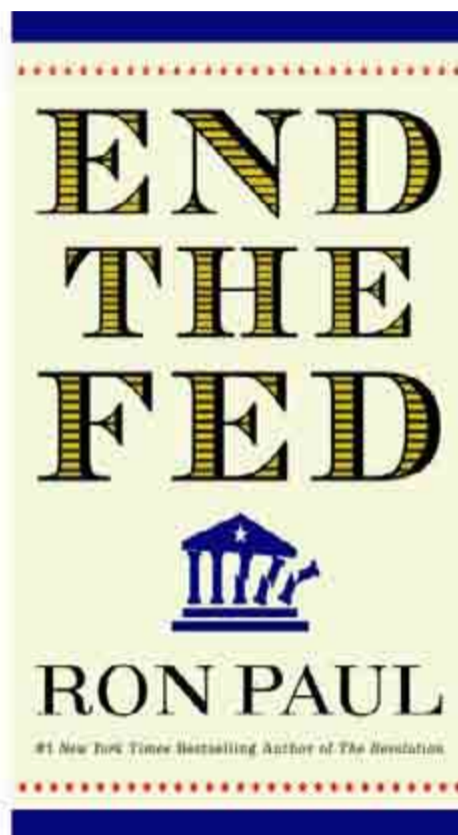
But, exactly *why* will this happen?

For one thing, the *marginal value* of a dollar decreases as the money supply is increased by the Fed.

Here is how. For an imperfect analogy, imagine you are in a forest in the early fall, before most of the leaves show their

fall colors. But, there is one maple leaf that is already brilliant and you stand there and admire it as one would the Mona Lisa. It is precious, too precious to take as you would like others to admire it. A few weeks later, you go back to that forest and now there are hundreds of maple leaves that are gorgeous. If a rabbit is eating one of them, you don't care. The value of one such leaf is greatly diminished if there are hundreds of them.

By the same token, the more dollars there are in the economy, the less each one is worth. When the Federal Reserve "creates" more money by printing more dollar bills (or, today it can be done by computer), prices in dollars rise. It is supply and demand. If there are more dollars, then there are more dollars in people's pockets and people are more likely to part with them. Vendors know this, and when business picks up,



**Continues on Page 28**



## Continued from Page 27 - THE FEDERAL RESERVE HURTS YOU!

they know they can raise their prices and still sell their goods. Inflation becomes more obvious.

That is not the worst thing about inflation. What is worse is that inflation is uneven. The new money created goes to establishment cronies first, so they get first crack at the market with it before the inflation causes prices to rise.

Let's have another imperfect analogy to illustrate this.

Say you have a cup of coffee and add cream to it. Imagine that coffee is the economy, molecules of the coffee being the participants in the marketplace. The cream is the money injected by the Fed. If you pour your cream slowly at the edge of the cup, you'll notice that the cream diffuses from that point and for a short time the coffee closest to that point is very creamy, while the coffee at the other side of the cup is still black. The "money" (cream) goes to the "establishment" first (closest to the source), while the "participants" (coffee molecules) at the other side of the "economy" (cup) have to wait.

In the actual economy, the money created by the Fed goes to the big guys in the form of bailouts and "quantitative easing." We kept hearing during bailouts from the little guy (sometimes tongue in cheek), "So, where's mine?" or something about "Obama money" from the "Obama stash." But, of course, ordinary people at the other side of the "cup" never saw dime one, but come April 15 we all had to ante up our three pounds of flesh.

If we had a free country here (which we *don't!!!*), nobody would have seen dime one, and nobody would have to pay a dime on April 15.

But, as things are, the banks, big businesses and their fatcats got a big handout and off they went to spend all the new money on everything you can imagine, their new demand driving prices up shortly thereafter. We are now beginning to see the results. The price of gasoline has risen for a few reasons and this inflation is one of the reasons. Other prices are creeping up too.

Meanwhile, this new money has not reached the little guy, and won't until *after* prices have risen. This is how harm is done. The big guy is

benefitted at the expense of the little guy. This is why I have said over and over again that the Federal Reserve's policies cause wealth to gravitate toward establishment interests.

I am not even getting into the economic distortions and malinvestment that occurs. Just read Ron Paul's *End the Fed* and the titles listed at the end. Or, start with my reviews of some of Dr. Rothbard's works. Suffice it to say that market signals are messed up and investments are made in areas that the marketplace does not truly want. Market signals are to investors as traffic signals are to drivers. Imagine if traffic signals were going crazy. Would you even leave the house?

And, I am not even getting into interest rates. An increase in the money supply means an artificial decrease in interest rates and that, of course, discourages saving and encourages debt.

The Fed is playing God.

No government entity...and, make no mistake, the Fed is...should be tampering in this manner. The medium of exchange should be a commodity such as gold, as determined by the market. For human beings to print out paper and decree it to be "legal tender" is as dangerous to the economy as government control of the weather would be to the earth. Areas of this sort should be controlled by God (or nature, or the "unseen hand of the market, if you prefer). As far as the money supply is concerned, we human beings are fallible and greedy, and there are too many temptations to steal. And, stealing is when we have the Federal Reserve gravitating wealth toward establishment interests.

This is really a big topic. I hope this paper has helped you understand or helped you help someone to understand. Economist and historian Murray Rothbard has written extensively and I reviewed some of his works on monetary policy.

Please check it out at: <http://www.alicelillieandher.blogspot.com> and click on "2009 (9)". My review of *Power and Market* comes first, but after that it is strictly Murray Rothbard on monetary policy. Please enjoy it and weigh in yourself on the comments! 🦋

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





## A Liberty Moment - "Committing Treason in Search of Liberty" By Howard J. Blitz

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



IN his acceptance speech for the presidential nomination at the 1964 Republican National Convention, Barry Goldwater said, "Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. And moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue." The founders

went a step further and committed treason to seek liberty. They committed an illegal act to do the right thing.

Two hundred and thirty-five years ago fifty-six individuals pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor to the craziest notion ever thought of by mankind; that individuals are supreme and subservient only to their Creator and no one else. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who both died on July 4, 1826, and the other founders of the United States plunged their society into treason against their government leader. The document they scripted not only explained the necessity of their actions to the world and the philosophy upon which they based their secession, which includes the idea of inalienable individual rights and the sole purpose of government, but also listed twenty-seven complaints against their leader not too dissimilar from the complaints many have of recent American government officials whether they be republican or democrat.

The complaints resonating from the past to today include the erection of a multitude of new offices sending out swarms of government officials in an escalating orgy of terror legalized looting, and wholesale seizure of private property to feed the appetite of arrogant and rapacious bureaucracies. The creation of a multitude of laws and regulations beyond reason or humanity, subverting both the words and intent of the United States Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Declaration of Independence for which practically any person could be arrested, imprisoned, or impoverished.

Whether under democrat or republican leadership oppressive and destructive taxes annually steal over half of the incomes earned by individuals and there is currently a call for even more. Individuals are compelled to testify against themselves by completing endless compulsory reports and are made into unpaid government spies and tax collectors destroying peace, security, and freedom.

Practically every sector of the economy is controlled by government edict and individuals are treated as common criminals by being fined, having their property seized, or imprisoned if not obeyed. The financial security of individuals is destroyed through debauched currency looting the real wealth of the citizenry. In the process jobs are destroyed and private initiative stifled with suffocating regulations and oppressive bureaucracies.

The electoral process has been subverted through unjust and exclusionary ballot-access and campaign finance laws. Vast sums of tax-extorted monies are used to create a congressional monopoly and an imperial presidency. The justice system is corrupted by the creation of endless numbers of technical crimes against the state and crimes without victims. As a result vices are made into crimes, dissent into treason, and sensuality into perversion.

In direct violation of the United States Constitution U.S. troops are used repeatedly to invade and reduce foreign countries to ruin without a declaration of war by congress. Relations with

other nations are perverted using the power of the United States military to support foreign despots. Nations are bribed with foreign aid, foreign trade is restricted and massive quantities of weapons of death and destruction fomenting discord, repression, and war throughout the world is exported. In the name of the war on drugs, war on the people of the United States is now declared invading their homes and businesses spreading terror across the United States.

As a result of the illegally waged wars on many nations and innocent people, Americans are now put at risk from terrorists and are becoming hated by more and more individuals around the world. The government welfare system created by both democrat and republican leadership and financed by extorted tax revenue and inflation has not only made a mockery of the idea of individual liberty and responsibility but has exacerbated the immigration situation out of control.

The ideas found in the Declaration of Independence are the standard by which individuals can measure government activity. The suggestion that whenever any form of government for which it was established, namely to protect the inalienable rights of the individual, becomes destructive of that end, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish such government and to institute new government, "laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness" is not much discussed anymore.

However, by understanding the ideas in the Declaration and utilizing the United States Constitution for guidance individuals today do not have to commit treason to seek liberty as the founders were forced to. The founders left an incredible legacy in order that individuals can change or even abolish their government through the orderly elective process. The current American empire can revert back to the American constitutional republic it once was. However, it will take today's individual to commit his and her life, fortune, and sacred honor to those same principles of liberty found in the Declaration of Independence as did the founders.

By reading the *Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen united States of America* one realizes the commitment those brave souls gave for us, their posterity. The focus, though, is on the long term picture of individual liberty and responsibility and not the short term outlook of individual security since individual security can only really result from individual liberty. 🍁

Howard J. Blitz

President

[The Freedom Library, Inc.](#)

July 4, 2011

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





**IN ARIZONA, NOVEMBER 8, 1994**  
**The Declaration of Arizona**

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

**When** in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of ~~mankind~~ All PEOPLES requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all ~~men~~ PEOPLE are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among ~~Men~~ PEOPLE, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that ~~mankind~~ PEOPLE are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of ~~these Colonies~~ THE STATE OF ARIZONA; and such is now the necessity which constrains ~~them~~ ITS PEOPLE to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present ~~King of Great Britain~~ FEDERAL GOVERNMENT is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over ~~these States~~ THIS STATE. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

~~He~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has refused ~~his~~ ITS Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

~~He~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has forbidden ~~his Governors~~ THE ARIZONA LEGISLATURE to pass OR REPEAL Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till ~~his~~ FEDERAL Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, ~~he~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has utterly neglected to attend to them.

~~He~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has refused to pass OR REPEAL other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature INDIVIDULE SOVEREIGNTY IN A SOVEREIGN STATE, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

~~He~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has called together legislative AND BUREAUCRATIC bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records PEOPLE, for the sole purpose of fatiguing ~~them~~ THE PEOPLE into compliance with ~~his~~ ITS measures.

~~He~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has dissolved OVER-RULED Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness ~~his~~ ITS invasions on the rights of the people.

~~He~~ THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions OVER-RULINGS, to cause others to be elected ACKNOWLEDGE STATES SOVEREIGNTY; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in

Continues on Page 31

**IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776**  
**The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America**

**When** in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

Continues on Page 31



**Continued from Page 30  
IN ARIZONA, NOVEMBER 8, 1994**

the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. USURPED THE RIGHT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA TO DETERMINE ITS OWN IMMIGRATION POLICY.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers DISCRETION.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has made Judges dependent on his ITS Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the consent of our legislatures.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has affected to render the Military AND PARA-MILITARY FEDERAL AGENTS independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his ITS Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops AND ARMED AGENTS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these State THIS STATE:

For cutting off, BY OVER-REGULATION, our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas LOCAL JURISDICTION to be tried for pretended Offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, IGNORING CONSTITUTIONAL RESTRAINTS, establishing therein THEREBY an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies THIS STATE:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending OVER-RULING our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his ITS Protection and waging War against us-OUR UNALIENDABLE RIGHTS.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has plundered our seas WATERS, ravaged our coasts LANDS, burnt POLLUTED our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT is, at this

**Continues on Page 32**

**Continued from Page 30  
IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776**

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of

**Continues on Page 32**



**Continued from Page 31  
IN ARIZONA, NOVEMBER 8, 1994**


time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head STEWARDSHIP of a civilized nation.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas ENLISTED IN THE MILITARY to bear Arms against their CountryMEN, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers CITIES, the merciless Indian Savages CRIMINAL ELEMENT, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince GOVERNMENT, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature UNITED STATES CONGRESS to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind HUMANITY, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA, BY POPULAR VOTE, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies THE STATE OF ARIZONA, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are THE STATE OF ARIZONA IS, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are IT IS absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, and that all political connection between them US and the State of Great Britain FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States STATE, they THE STATE OF ARIZONA have HAS full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States-STATE may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor. 

**Continued from Page 31  
IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776**


foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor. 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





## Why Even Anarchists Should Vote

### By Sentient Void

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



NOTED and highly influential individualist anarchists Lysander Spooner and Murray Rothbard weep at the 'logic' of the non-voting anarchist population...

Originally Posted by **Murray Rothbard**

“I'm interested to talk about that. This is the classical anarchist position, there is no doubt about that. The classical anarchist position is that nobody should vote, because if you vote you are participating in a state apparatus. Or if you do vote you should write in your own name, I don't think that there is anything wrong with this tactic in the sense that if there really were a nationwide movement – if five million people, let's say, pledged not to vote. I think it would be very useful. On the other hand, I don't think voting is a real problem. I don't think it's immoral to vote, in contrast to the anti-voting people.



Lysander Spooner, the patron saint of individualist anarchism, had a very effective attack on this idea. The thing is, if you really believe that by voting you are giving your sanction to the state, then you see you are really adopting the democratic theorist's position. You would be adopting the position of the democratic enemy, so to speak, who says that the state is really voluntary because the masses are supporting it by

participating in elections. In other words, you're really the other side of the coin of supporting the policy of democracy – that the public is really behind it and that it is all voluntary. And so the anti-voting people are really saying the same thing.



I don't think this is true, because as Spooner said, people are being placed in a coercive position. They are surrounded by a coercive system; they are surrounded by the state. The state, however, allows you a limited choice – there's no question about the fact that the choice is limited. Since you are in this coercive situation, there is no reason why you shouldn't try to make use of it if you think it will make a difference to your liberty or possessions. So by voting you can't say that this is a moral choice, a fully voluntary choice, on the part of the public. It's not a fully voluntary situation. It's a situation where you are surrounded by the whole state which you can't vote out of existence. For example, we can't vote the Presidency out of existence – unfortunately, it would be great if we could – but since we can't why not make use of the vote if there is a difference at all between the two people. And it is almost inevitable that there will be a difference, incidentally, because just praxeologically or in a natural law sense, every two persons or

**Continues on Page 34**



## Continued from Page 33 - Why Even Anarchists Should Vote

every two groups of people will be slightly different, at least. So in that case why not make use of it. I don't see that it's immoral to participate in the election provided that you go into it with your eyes open – provided that you don't think that either Nixon or Muskie is the greatest libertarian since Richard Cobden! – which many people, of course, talk themselves into before they go out and vote,

The second part of my answer is that I don't think that voting is really the question. I really don't care about whether people vote or not. To me the important thing is, who do you support. Who do you hope will win the election? You can be a non-voter and say "I don't want to sanction the state" and not vote, but on election night who do you hope the rest of the voters, the rest of the suckers out there who are voting, who do you hope they'll elect. And it's important, because I think that there is a difference. The Presidency, unfortunately, is of extreme importance. It will be running or directing our lives greatly for four years. So, I see no reason why we shouldn't endorse, or support, or attack one candidate more than the other candidate. I really don't agree at all with the non-voting position in that sense, because the non-voter is not only saying we shouldn't vote: he is also saying that we shouldn't endorse anybody. Will Robert LeFevre, one of the spokesmen of the non-voting approach, will he deep in his heart on election night have any kind of preference at all as the votes come in. Will he cheer slightly or groan more as whoever wins? I don't see how anybody could fail to have a preference, because it will affect all of us.”

Source: <http://www.lewrockwell.com/rothbard/rothbard103.html>

Look folks, you will be oppressed by a president. His vision of morality will be imposed on you, whether you like it or not, regardless of your ideology. You might as well support someone who will try his darndest (with the limited extent of his power) to remove as much oppression and maximize as much individual liberty in your lives as possible.

Here's a hypothetical to illustrate my point. A criminal points a gun at you and says...

"Choose. I am going to either shoot you in the toe or shoot you square in the chest. If you do not choose, I am going to shoot you in the chest anyways."


Based on the circumstances surrounding this situation, there is no question that he will end up shooting you. Are you going to tell him, "Fine, shoot me in the toe." - or will you instead tell him, "I will not choose, because either choice is advocating you do evil."?

At the very least, Ron Paul as president can end the wars and militarism in one fell swoop - as the President has ultimate control of military forces. He would have a highly visible position in which to speak on and talk about liberty and free markets for the world to see. Even just as a contender with limited time in the 2008 GOP Primary Republican debates - he sparked a libertarian movement and adoption of libertarian philosophy at a rate never before seen. He would also be a major facilitator that would be needed in passing certain legislation (and of course, repealing a lot of legislation) if more seats are gained in congress that support positions of liberty.

As for the idea some have that, "I just hope you all don't really believe Ron Paul will ever be President."...

That may very well be the case. But this is the best chance we've had since Barry Goldwater to really get a liberty-minded individual to actually be elected as president. We must recognize the self-fulfilling prophecy that we are creating if we say (as I am so often told), 'Don't vote for him, he won't become president anyways!'

I am not saying that voting is and should be the only tool we use to attempt to gain liberty and minimize the role of government in our lives. There is also agorism, civil disobedience, education (one on one, as well as to a group in real life and/or online in debates, discussions, et cetera), media infiltration ('Freedom Watch' and 'Stossel' come to mind) to more effectively inform the masses on libertarianism, and many others.

What I am saying is that we should not limit ourselves or forsake voting as one of the many tools available to us in the toolbox for advancing liberty. Whether that tool is merely to throw a wrench in the statist machine in order to slow or disrupt its growth, or use it to marginally advance the cause for liberty in more specific ways - we must acknowledge its legitimate role in the unfortunate reality of our situation. 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



# Anarchy, Government and the State

## By Sentient Void

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



WHILE the anarcho-capitalist and voluntaryist movement has certainly been growing *\*significantly\** (at the extreme disdain of ‘left’ anarchists) - I don’t think we make certain *\*very\** important distinctions, clear enough.

I believe part of why many others have trouble grasping anarchy is because they are (including many anarchists, even) conflating ‘the State’, with ‘government’ or ‘governance’. There is an essence of ‘talking past eachother’.

Understand, all States are governments, but not all government (or ‘governance’) requires the State.

In an anarcho-capitalist (which is a tautology supported by theory as well as historical evidence) society, there would still be government. Government by your peers through social and commercial ostracism and acceptance. Government of social behavior, civility, disputes and justice by competing courts, defense/security agencies to ensure protection, recognition and respect of property rights. Government of businesses and the market through the free market, the price signal, profit & loss, competition, customer satisfaction, commercial ostracism (credit ratings, boycotting, reputation, etc), and supply and demand. Government of risk, and socialization of that risk through insurance agencies. Self-government through individuals’ pursuit of their *\*rational\** self-interest, having themselves to bear the responsibility of their actions.

I could go on. Anarchism does not necessarily mean ‘no government’ so much as it means ‘no State’.

Your typical ‘left’ anarchist heads are exploding at these words right now - but AnCap is the only


realistic, moral, practical and workable way to abolish the State and still not just maintain civilization, but maximize prosperity, liberty and justice, above and beyond what any flavor of the State could ever dream to deliver.

For many anarchists, like most of us here, I’d say - the conflating of ‘government’ and ‘the State’ is probably more semantic than anything. For many non-anarchists - it’s not semantic so much as different understandings leading to problems in understanding - the issue of ‘talking past eachother’.

To the extent that I understand the real concept of ‘no government’ - then I completely agree with the critics in criticizing their perception of anarchy - because it’s true... with a complete rejection of all forms of ‘government’ in how I described it above - there certainly *\*would\** be chaos and misery.

The rejection of universally preferable behavior (theft, murder, rape, etc), the rejection of the price signal and laws of supply and demand, the rejection of any and all forms of voluntary authority, the rejection of all self-government, in that individuals reject *\*rational\** self-interest in the name of holding no restraint and act purely on whim and animalistic tendency - et cetera.

Anarcho-Capitalists do not advocate rejection of these things, nor do they think they would be rejected absent the State. Rather instead - justice, moral behavior, and prosperity would be maximized.

I think anarcho-capitalists and voluntaryists could do a *\*much\** better job of communicating this. Then people would not only be not talking past eachother anymore - but others may be much more open to discussing such ideas. 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





# Legalize Methamphetamine! By Marc J. Victor

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



I'M the last guy who ought to argue for the legalization of meth.<sup>1</sup> As a practicing criminal defense attorney, I make a good income from defending people who are charged with drug crimes. If the drug war ended, I would lose a substantial

portion of my income. Additionally, some would call me a health nut. I go to the gym six times a week and eat organic foods as often as possible. I wouldn't change my healthy lifestyle if drugs were legal. I have three little kids. I don't want them ever to become drug addicts. I want them to grow up in a safe world. Indeed, that's exactly why I want the drug war to end.

When I was in law school, a wise law professor of mine taught me that if you are asking the wrong question, the answer doesn't matter. In regards to meth, the question is not whether meth is dangerous and unhealthy. Over the years, I have represented countless meth users. I have seen the consequences of meth use up close. I am convinced meth use will likely ruin the user's life. It is an extraordinarily dangerous addictive drug. Few drugs are more addictive or dangerous than meth.<sup>2</sup> Many of those who oppose legalization of meth identify the horrors of meth use. I entirely agree with their assessment of meth's dangers. Asking whether meth

is dangerous or unhealthy or addictive is not the right question.

The relevant question is whether our society would be better served if meth was manufactured, distributed, bought and sold legally. The answer is yes. There are two related but separate reasons why ending the drug war is critical. First, a free society requires that the drug war end. I refer to this argument as the freedom argument. Second, the consequences of ending the drug war would yield economic and other benefits which would greatly benefit our society. I refer to this argument as the consequentialist argument.

Most readers will not be persuaded by the freedom argument. This fact is disturbing to me. In fact, many of the issues which plague our world will persist unless and until people come to respect the principles embodied in terms such as individual responsibility, self ownership and freedom. These concepts are what our country was founded upon and the very reason why America prospered. Now, they are given mere lip service if they are considered at all. If you shrug your shoulders and brush off the freedom argument, you should be ashamed of yourself. Whether you realize it or not, you are the problem.

## THE FREEDOM ARGUMENT

I'm a good dad. I don't want my kids using meth. Indeed, I will force my opinion about not using meth upon my kids. I will prevent them from using meth by force if necessary.<sup>3</sup> As a dad, I have other policies as well. For example,

<sup>1</sup> I support legalizing all drugs which are currently illegal.  
<sup>2</sup> Incidentally, many say tobacco is actually more addictive than meth. Isn't it interesting that approximately 50% of tobacco users have quit using tobacco in the past ten years all during a time while the drug was completely legal.

<sup>3</sup> My x-wife is a good mom. She supports my ban on meth use for our kids

**Continues on Page 37**



## Continued from Page 36 - Legalize Methamphetamine!

my kids are not allowed to ride their motorized quads without helmets or to ride in the car without seatbelts. They are not allowed to smoke cigarettes or skydive either. However, at some point, my kids will be responsible to decide for themselves what activities are too dangerous for them. Both assessing the dangerousness of an activity and determining how much danger is acceptable will become the exclusive domain of each of my kids as it pertains to them. Resolving these questions for one's self is an important task and responsibility of any free person.

The question of who gets to make decisions about the disposition of certain property is central to understanding freedom. Who gets to decide what activities are too dangerous for you? Should I get to decide what activities are too dangerous for you? What about your neighbor? Or the majority? Or the president? Or congress? Or some judge? In a free society, the owner of the property gets to decide how the property is used.<sup>4</sup> Because you own your body, I assert that you should decide how your body is used or abused.<sup>5</sup>

In terms of the freedom argument, the question of legalization of meth poses exactly the same question as many other issues currently confounding our fellow citizens. The following non-exhaustive list contains questions which are each different versions of the same question about how a particular body is used:

Should people be allowed to eat Big Macs?

Should people be allowed to consume any unhealthy foods at all?

Should people be allowed to play football despite the risk of serious injury?

Should people be allowed to skydive or rock climb?

Should people be allowed to ride in cars without seatbelts?

Should unprotected sex between consenting adult strangers be allowed?

Should consenting adults be allowed to have sex in exchange for money?

Should adults be permitted to ingest marijuana for health reasons?

Should adults be permitted to ingest marijuana for mere personal pleasure?

Should competent adults be allowed to voluntarily end their lives if they choose?

Each question begs the initial question about who gets to decide how a particular human body is used. Those of us who are pro-freedom would in each case conclude that the owner of the particular human body in question should decide how that body is used.<sup>6</sup> The initial issue of who decides must be resolved first.

Although I would try my best to persuade others not to use meth, I concede it is not my decision. Among adults, persuasion is fine, but coercion is not. I will not force others to live by my assessments of dangers. I respect the property of other people such that I respect their right to use their property in ways I vigorously disagree with.<sup>7</sup> I have no claim on how others use their property unless and until their activities trespass upon my property.<sup>8</sup>

The freedom argument is much bigger than the question of whether meth should be legal. It certainly resolves the question, but it raises larger questions about the very nature of gov-

<sup>4</sup> I acknowledge this concept is extraordinarily radical and barely comprehensible to some. For a better understanding, find someone who refers to himself or herself as a "libertarian" and talk to that person.

<sup>5</sup> If you assert no claim of ownership to your body, I may be interested in laying a claim. However, I would want to see you first.

<sup>6</sup> In case you are confused, the correct answer to each question is yes.

<sup>7</sup> Can you honestly say this? If not, you should think about what possibly justifies you in controlling another's property. You should also not complain when others seek to control your property. It's a freedom thing.

<sup>8</sup> As a finer point, when their activities trespass upon my property, they are now using my property without my permission. Said more precisely, others are free to use their property in any way they please with no restrictions. A trespass is simply the acknowledgement they are wrongfully using another's property.

ernment. Any legitimate role of government is confined to protecting rights. Indeed, unless you disagree with the principles upon which this country was founded and believe government is the source of rights which may be distributed to us or taken away, you must agree that government can have no rights other than the ones we individually delegate to it. Because you have no right to be my daddy, you have no such right to delegate to government. Further, because no person individually has any such right, even the majority of people added together collectively have no such right. Therefore, when the government acts as my daddy, it acts wrongfully; even if it acts pursuant to an accurately counted democratic vote.<sup>9</sup> Although it is perfectly fine for me to act as a daddy to my kids, the government has no right to act as a daddy for us.

Some people posit that legalized meth would send the wrong message to people about using meth. However, the government's role is not to send messages to us about what is right or wrong or good or bad. We don't need messages from government. Free people determine for themselves how to run their lives. I have a right to be a self destructive idiot if I choose. I own me.

Additionally, the "messages from government" objection overlooks an important point. The concepts of legal and illegal are far different from the concepts of right and wrong or good and bad. Because an activity is legally permissible does not obligate people to conclude such an activity is right or good.<sup>10</sup> Merely because the law allows my kids to insult other kids doesn't prevent my wife and me from successfully teaching them not to do it. The unwillingness or inability of many people to invest the mental acuity to distinguish between these concepts has contributed to an intellectual feeble-mindedness which is akin to a malignant tumor killing our society. The "messages from government" objection nourishes that tumor. We should embrace the concept that we are free to adopt personal standards of conduct which exceed the minimal threshold defined by law.

I regret devoting so few words to the freedom argument. It deserves much more. Many others have far more eloquently detailed the case for freedom. I hope to live to witness the day when the freedom argument is accorded the respect it deserves. I hope this skeletal argument stirs the interest of those who read it and encourages them to explore it more fully. The reason our society has been deteriorating in so many ways is because it has come to accord less and less respect to the freedoms of others. Winning the freedom argument is the only way to destroy the cancer that infects our world.

### THE CONSEQUENTIALIST ARGUMENT

Some people say the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over while expecting different results. They are right. The government has been recklessly ramping up the war on drugs for the past thirty five years.<sup>11</sup> Every year we get tougher laws and tougher sentences. Approximately 1.6 million people are needlessly arrested every year for non-violent drug offenses. Many more non-violent drug users are simply charged without arrest. Some of them are students who lose their student loans and can no longer afford college. Others are people who hold professional licenses and can no longer work in their professions. Lives are being needlessly ruined.

<sup>9</sup> Democracy and freedom are not the same concepts. Freedom is when the owner of the property decides how the property is used. Democracy is when a majority of non-owners decide how an owner must use his or her property. Democracy and freedom are often incompatible.

<sup>10</sup> The opposite is also true for some acts which are currently illegal.

<sup>11</sup> In 1969, Nixon spent \$65 million on the drug war. In 1982, Reagan spent \$1.65 billion on the drug war. Bush's budget for 2006 requests \$12.4 billion dollars which is a 2.2% increase over his 2005 budget.

Continues on Page 38



## Continued from Page 37 - Legalize Methamphetamine!

The growth of the prison industry has mushroomed. We now have private companies in the prison business.<sup>12</sup> This is no surprise when you consider that the United States claims 4.6% of the world's population but 22.5% of the world's prison population. The DEA has grown from 2,775 employees in 1972 to almost 11,000 employees with 86 foreign offices in 62 countries in 2005. We have well over two million people in prison. Since 1980, America's general population has increased 20%, while America's prison population has increased at twenty times that rate or an astonishing 400%. America imprisons more people as a percentage of our population than any other country in the world.<sup>13</sup> This is a sad state of affairs for any country; especially one which refers to itself as the land of the free.

Despite the explosive expansion of government to fight the war on drugs, drug use is more prevalent today than it was before the war on drugs started. Additionally, drugs are cheaper, more potent and easier to get than they were in the early years of the drug war.<sup>14</sup> Throwing more money at the issue has not resulted in fewer people using drugs. Even the federal government admits drug use has increased recently from 6% in 1993 to over 8% in 2003.<sup>15</sup> Despite the frantically increasing efforts to curb the flow of drugs, high school students report drugs are still easy to obtain. Almost 90% of twelfth graders report marijuana is "very easy" or "fairly easy" to get. Over 47% of twelfth graders say cocaine is "very easy" or "fairly easy" to get and more than 32% say heroin is "very easy" or "fairly easy" to get.<sup>16</sup> I have had clients tell me they became addicted to drugs when they were in prison. Even in a prison setting, drugs are prevalent.

Not only are drugs readily available, some of them have become more dangerous as a result of the drug war. Looking specifically at meth, the drug war has resulted in exacerbating the dangers associated with amphetamine use. While attempting to put the hysteria currently surrounding meth use in perspective, a columnist named Jack Shafer who writes for Slate aptly stated the following:

In the mid-1960s, just before the government declared war on amphetamines, the average user swallowed his pills, which were of medicinal purity and potency. Snorting and smoking stimulants was almost unheard of, and very few users injected intravenously. Today, 40 years later, snorting, smoking, and injecting methamphetamines of unpredictable potency and dubious purity has become the norm—with all the dreadful health consequences. If the current scene illustrates how the government is winning the war on drugs, I'd hate to see what losing looks like. See, [www.slate.com/id/2123838](http://www.slate.com/id/2123838) August 3, 2005.

The United States now spends over fifty billion dollars every year to combat the war on drugs.<sup>17</sup> The war on drugs has been a colossal and unparalleled failure.<sup>18</sup> Despite my countless conversations with judges, prosecutors, police officers, DEA agents and drug dealers, it is extraordinarily rare for me to find anyone who thinks the drug war is working or will ever work under any circumstances. Indeed, despite my countless invitations, I have yet to find anyone

12 I have nothing against private prisons. Indeed, the private sector should be administering prisons. My point here is simply to note that private entrepreneurs recognize the huge potential to prosper in this growth industry.

13 732 people out of every 100,000 live in government cages as of 2005.

14 These are facts asserted by current and former law enforcement officers. See [www.leap.cc](http://www.leap.cc)

15 *Drug Use Trends and National Survey on Drug Use and Health*, White House Office of Drug Control Policy (2004).

16 *Monitoring the Future, National Results on Adolescent Drug Abuse, Overview of Key Findings 1999*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Page 48.

17 Some former police officers claim the current annual amount spent is sixty nine billion dollars per year. See, <http://leap.cc>

18 Some may say George W. Bush's Iraqi policy is a failure of such magnitude that it rivals the drug war for the biggest failure attributable to a governmental effort. I admit it is a tough call.

willing to debate me publicly on the drug war. Imagine a fifty billion dollar annual program nobody seems willing to defend.

I understand why nobody wants to debate me on this issue. I believe the people who work in the justice system, and truly understand the problems associated with the drug war, know they would be debating the wrong side of the issue. I recently argued the case for meth legalization before a group of judges and prosecutors. I was disappointed during question time when, despite my provoking and challenging them, there was only one half-hearted attempt to engage me on the issues. The case for legalization is overwhelming.

I have had occasion to talk privately and confidentially with many drug dealers for well over a decade. I estimate I have represented hundreds of drug dealers. Although some have simply been users who sell to support their habit, others have been major players in big drug organizations. I have found many of them to be bright people who are well aware that an end to the drug war would immediately put an end to their businesses. They realize that they could not compete with large corporations in a legal market. Their ability to make money by manufacturing, distributing and selling drugs exists solely because of the drug war. They very much want the war on drugs to continue and even expand.

Many drug dealers understand that each large drug bust brings increased profits for them. Although a drug seizure is bad news for the particular drug dealer involved, it is wonderful news for all the other drug dealers in the market. When you see government agents celebrating a large drug seizure, imagine all the other drug dealers celebrating along with them.

The economics of drug sales are no different than any other product sold in the market. Every big drug seizure causes a temporary decrease in the supply of that drug in the relevant market. However, the drug seizure doesn't affect the demand for the drugs. Drug users still want drugs despite some drug dealer being arrested.<sup>19</sup> When the demand remains constant and the supply is decreased, prices go up. Imagine being a drug dealer with a big supply of drugs on hand when prices suddenly go up. It would be accurate to say that drug dealers gain the most, through increased profits, when government agents make a seizure. Increased profits also serve to entice people to embark on new careers as drug dealers. Drug dealers love the drug war and do not want it to end. If you support the drug war, you are on the side of, and act as an unpaid lobbyist for the plight of the drug dealer.

Some of the drug dealers I have met are actually very nice, non-violent people. I have represented drug dealers who do not use drugs at all. They were simply unable or unwilling to refuse an illegal opportunity to make a lot of money. However, some of the drug dealers I have met are not nice people. They sell their drugs with the help of violent street gangs. Some of these gang members intentionally market drugs to kids. Because gang members generally can not utilize the court system to settle disputes over drug sales, nor can they insure their merchandise against losses, violence and guns are necessarily involved.

Simply causing meth to be manufactured illegally is by itself a huge problem. As a result of illegal meth labs, toxic chemicals used to produce methamphetamine are often discarded in rivers, fields, and forests. The environmental damage which occurs results in ever expanding cleanup costs. The massive growth in costs to cleanup such environmental messes is also il-

19 Most drug addicts don't watch the evening news or read the newspapers. They are not generally aware of drug busts or any other news for that matter

Continues on Page 39



## Continued from Page 38 - Legalize Methamphetamine!

lustrative of the failure of current policy. The DEA's annual cost for cleanup of clandestine meth laboratories in the United States has increased steadily from 2 million in 1995 to 23.8 million a mere seven years later in 2002.<sup>20</sup> A huge collection of well documented facts about the failure of the current drug policy can be found at [www.drugwarfacts.org](http://www.drugwarfacts.org).

I have heard the saying that those who do not study history are doomed to repeat it. I suspect some criminal defense lawyer in the 1920's incurred wrath from the establishment for writing an article advocating the legalization of alcohol. I would bet the nice attorney was attacked by small thinkers who repeatedly pointed out the harmful attributes of alcohol.<sup>21</sup>

In case you are unaware, the government decided in 1919 to amend the United States Constitution to grant power to congress to prohibit the manufacture, sale and distribution of alcohol.<sup>22</sup> Their drug war played out just like ours; a complete and total disaster. However, it was the best thing that ever happened to organized crime. The manufacture, sale and distribution of alcohol were conducted entirely in illegal and violent markets. Criminals prospered and criminal organizations grew. A major crime wave began in the 1920s and continually increased until the end of prohibition in 1933 when it immediately started to reverse.<sup>23</sup> Prohibition did nothing to curb the desire of people to use alcohol. Indeed, both the per capita consumption of alcohol as well as the rate of alcoholism increased during prohibition.<sup>24 25</sup> Illegal clandestine stills manufactured alcohol of inconsistent and unpredictable quality. Law enforcement was overwhelmed chasing after people involved in alcohol related crimes. Does any of this seem familiar to you?

In 1933, they figured it out and repealed the eighteenth amendment.<sup>26</sup> To be fair, we still have people with substantial alcohol abuse problems. It is a real problem. We have no shortage of alcohol related crimes. However, violent criminal street gangs do not make money from the sale of alcohol. Although few people "home brew" alcoholic beverages, people do not brew alcoholic beverages in clandestine labs. Nobody is offered large cash rewards to transport alcohol. The Budweiser guy doesn't fight the Miller guy if they both happen to arrive at the store at the same time to deliver their drug. Alcohol companies settle disputes peacefully in court. Alcoholics can seek help without the fear of criminal prosecutions. More resources can be devoted to apprehending real thugs because our justice system is not overloaded with cases of people manufacturing, distributing or selling alcohol. Isn't this obviously a better deal?

We know certain things for sure. If meth was no longer illegal:

1. All dangerous clandestine meth labs in residential neighborhoods would close;
2. All dangerous street gangs would be out of the meth business;
3. Every dime currently spent on meth prohibi-

tion could be spent on real crime;<sup>27</sup>

4. Meth addicts would have no legal disincentive to seek help;
5. The manufacture of meth would be safe and produce a consistent product; and
6. Toxic waste from meth production would be safely disposed.

If you support maintaining the war on drugs, you must necessarily conclude that either I am wrong about the above six assertions or that the benefits of the drug war outweigh the obvious benefits contained in the six assertions. It is difficult for me to imagine one could rationally and honestly dispute any of the six assertions. They are obvious and virtually guaranteed to flow from legalization. Therefore, a drug war supporter is left with the argument that the drug war's benefits outweigh the benefits contained in the six assertions. If this is your position, I challenge you to honestly reweigh the costs and benefits of each scenario. Unless you put your finger on the scale because you personally benefit from the drug war, you must conclude legalization wins.

I do not intend to claim that the above six assertions are the only benefits of legalization. I list them together because I find them to be indisputable. There are other benefits of legalization. I suspect many people would either not experiment with or stop using meth. Recently, a teenage meth user confirmed for me that she and her friends started using meth at least in part because it was illegal. I cannot recall any friends of mine who didn't drink alcohol prior to reaching age twenty-one. Indeed, I consumed more alcohol prior to reaching age twenty-one than I do today or since I have been age twenty-one and one month.

In countries where the alcohol drinking age is sixteen, rates of alcohol related problems appear to be lower than in the United States where the drinking age is twenty-one.<sup>28</sup> The National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse reports that in 2003, 5.55% of Americans were either alcohol abusing or alcohol dependent. The Austrian drinking age is sixteen and 2.2% are regarded as alcohol dependent.<sup>29</sup> The German drinking age is sixteen and 3.9% of Germans' alcohol use is considered harmful.<sup>30</sup>

Even during prohibition, while rates of death from alcoholism and cirrhosis were rising in the United States, they were decreasing during the same time period in Great Britain, Denmark and Ireland where alcohol use was legal.<sup>31</sup> I recently traveled to Amsterdam where marijuana use is legal for those over eighteen years of age. Marijuana use among minors in Amsterdam is decreasing. Indeed, the rate of marijuana use by minors is five times less than what it is in the United States.<sup>32</sup> Even among adults, the rate of marijuana use in the United States is twice as high as in the Netherlands where use of marijuana is legal.<sup>33</sup> Many of the locals informed me that marijuana use is simply not exciting and they virtually don't ever use it unless people from out of town are visiting. As you may expect, I had a lot of questions for proprietors of marijuana coffee shops. I personally

20 National Drug Threat Assessment 2004 (Johnstown, P.A.: National Drug Intelligence Center, April 2004), p. 18.

21 Yes, I am aware that alcohol abuse is harmful. My point here is that they were focusing on the wrong question.

22 It is worth noting that at least they acknowledged congress otherwise had no such power by amending the constitution rather than pretending the Commerce Clause includes such a power. I'm still searching for that amendment which grants power to congress to run today's drug war

23 Pandiani, John A., The Crime Control Corps: An Invisible New Deal Program 348-358 (British Journal of Sociology, 33 September 1982).

24 Cases of alcoholism at New York's hospitals increased over 100% during prohibition from 1919 to 1924. *The National Prohibition Law: Hearing Before the Subcommittee of the Commission on the Judiciary*, 69th Congress 148 (1926).

25 During prohibition from 1921 to 1929, per capita consumption of beer increased 463%, wine increased 100% and consumption of spirits increased 520%. Warburton, Clark, *The Economic Results of Prohibition* 174 (Columbia University Press, 1932).

26 At least their politicians had enough spine to admit their mistakes. With very few exceptions, today's jellyfish politician is too worried about what the general public thinks to take a real leadership stand on this issue.

27 By "real crime" I mean when people trespass on the rights of others by force or fraud.

28 I realize such comparisons are difficult for a variety of reasons. However, the numbers are different enough that it appears a reasonably certain conclusion can be drawn.

29 *Die Haufigkeit von Alkoholismus und Problemtrinken in Osterreich*, Wiener Klinische Wochenschrift, 110 (10), 1998, pp. 356-363.

30 *Repräsentativerhebung zum Gebrauch psychoaktiver Substanzen bei Erwachsenen in Deutschland*, 2000 Sucht, Sonderheft 1, (2001).

31 Warburton, Clark, *The Economic Results of Prohibition* 78-90 (Columbia University Press, 1932).

32 Untitled editorial in *The Lancet*, Volume 346, Number 8985, (November 11, 1995) p. 1241. See also, Netherlands Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, Drug Policy in the Netherlands: Progress Report September 1997-September 1999, (The Hague: Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, November 1999), p. 7.

33 Netherlands Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, Drug Policy in the Netherlands: Progress Report September 1997-September 1999, (The Hague: Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, November 1999), pp. 7-8.

Continues on Page 40



## Continued from Page 39 - Legalize Methamphetamine!

witnessed a peaceful and safe marijuana trade in Amsterdam. Although I wouldn't want to live there for unrelated economic reasons, the Netherlands is a good example of why legalization makes sense.<sup>34</sup>

Tobacco is a far deadlier drug than is meth. For the year 2000, tobacco is blamed for causing 435,000 deaths.<sup>35</sup> Deaths resulting from the direct or indirect use of all illegal drugs including meth, cocaine, OxyContin, heroine and ecstasy for the same year total 17,000. *id.*<sup>36 37</sup> Despite the fact that tobacco is legal, tobacco use is declining. In 1956, 42% of adults smoked. In 1980, only 33% of Americans smoked. Additionally, in 1977, 29% of high school seniors smoked. Four years later, the number of high school seniors who smoke had fallen to 20%.<sup>38</sup> Education about the dangers of tobacco use can be credited for the decline of tobacco use which occurred while the drug was legally available and without any of the crime and violence associated with the drug war. The recent rise in popularity of non-alcoholic beer and low nicotine cigarettes can be attributed to the same phenomenon. The same beneficial effects could be applicable to meth and other illegal drugs.

Fortunately, people are slowly waking up to the fact that this war on drugs is the entirely wrong approach. I am encouraged by a courageous group of law enforcement and former law enforcement members who have joined together to form a group entitled Law Enforcement Against Prohibition or LEAP. A visit to their website at <http://leap.cc/> is well worth the time invested. The over two thousand law enforcement members of LEAP state the following, "The membership of LEAP believe to save lives and lower the rates of disease, crime and addiction, as well as to conserve tax dollars, we must end drug prohibition." The members of LEAP are willing and eager to debate their views with

<sup>34</sup> For more stats and documentation about how legal marijuana has resulted in less marijuana use as well as other overall societal benefits, see <http://www.drugwarfacts.org/thenethe.htm>

<sup>35</sup> #Journal of the American Medical Association, Jan. 19, 2005, Vol. 293, No. 3, p. 298.

<sup>36</sup> This number includes deaths attributed to illegal drugs resulting from suicide, homicide, motor-vehicle injury, HIV infection, pneumonia, violence, mental illness, and hepatitis.

<sup>37</sup> The number of confirmed deaths attributed solely to a marijuana overdose in the history of the world is zero. See, Janet E. Joy, Stanley J. Watson, Jr., and John A. Benson, Jr., "Marijuana and Medicine: Assessing the Science Base," Division of Neuroscience and Behavioral Research, Institute of Medicine (Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 1999), available on the web at <http://www.nap.edu/html/marimed/>; and US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, "In the Matter of Marijuana Rescheduling Petition" (Docket #86-22), September 6, 1988, p. 57.

<sup>38</sup> Trebach, Arnold, *Peace Without Surrender in the Perpetual Drug War*, 136 Justice Quarterly 1 (1984).

anyone willing to try to defend the drug war. Also, judges are finally starting to speak out. See, <http://www.judgesagainstthedrugwar.org> which contains judicial opinions critical of the drug war.

Astute observers of the drug war might point out that the \$50-\$69 billion dollars currently being spent on the drug war annually could be used to more effectively address the problems associated with drug abuse. That money could go a long way to facilitate drug abuse education, treatment and prevention.

Additionally, some may argue that legalization of drugs could be administered in much the same way alcohol is currently dealt with. Certainly, people who commit real crimes should be punished whether or not they were using drugs at the time. Legalization of drugs does not mean laws must permit unsafe drug impaired drivers on the roads. Further, employers and other private citizens would be free to prohibit any and all drug use at their workplaces or on their property as they can now with alcohol. Indeed, what would change with a reasonable scheme of legalization would be a deletion of much of the crime and violence only; everything else would remain much the same or improve. It is a substantially better deal than the ongoing and worsening disaster we currently endure.

The drug war is un-American. One cannot simultaneously value freedom and yet support a governmental scheme which denies the individual his or her sovereignty over his or her own body. Indeed, control over one's own body is the most fundamental of all rights. Worse, the drug war has effectively birthed countless violent criminal enterprises. This possibly well intentioned effort has resulted in effectively creating our 51st state; the state of incarceration. The state's population is growing out of control and it is choking the life out of the other 50 states. Thousands of peaceful Americans are currently living in cages because of the drug war. The drug war is lunacy and it must end immediately. As it did for the revolutionaries who founded our country, the time has come for us to be bold and courageous. We must speak out against this horrendous mistake. We have the better case.



Marc J. Victor is a practicing criminal defense attorney located in Chandler, Arizona. He can be reached via his website at [www.AttorneyForFreedom.com](http://www.AttorneyForFreedom.com)

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





## FR33 Aid By Teresa Warmke

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



**DO you trust the state to save your life?**

No? Well, Fr33 Aid is here to help.

The idea behind Fr33 Aid is to facilitate connections among liberty activists who want to volunteer for mutual aid projects. So far during 2011, Fr33 Aid organized the first aid tents at Free Keene Fest, Bardo Farm Fest and PorcFest. At those festivals, Fr33 Aid's all-volunteer staff provided basic first aid, educated participants about CPR, provided blood pressure screenings and offered complimentary pharmacy items.

### Origins

The idea for Fr33 Aid started at PorcFest 2010. Teresa Warmke brought her defibrillator and CPR education materials. She shared the Fr33 Agents space in Agora Alley that year with Xaq and Garland Fixx as well as Jeff Johnson, a doctor on the team who also makes beef jerky. Fortunately, there hasn't been a need to use the defibrillator, but it is a great tool to have in case someone experiences cardiac arrest.

After PorcFest 2010, Garland interviewed Teresa for the Happy Porcupine newsletter, and they decided to start Fr33 Aid. The PorcFest organizers helped spread the word that Fr33 Aid was looking for medically-skilled liberty lovers who were willing to volunteer at PorcFest and other festivals. So far Fr33 Aid has over 20 volunteers, including one who joined during Bardo Farm Fest and two who heard about Fr33 Aid at PorcFest itself.

### The Fr33 Aid Team

The team at PorcFest includes a doctor, a paramedic, EMTs and nurses, an MD student, an occupational therapist and a surgical/ medical assistant. About half the team is located in New Hampshire, and the rest came from farther away to enjoy PorcFest. In addition to volunteering their time in planning and supporting liberty events, many volunteers donated medical equipment and supplies as well.

### Fr33 Aid in the Liberty Community

Many individuals and businesses support Fr33 Aid via promotions or other services. For example, Mike Gogulski provides basic IT support and ad-free website hosting for Fr33 Aid via his Freedom Blogs company. Garland Fixx of Eclectic Circle provides design services for Fr33 Aid T-shirts, buttons and stickers. George Mandrik from George's Famous Baklava set out a donation jar for Fr33 Aid at his booth at PorcFest and offered to wear a dress all day Saturday at PorcFest if Fr33 Aid raised at least \$350.



*Garland Fixx and Teresa Warmke  
Founders of FR33 Aid*




*Garland, George Mandrik, Xaq Fixx and Teresa in front of our PorcFest booth after we raised enough money (>\$500) at PorcFest to satisfy Mandrik's and Xaq's pledges to wear dresses all day Saturday.*

As of this writing, that goal has already been met! Fixx Brewing also collected donations for Fr33 Aid and donated \$1 from each sale of its Gluten Fr33 Ale to Fr33 Aid. Many donations at PorcFest were in the form of silver, shire silver or copper, which is always appreciated by the Fr33 Aid team.

### Fr33 Aid as Voluntaryist Outreach

Although many people who attend liberty events are voluntaryists, there are some who haven't heard of voluntaryism before or thought about the ideas. Fr33 Aid is a great example of voluntaryism in action. People with a variety of philosophies engage in conversation with the Fr33 Aid volunteers and express their support verbally and via donations or volunteering their own services. The team considers it important for laypeople to know about CPR and defibrillation, since government doesn't always arrive in time to help victims of cardiac arrest or other emergencies. And unlike government, Fr33 Aid will never force anyone to fund its services. The Fr33 Aid team has been touched and impressed by the generosity we have seen – not only from volunteers who have donated their time to Fr33 Aid, but also from people who appreciate our services and make monetary donations. It provides an excellent example of how critical services like health care can be provided on a completely voluntary basis.

### What's Next for Fr33 Aid

The Fr33 Aid organizers are currently discussing various ideas for projects that will help further its mission, which is to educate people about the value of mutual aid and lessen the burdens of government. The long-term vision for Fr33 Aid is to create a chapter-based network of medically skilled liberty lovers who work on projects all over the world. Meanwhile, Fr33 Aid will continue supporting liberty events with volunteer first aid and CPR education services. The next scheduled event will be the Live Free or Die Rally, August 25-28 in Jaffrey, NH. 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





# Ademo Caged for Felony “Improper Influence” By Pete Eyre

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



## OVERVIEW

Yesterday Beau Davis was held in “contempt” for not removing his hat when ordered by a stranger named Ed Burke in Keene district court. He was told that he’d

spend the next five days in a cage. For what? Where’s the victim? Thus far Ron Dunn, the “bailiff” who initiated the interaction, has failed to express remorse for his actions.

This morning CopBlock.org founder Ademo Freeman went to Keene district court to discuss Beau’s treatment with Ed as he walked into his office. When they reached the second floor where the office was located, Ed ordered other men with guns to “arrest” Ademo. They obeyed.

A moment later Derrick Horton, who had been doing “Don’t Take the Plea” outreach on the first floor, was handcuffed as he stepped onto the second floor to try to hold everyone accountable through his camera.

Ademo was alleged to have acted with “Improper Influence” RSA 640:3 – a “Class B Felony” and is currently at Cheshire Co. Jail until his “probable cause hearing” on July 7th at 9am in Jaffrey, NH. His captors have issued a \$5,000 ransom and they stole his camera.

Derrick was processed, given a “violation” for filming, and released. His “crime” was filming in the lobby, which many, including myself, did yesterday. A bit arbitrary. Don’t you think? That’s the difference between natural law and man-made legislation.

## UPDATES

**2011.06.29 12:00pm EST:** Thus far \$230 has been raised through CopBlock.org/Support to help Ademo.

**2011.06.29 1:00pm EST:** Please call 603.271.2521 then press “5” for to reach Don Goodnell, “director” of Admin. Offices of the Courts, to demand the release of the surveillance footage taken at Keene district court on Tuesday, June 28th.

**2011.06.29 1:20pm EST:** Ademo & Derrick’s arrests noted in *New Hampshire Sentinel* “Adam M. Mueller, 28, of Keene was arrested after an encounter with Keene District Court Judge Edward J. Burke in the court lobby, according to Keene police Sgt. Christopher L. Simonds. Simonds didn’t know what transpired between Mueller and the judge, but the judge ordered a bailiff to arrest Mueller, he said.”

**2011.06.29 2:15pm EST:** Yesterday Pete Eyre was told it would take 24-72hrs to “classify” Ademo at jail, after which time he could have visitors. Kate Ager just called and was told it would take up to four more days.

**2011.06.29 2:20pm EST:** Strategy brainstorming meeting created for tonight at 6pm at the Keene Activist Center.

**2011.06.29 4:00pm EST:** Richard Van Wickler returned Pete Eyre’s call and informed him that Ademo was done being “classified” and would be moved into general population after his health

assessment. Pete and Kate plan to visit Ademo at 6pm.

**2011.06.29 5:00pm EST:** Pete Eyre spoke with Ademo on the phone. A video from that conversation will be up tonight, after Pete returns from visiting Ademo at jail but briefly, Ademo noted that Beau was going to be released tomorrow (Thur.) morning, rather than Fri. for “good behavior.” He also encouraged those so-inclined to donate a buck or another set amount per day that he’s caged via CopBlock.org/Support.

**2011.06.29 8:00pm EST:** Kate Ager to to “judge” Ed Burke: Release Ademo & Beau video made live (see below).

**2011.06.30 10:30am EST:** Beau Davis is free(r)!

**2011.06.30 11:00am EST:** Pete Eyre and Kate Ager went to Keene district court and requested all documents/media/content related to the arrests of Ademo Freeman, Beau Davis and Derrick Horton. They left with some documents related to Ademo – a complaint, assignment order and order of commitment. The other documents will be mailed.

**2011.06.30 12:00pm EST:** Help us get footage from Ademo’s camera – it’ll prove his felony charge absurd. Call prosecutor Chris McLaughlin and tell him to do what’s right: 603.357.9815 (then press #1).

**2011.06.30 12:10pm EST:** “Adventures in Statism Full” video captured on Derrick Horton’s camera by Derrick and Jason Repsher added to thread (see below).

**2011.06.30 1:45pm EST:** Pete Eyre mailed a Freedom of Information Act letter to Edwin Kelly, 107 Pleasant St., Johnson Hall 3rd Fl., Concord, NH 03301 to obtain all related documents/video/content. The “state” is supposed to respond within five days.

**2011.06.30 5:00PM EST:** Ademo is free(r)!! Check out the video above to hear in his own words how it went down.

**Help keep Ademo going – visit CopBlock.org/Support**

Donations will be used however Ademo best sees fit. If we raise enough to bail him out and he wants to be bailed out, he’s out. Otherwise any donations received may be used to help cover the costs incurred by going pro se, projects, food, etc.

**Call those involved. Let them know that they’re responsible for their actions. It’s not right to initiate force against a peaceful person.**

**Chris McLaughlin – 603.357.9815 ext. 1.** – prosecutor [tell him to turn over the footage from Ademo’s camera - it’ll prove his felony charge absurd]

**Ed Burke – (603) 352-2559** – “judge” Keene district court [communicate that you do not condone his rights-violations of Ademo, Derrick and Beau]

**Richard Van Wickler – (603) 903-1600** – “superintendent” Cheshire Co. Jail - [ask his thoughts on the situation and note that he himself is culpable since he’s keeping a peaceful individual caged]

**Timothy K. Peloquin – (603) 357-9813 ext. 7029** – Keene PD “officer” who signed “Im-

Continues on Page 43



## Continued from Page 42 - Ademo Caged for Felony “Improper Influence”

proper Influence” complaint against Ademo [inquire if he thinks Ademo deserves to be in a cage for nine days or if he can identify a victim] **Don Goodnell – (603) 271.2521 ext. 5** - Administrative Office of the Courts, director [encourage him to be transparent and release surveillance footage from building]

The overview below was written by **Kate Ager** (a friend, and one of the eight arrested outside Manchester PD).



*Kate Ager & Ademo Freeman at PorcFest*

I woke up this morning (Tuesday June 28, 2011) to a **Keene 411** text message alerting me that, “Ademo Freeman just got arrested at city hall,” so I went down there. When I arrived, I passed Jason Repsher downstairs who was doing Don’t Take the Plea outreach and proceeded to the second floor where the first thing I saw upon opening the door was a Keene Police officer grabbing Derrick Horton’s arm; he was ordered to put his camera on the counter, placed under arrest and taken into a back room.

Ademo, who was being held in the conference room, was taken to a room off to the side where I could see him through the window and spoken to by multiple police officers. After their encounter, Ademo was taken to the Keene Police Department. Jason Repsher stayed at the Keene District Court to watch Derrick’s proceedings while Rich Paul and I went to the police department to gain further information about Ademo.

At the police department, the woman at the front desk said that she did not know any information and would speak with the arresting officer when he was free for a moment. We checked in with her multiple times, but she did not follow through. About forty-five minutes after arriving, I was standing outside with Rich and Jason, when Officer Short drove into the parking lot and informed us that Derrick had been transported to the police department and would be released shortly, and Ademo was being charged with a Class B Felony, Improper Influence.

Ademo’s charge was based off of asking judge Ed Burke questions on his walk into the building regarding caging peaceful people, such as Beau Davis, for wearing hats in the courtroom. Derrick was released with a violation for filming. Twenty minutes later, we were told by Officer Rivera that in half an hour Ademo would see a judge other than Burke, because of the conflict of interest, at Keene District Court.

I parked at the courthouse and saw Ademo in the back of Officer Peloquin’s cruiser, so I was able to exchange a few words with him on the way to the second floor. Judge Lane ‘oversaw’ the bail hearing/arraignment and decided that “the state,” who brought up prior arrests and that Ademo is on bail for the chalking incident on June 4th in Manchester, had made a convincing argument. Ademo argued that he has never missed a court date and should be released on signature bond, but bail was set for \$5,000.

At his request, Officer Peloquin turned Ademo’s property over to me – except his video camera. When Ademo was taken out a side exit and put into the Sheriff’s vehicle, I left through a different exit and watched as they drove away. A bailiff whom had followed Ademo and the officers outside apologized to me, telling me that he was “sorry for what I had to go through in there” and to call or come speak with him in a few hours to find out Ademo’s court date and the location where it will take place.

The bailiff should not be apologizing to me, he and his colleagues should be apologizing to the person(s) whom they actively aggressed against. Ademo was taken to Cheshire County Jail awaiting a probable cause hearing which is to take place at **9:00 AM on July 7, 2011 in Jaffrey District Court.**

Pete and I went down to the courthouse around 3:30 PM to inquire further about Ademo’s hearing. The bail hearing this morning was also an arraignment – I learned that with felony charges a plea can not be submitted; not guilty is submitted automatically by the judge. Pete got the phone number of who to call in Concord regarding getting a copy of the footage taken today by the surveillance cameras in the courthouse. Ademo was filming his encounter with Ed Burke but his camera is being held, presumably as evidence.



[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





# Taking Notes from the Social Science of Underground Society.

## By Daniel J. D'Amico

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



READERS of Freedom's Phoenix, Agorists, Voluntaryists and libertarian activists of all sorts should read closely research in economic history and comparative political economy. Austrian, Public Choice and New Institutional economists have been in recent years investigating historical cases of statelessness and quasi-statelessness with impressive theoretical results.

violation and high economic growth. But the dismal success records of state building and foreign aid have caused critical researchers to ask if the profession really knows where good institutions come from or how they develop.



Elinor Ostrom's 2009 receipt of the Nobel Prize in economics implies how much these perspectives can contribute to our broader understanding of political economy. Before we can hope to understand or prescribe the proper role of government, we should first know and comprehend the full potential and limitations of voluntary interaction.

Ostrom's research was largely a reaction to what she perceived as a theoretical and practical failure within the mainstream profession. Economists frequently wax poetic about how much institutions matter. Good institutions, such as private property rights, sound money and just legal systems, lead to social cooperation, low

In the real world, different locations pose unique logistic challenges for providing public goods. Effective production functions require local knowledge. One-size-fits-all solutions cannot replicate the functionally adaptive patterns of institutional diversity. While imperfect or missing property rights may be a sub-optimal condition, it does not follow that government guarantees a preferable solution.

The broader field of political economy must take a significant step back from its current debates. We should stop asking, what is the proper role of government, as though the answer were a quantifiable magnitude. We must begin to ask more fundamentally, what are the general conditions that lead to voluntary social cooperation

**Continues on Page 45**



**Continued from Page 44 - Taking Notes from the Social Science of Underground Society.**

and advancements in the division of labor. How can these general conditions be accomplished given the unique challenges of various historical, geographic and cultural constraints?

Given the sober reality that government is no guarantee for social order, Ostrom's research project was observational as opposed to deductive or predictive. If one wants to know how people can overcome commons problems, than she should simply begin to look at how various communities actually accomplish such tasks in different ways. Sure enough, Ostrom has catalogued a variety of communities wherein individuals and groups have ingeniously created and implemented rules and enforcements that function well to maintain the qualities and quantities of their unique social spaces.

The framework of Ostrom's research project has broader applicability. The commons problem is in essence no different an incentive arrangement than the prisoner's dilemma - the most popular of all game theory models precisely because it represents the fundamental challenge of social interaction. A fusion of Hobbes and Smith: in the state of nature individuals are more inclined to rape, pillage and plunder than they are to truck, barter and exchange. Creating good institutions is a matter of encouraging peace and discouraging plunder - but how?

Studying stateless environments allows social scientists to challenge the presumed necessity of government at its core. An exogenously provided monopoly on violence is a necessary and effective strategy for solving prisoner's dilemmas and promoting social cooperation.

Without a historical case of statelessness with large, heterogeneous and economically advanced populations, several scholars have found researching organized crime, underground economies and prison communities sufficiently revealing. Peter Leeson for one has argued that it is precisely the fact that pirates and outlaws are deemed criminal and outside the protection of government law, that drives them to create and implement functional institutions. By their very nature of dealing in illicit markets, criminal agents must learn to enforce contracts and minimize conflict without the state.

One of the key implications from stateless research is that what is good about underground institutions - their tendencies to maximize profits and adapt their capital structures to unique environments - are more the result of voluntary action than they are dependent upon the shadow of state government. Criminal societies have invented secret languages, complex forms of lending markets and self-enforcing contracts precisely because they have no recourse to utilize government law enforcement.

Stateless research also implies that the unsavory elements of underground societies are

often the result of coping with nearby governments more than they are the consequence of insufficient state control. Violence, transience and exclusion are contextually rational strategies given the risks and uncertainty imposed by regulation, intervention, prohibition, predation and oppression.

I do not suggest that libertarians should adopt similar institutions as underground or criminal societies. Instead I mean to suggest that those libertarian activists seeking their own liberties as well as general social change would do well by looking closely at the processes that such social contexts undergo. Mainstream economists often presume the prerequisite institutions for trade are given. Once, property rights, a sound monetary system and a just rule of law are in place, then capital tends to flow to its most highly valued use, markets tend to clear and prices equilibrate. When these latter effects are in disarray, economists are left bewildered. Today's economic and social maladies are but an example of this intellectual failure.

In this vein, outlaws have a leg up compared to economists. Pirates, mafia members, drug dealers and prison inmates - none take the existence of functional social institutions for granted. Social order in the underground economy requires learning. Problems are improved upon. Costs are reduced. Effective strategies are benchmarked and copied. If only the institutions in our legitimate society had such open ended potential? 🌱

**Suggested Readings:**

[Gambetta, Diego \(2009\). Codes of the Underworld: How Criminals Communicate. Princeton: Princeton University Press.](#)

[Kaminski, Marek \(2010\). Games Prisoners Play: The Tragicomic World of Polish Prisons. Princeton: Princeton University Press.](#)

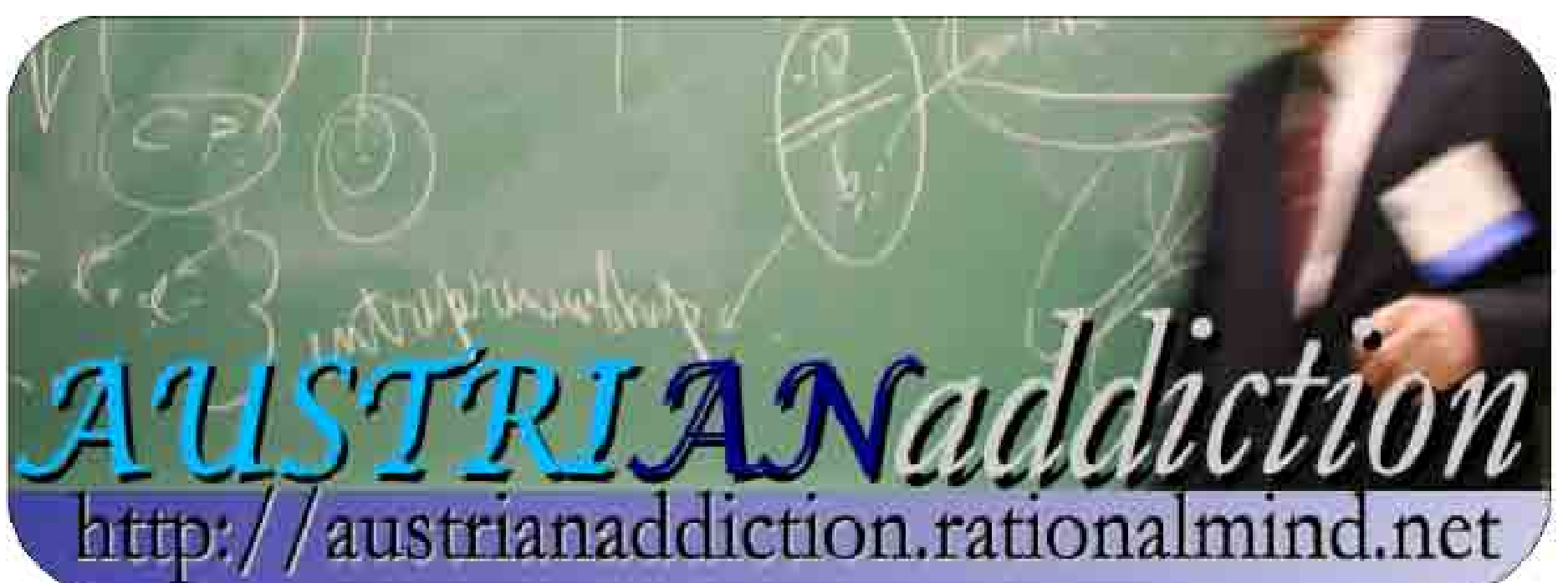
[Leeson, Peter \(2009\). The Invisible Hook: The Hidden Economics of Pirates. Princeton: Princeton University Press.](#)

[Ostrom, Elinor \(1990\). Governing the Commons: The evolution of Institutions for Collective Action. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.](#)

[Ostrom, Elinor \(2005\). Understanding Institutional Diversity. Princeton: Princeton University Press.](#)

[Venkatesh, Sudhir \(2009\). Off the Books: The Underground Economy of the Urban Poor. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.](#)

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





# REBORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

By L. Neil Smith

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



LIKE any American with half a brain these days, I understand that our country -- in fact the whole of Western Civilization -- is at a crossroads.

In one direction lies ruin and collapse, Depression, poverty, civil war, bloodshed, an end to everything we consider valuable and good.

In another, lie all of the different futures each of us desires: peace, freedom, prosperity, and progress; a decent, relaxed, open society, virtual immortality, and a chance to leap for the stars themselves, almost certainly much sooner than most of us presently expect.

The only direction truly barred to us lies straight ahead, along the line that we have so far followed, and which has brought us to this crisis. The current trendy term for that is "unsustainable": we cannot go on the way we have for the past century, and rationally expect that things will remain -- can remain -- as they have always been.

As early as the mid-1970s, I began delivering a speech here and there across the country in which I pointed out some economic facts -- with profound historical implications -- that most of my audiences seemed unacquainted with. The first was that, even then, the average individual was permitted to keep only about half of what he or she earned, while the remainder was taken away, confiscated at implicit gunpoint, in the form of dozens of different taxes, both open and concealed.

It was asserted in those days that there were a hundred taxes on a single loaf of bread. There are almost certainly many more than that today. Without these taxes, we would each have double the resources we have now to feed, clothe, shelter, transport, and defend ourselves and our families, and our standard of living would be

twice as high as it is.

Yet the whole truth goes deeper than that. All the people we pay -- to provide us with goods and services we require to live the lives we're accustomed to living -- each and every one of them is forced, just as we are, to surrender around half of what they earn to various levels of government, federal, state, and local, the difference being that they don't really pay all of those taxes. We do, in the form of prices that are twice as high as they would be in a society without taxes.

Get rid of the taxes we pay directly, along with the taxes that we pay in the form of prices that are twice as high as they would be in a free society, and every one of us would have twice as much money as we have today, and that money would go twice as far. Our real wealth, and our standard of living, would be four times higher than they are right now.

But it doesn't stop there. Increasingly, everything that we do -- or try to do, or dream of doing -- is bound up in a matted tangle of laws, ordinances, statutes, rules, and regulations. In addition to making our lives less satisfying and more unpleasant, the economic consequences are disastrous, amounting to yet another -- unnecessary -- doubling of what it takes to maintain our lives as we live them today, and threatening us with a bleak, unrewarding existence in the future.

What it comes down to is this: government is a parasitic organism the effect of which, on civilization, is ultimately lethal. Owing to taxation and regulation, fully seven eighths of everything we labor for is taken away from us by force. We remain the richest society on the planet (news of our national demise -- so far -- has been greatly exaggerated, and most other countries are collapsing at a faster rate than we are), but we are surviving on one eighth of our productive capacity.

**Continues on Page 47**



## Continued from Page 46 - REBORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

Like a big V8 pickup truck allowed to run on only one cylinder.

In the speech I used to give all those years ago, my emphasis was on what life could be like if we were to keep the fruits of our labor, a real-world Utopia characterized by all those attributes I mentioned earlier -- peace, freedom, prosperity, and progress -- where happy people might live for a thousand years, and even the sky wasn't the limit.

That set of mental images became my first novel, *The Probability Broach*, and colored everything that followed. Today, I still believe in the truth of what I wrote back then, but we are not an inch closer to it now. In fact, we're further away from it than we were when I began.

And that may partly be my fault.

I was right to create worlds where people were freer and happier without the state. It needed doing then and it still needs doing now. People need a concrete image of the society they're struggling to establish.

But I failed to think about -- and write about -- what's being done with all that ill-gotten seven eighths government takes away from us.

We know now that the War Between the States -- the first war underwritten by an income tax -- was unnecessary, and that the United States needn't have entered World War One or World War Two, and that the Cold War, Korea, and Vietnam were hoaxes, con-games designed to keep the American people frightened and in line, and drain them of every penny possible so that politicians, bureaucrats, and defense contractors could ride around in limousines with their little blond secretaries.

Whenever you look up in the sky at a military fighter passing overhead, understand that what you're seeing is half a dozen homes that didn't get built for Productive Class families. When you see a nuclear powered aircraft carrier in port or on TV, know that you're seeing whole cities that never got started, or were allowed to fall into ruin. Instead of besmirching a word like "enterprise", such vessels should be given names like the U.S.S. *Detroit* or *South Bronx*.

Unconstitutional bureaucracies and the mercenary cronies of criminals in power have constructed monstrous pyramids to themselves in places like Washington and Iraq with treasure, extorted from you and me, that, left in our hands and in the private marketplace, might well have been employed to discover a cure for cancer or Alzheimer's disease.

Provided that whoever had the talent to find it hadn't been killed in one of America's unnecessary -- but extremely lucrative -- foreign wars.

But perhaps more readily appreciable, and more to the point as you struggle to contend with the rising tax and regulation-driven prices of groceries and gasoline, is the fact that the fat swinging obscenely from beneath the upper arms of the obese moustached women behind the counter at the Department of Motor Vehicles is the flesh of your children.

And the death of their future.

Nothing that government does for us -- nothing that government claims to do for us -- is worth that. What's more, they know that the jig is up and things can't go on the way they have. So they've taken to looting, trying to extract everything they can before it's over.

That's what the Obama Administration has been all about.

What can we do? Thousands of pundits will stand in lines a mile long to offer you their opinion about that. For my part, I know what I can do, and I'm doing it. But I've found that it's a little hard to explain.

Most of those who want to control the Productive Class, to drain us and throw us away like a crumpled paper cup when they're done with us, are low, crawling, craven cowards who keep a

wetted finger in the wind at all times and one eye on the exit. Republicans are the most pathetically obvious about it, but Democrats aren't even slightly different.

That sad and discouraging fact has caused great disappointment among the advocates of freedom more than once, memorably in 1964, 1994, and most recently, in 2010, but it can also be played to our advantage.

Just to offer a single example, suppose someone drafted a proposed Constitutional amendment that would put teeth in the Bill of Rights by mandating life in prison for any politician, bureaucrat, or policeman who was duly convicted of violating any provision of the first ten amendments.

Now immediately the cynics in the movement -- those most likely to think they know something when they don't -- will begin to blather that such an amendment doesn't stand a chance of passing into law. In fact, I can hear them blathering now. But they're usually so impressed with their own pontification that they miss two extremely important points.

First, in my lifetime, thousands of historic things have happened that "older, wiser heads" confidently predicted were impossible. The year before I was born, a single bomb destroyed a city -- twice. The monolithic telephone monopoly was replaced by more phone companies than anyone can count. People went to the Moon. We all saw a giant comet strike Jupiter, and found water -- lots and lots of it -- on Mars. Another war was fought in Europe. A black man was elected president.

Too bad that didn't turn out better; how about Dick Boddie next time?

Most importantly, it doesn't matter whether such an amendment -- a penalty clause, if you will -- ever passes. Remember that finger in the wind I mentioned? What percentage of the American people, do you suppose, endorsing the idea of a penalty clause in polls and focus groups, in letters, calls, and emails, to representatives, radio stations, newspapers, blogs and FaceBook pages, would be necessary to change the behavior of Congress, the Senate, and the White House significantly?

What about a simultaneous push for a hundred-year moratorium on new legislation -- except for bills of repeal? Or a law that sent politicians into combat first, whenever they decided to fight a war?

Is that number even close to what it would require to actually pass these measures? I don't believe it is. All it would take is a tiny fraction.


What I've done is write a book, *Down With Power*, full of such ideas, with the tactic in mind of starting a thousand brushfires for those who think they own us to put out, annoyances to churn their stomachs, elevate their blood pressure, cost them a night's sleep, and perhaps even shorten their life expectancy by a few minutes, hours, or days.

Call it waterboarding government -- a Revolution by Attrition.

What can you do?

Read the book.

Pass the word.

Freedom in our time. 

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)





## Why Liberty? By Marc Stevens

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



LIBERTY is the expression of life; it's the only time when we're truly alive. You can see this with great artists like Miles Davis when they enter the "zone". Partick Henry knew what he was talking about when he discussed liberty:

"Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches that jewel." - Speech to the Virginia Ratifying Convention, June 5, 1778.

As an expression of life, liberty is my priority. You can feel your spirit being crushed whenever you pay taxes or have to wait in line at the DMV or other government office. But living life, not asking for permission, that's exciting and motivates people. It's the reason millions fled governments in Europe and other continents to come to North America.

Sadly, liberty is not a priority with many. The 4th of July is really just like any other excuse for a day off work.

And for all the incessant complaints about governments, and they come from all parts of the political and non-political spectrum, not much is done to stop them from restraining that precious jewel, liberty, the essence of life itself. What is actually done to bring about this freedom the 4th of July is supposed to be about?

Alexander Haig is quoted as saying: "Let them march all they want, as long as they continue to pay their taxes."

You can easily replace "march" with complain and not change the substance of the statement. The pigs [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal\\_Farm](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal_Farm) profiting from this global farm don't care how much the sheep complain; as long as the sheep cooperate and keep paying for their own enslavement the machine keeps grinding away.

But, when the sheep stop cooperating, when the fire of liberty is sparked in their hearts, now there's a problem for the pigs and dogs running the farm called the state. Haig's statement contains the key to freedom though, it was also mentioned 400+ years ago by Étienne de la Boétie:

"From all these indignities, such as the very beasts of the field would not endure, you can deliver yourselves if you try, not by taking action, but merely by willing to be free. Resolve to serve no more, and you are at once freed. I do not ask that you place hands upon the tyrant to topple him over, but simply that you support him no longer; then you will behold him, like a great Colossus whose pedestal has been pulled away, fall of his own weight and break into pieces?" <http://tmh.floonet.net/articles/laboeitie.html>

Non-violent, non-cooperation is the key. Our means must be consistent with the end: liberty is the end, so liberty is the means. Liberty is about action though. Unfortunately, most people are too afraid to stop cooperating with the pigs running the farm. So the pigs can continue ratcheting up the control; all under the guise of protecting the farm of course.

There's no way around it, getting to a voluntary society - building a truly free market - requires

non-compliance with laws, including the tax laws. That's why I advocate non-compliance with taxation on almost every radio show I do. Is there risk involved? Of course, not only is it considered a crime to give such legal advice, it's also supposed to be a crime according to 26 USC § 7212 [http://www.law.cornell.edu/us-code/26/usc\\_sec\\_26\\_00007212----000-.html](http://www.law.cornell.edu/us-code/26/usc_sec_26_00007212----000-.html)

This is why networking with other liberty minded individuals is so important; building networks to trade without having permission in the form of licenses and other permits allows us to live free without as much risk.


I encourage not only bartering and using gold and silver for trading, but also P2P electronic "currency" such as Bitcoin, anything we can do to freely trade without using the Federal Reserve credit system is a step towards liberty and the free market.

Yes, such free trade has been described as "domestic terrorism", <http://www.marcstevens.net/articles/469-gangsters-see-crackdown-on-bitcoin-good-luck.html> but that is to be expected by the dogs helping to keep the farm going.

Building the free market, like most things, has risks associated with it. Only acting consistent with our principals will bring about that liberty. If we don't, the reins will only get tighter. I've only mentioned a few means to bring about a free market, there are many others, such as Ian Freeman mentioned in the last edition about setting up your own radio station. <http://lrn.fm/broadcast/station/>

Freedom isn't a spectator sport though. We can't just sit back and hope others will take all the risks. Let's each make a goal to do something every week to bring us closer to a free market. Consider my radio show, the No State Project <http://marcstevens.net> a vehicle to help you in whatever manner you choose to live free. Make this 4th of July different; help bring about a voluntary society, stop cooperating with those who do not respect you enough to ask for our consent.

Live your life on your terms, choose to be happy. Find what inspires you and live. Awaken that feeling of liberty again.

Remember what this symbol stands for: agora, anarchy, **action**. Cherish life, seek liberty and live. 



[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



## Publisher's Backpage

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

This inaugural edition of [Freedom's Phoenix Digital Magazine](#) was the product of hard working and talented individuals committed to sharing the message of liberty. Every individual listed in the credits was essential to this publication.

Blazing a Trail to Tomorrow with an entirely new medium that incorporates all other forms of media will allow us to share ideas and news when other familiar methods cease to be effective tools for individuals. Collectivist traits make all methods of communication vulnerable to a 'Central Plan'. [Freedom's Phoenix Zine](#) is very clear about our understanding that you will plan your own life,... and we'll do what we can to help you.

"In the end, Freedom Always's Wins,... It Just Gets Really Messy First". This optimism is constantly reinforced in my mind by 'Generation Next',... and we have worked very hard to make certain that the voice of the LOVEolution

is heard. Special recognition is due my daughter Sierra. Those that have met Sierra understand what I mean when I say, "When I grow up I want to be just like her", smart, pleasant, competent (like her older two brothers and sister). She truly is responsible for the quality of this publication. And this is her first digital publication. She learned and implemented an entirely new form of media and on her first try has helped to launch the liberty movement into the future... at 21 years of age.

The future is in good hands, but there are years of struggle before us and this edition of [Freedom's Phoenix Zine](#) is an attempt to arm Generation Next with the intellectual and practical tools needed to understand the truth of the world and be inspired to advocate for a truly free society as humanity marches on.

Ernest Hancock  
 Publisher: [Freedom'sPhoenix.com](http://Freedom'sPhoenix.com)

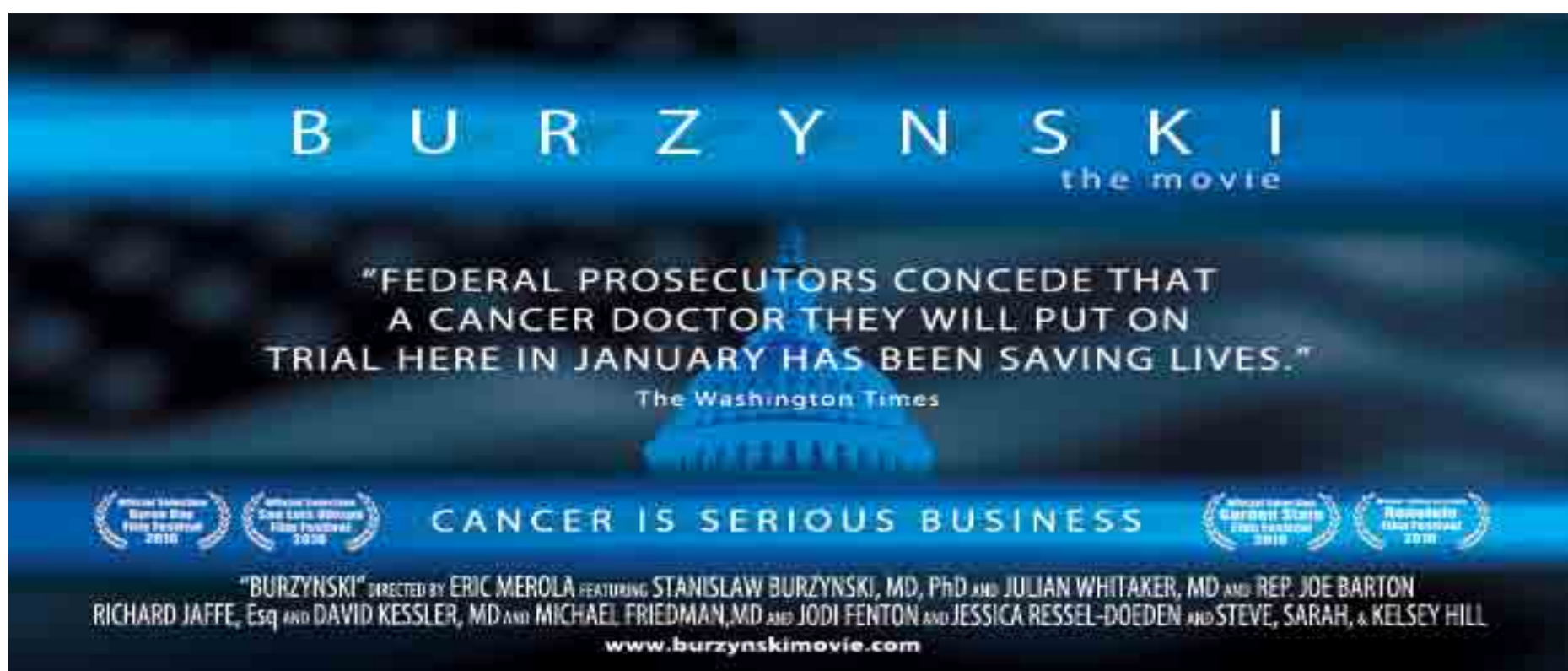
[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

**"From Tablets to Starships,...  
 we are on our way!"**





**Getting you up to Speed: Books, Movies, Videos and Music**



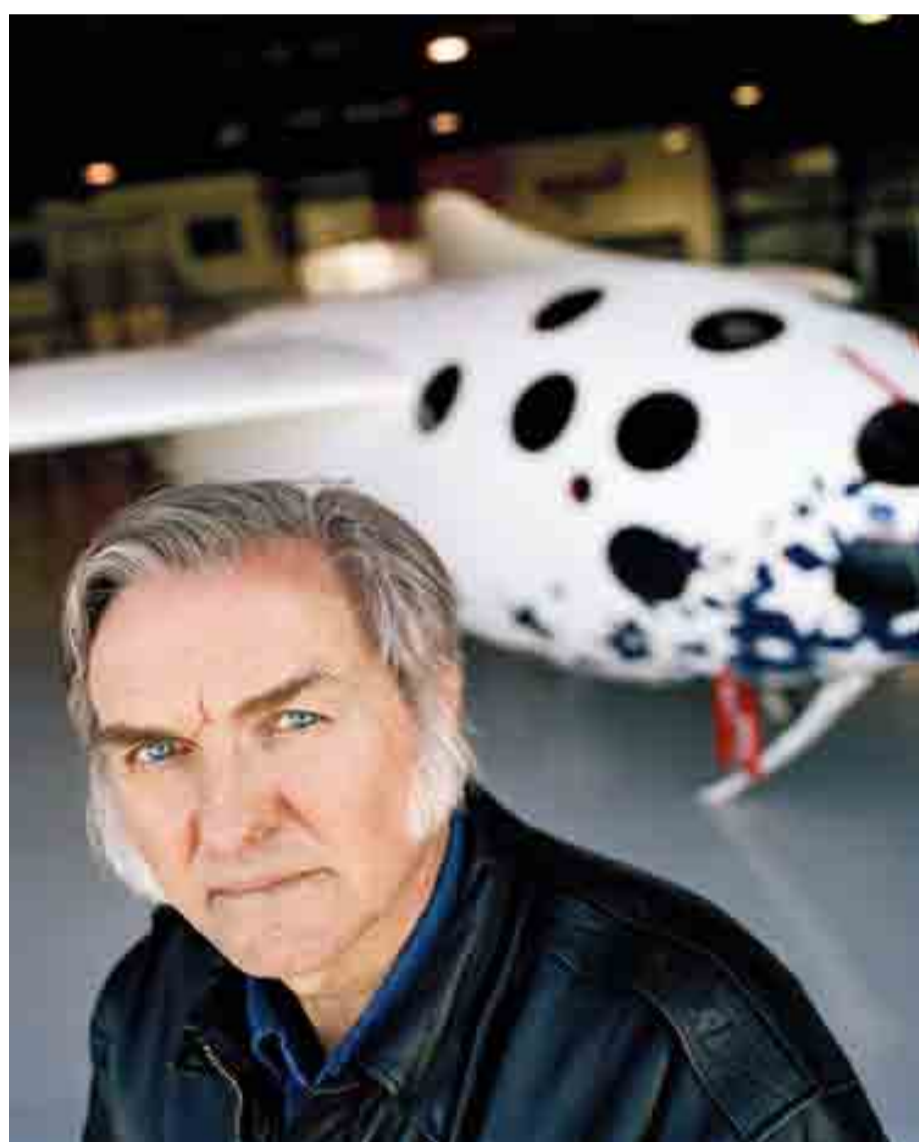
Category: Healthcare

**The Great Cancer Hoax: The Brilliant Cure the FDA Tried Their Best to Shut Down...**

By: Dr. Stanislaw Burzynski

Burzynski, the Movie is the story of a medical doctor and Ph.D biochemist named Dr. Stanislaw Burzynski who won the largest, and possibly the most convoluted and intriguing legal battle against the Food and Drug Administration in American history.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



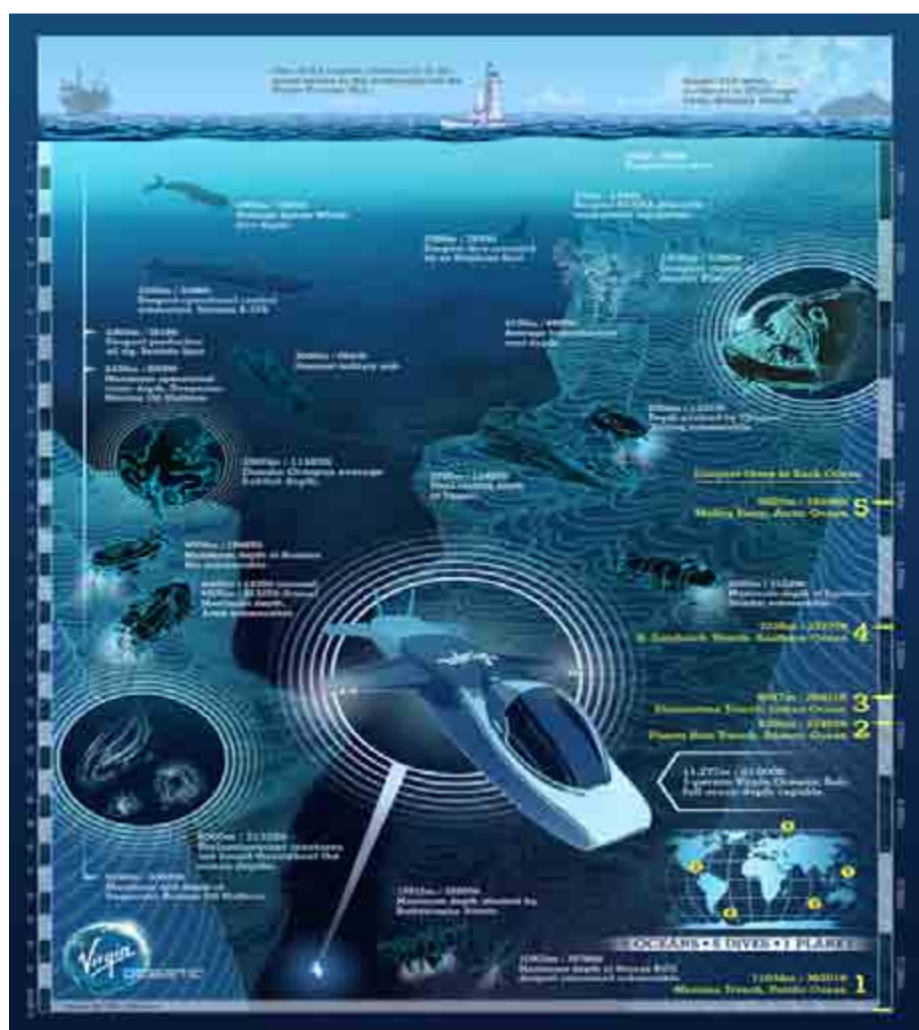
Category: Space Travel and Exploration

**SpaceShipOne - "Black Sky" The Race for Space**

By: Burt Rutan

The Ansari X Prize was a space competition in which the X Prize Foundation offered a US\$10,000,000 prize for the first non-government organization to launch a reusable manned spacecraft into space twice within two weeks

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Science, Medicine and Technology  
By: Richard Branson

**Richard Branson launches Virgin Oceanic: deep-sea exploring submarines**

Today, Sir Richard Branson, American sailor, pilot and explorer Chris Welsh, and submarine designer Graham Hawkes launched Virgin Oceanic, a project to explore "the last frontiers of our own Blue Planet: the very bottom of our seas."

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Space Travel and Exploration

By: Richard Branson

**Virgin Galactic New SpaceShipTwo Animation**

<http://www.newvoyaenews.com>

Unveiled January 23rd, 2008, this new Virgin Galactic animation shows a flight aboard SpaceShipTwo, brought to 50,000 feet by WhiteKnightTwo, where it launched to 110km above the earth.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Space Travel and Exploration

By: Robert Bigelow

**Bigelow Aerospace - Genesis I & II**

Bigelow Aerospace is a North Las Vegas, Nevada space technology startup company that is pioneering work on expandable space station modules. Bigelow Aerospace was founded by Robert Bigelow in 1998 and is funded in large part by the fortune Bigelow gained through his ownership of the hotel chain Budget Suites of America.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Transportation

By: Robert Innes

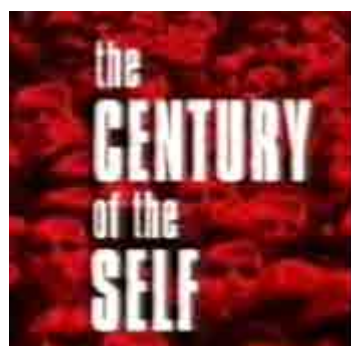
**A Dolphin-Like Speedboat That Can Reach 50 MPH and Launch 18 Feet Into the Air**

Outfitted with a 1500cc engine, a watertight cockpit and six dolphin-like fins, the Innespace Seabreacher redefines personal watercraft. The 17-foot vessel can reach 50 mph on flat water, cruise beneath the surface, and launch 18 feet into the air. It's also got an iPod-compatible sound system and a digital periscope. Summer may never be the same.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



## Getting you up to Speed: Books, Movies, Videos and Music

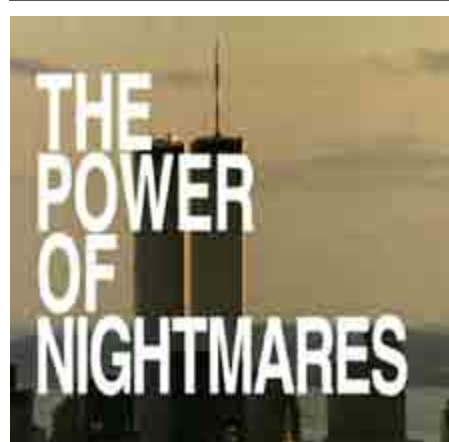


Category: Government  
By: Adam Curtis

### [The Century Of The Self Full Length Documentary](#)

To many in both business and government, the triumph of the self is the ultimate expression of democracy, where power is truly moved into the hands of the people. Certainly the people may feel they are in charge, but are they really? The Century of the Self by Adam Curtis tells the untold and controversial story of the growth of the mass-consumer society. How is the all-consuming self created, by whom, and in whose interest?

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: NeoCons  
By: Adam Curtis

### [Power of Nightmares](#)

Have you wondered how those politicians with the darkest fears became the most powerful? They used the power of nightmares to scare populations. Fear became mother's milk fed to our childish psyches. The goal? Political power.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Internet  
By: Robin Sloan and Matt Thompson

### [EPIC 2015](#)

The updated version of EPIC 2014. It is the best of times, it is the worst of times.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Government / History  
By: Stefan Molyneux

### [The Handbook of Human Ownership - A Manual for New Tax Farmers](#)

"If you are reading this, it means that you have ascended to the highest levels of government, so it's really, really important that you don't do or say anything stupid, and screw things up for the rest of us."

**FREE:** Text/Audiobook: <http://www.fdrurl.com/HHO>  
Audiobook: [http://www.fdrurl.com/HHO\\_Audio](http://www.fdrurl.com/HHO_Audio)

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Movies  
By: Frank Capra

### [Meet John Doe](#)

Reporter Ann Mitchell prints a fake letter from a man who threatens suicide to protest social ills. The letter startsets a social movement, and she hires out-of-work actor John Willoughby to take on the role of "John Doe".

**Publisher:** "How Collectives Always Ruin Movements"

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Movies / Military  
By: David Zeiger

In the 1960's an anti-war movement emerged that altered the course of history. This movement didn't take place on college campuses, but in barracks and on aircraft carriers. It flourished in army stockades, navy brigs and in the dingy towns that surround military bases. It penetrated elite military colleges like West Point. And it spread throughout the battlefields of Vietnam. It was a movement no one expected, least of all those in it. Hundreds went to prison and thousands into exile. And by 1971 it had, in the words of one colonel, infested the entire armed services. Yet today few people know about the GI movement against the war in Vietnam.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#) • [Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Health and Physical Fitness  
By: Robert H. Lustig, MD

### [Sugar: The Bitter Truth](#)

Robert H. Lustig, MD, UCSF Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Endocrinology, explores the damage caused by sugary foods. He argues that fructose (too much) and fiber (not enough) appear to be cornerstones of the obesity epidemic through their effects on insulin. Series: UCSF Mini Medical School for the Public [7/2009] [Health and Medicine] [Show ID: 16717]

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Activism / Revolution / Politics: Republican Campaigns  
By: Ernest Hancock

### [It Begins the 1st Ron Paul Revolution Video - Phoenix](#)

We are tired of the mainstream media PRETENDING there is not a Republican alternative candidate for president. Do your conscience and your nation a favor and please investigate Ron Paul for President.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Music / Activism  
By Aimee Allen

### [Ron Paul Revolution Theme Song \(unofficial video\) by Aimee Allen](#)

Aimee Allen's "unofficial" video for the Ron Paul Revolution Theme Song. Aimee's new album "A Little Happiness" is available now - buy it [HERE](#)

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Activism  
By Adam Kokesh

### [DANCE PARTY @ TJS!!!](#)

On May 28, 2011 Television host Adam Kokesh and several other activists participating in a flash-mob were arrested at the publicly-funded Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Their crime? Silently dancing, in celebration of the first amendment's champion; a clear violation of their right to free-expression. In an excessive use of force, video was captured of Adam being body slammed and placed in a choke for his non-crime.

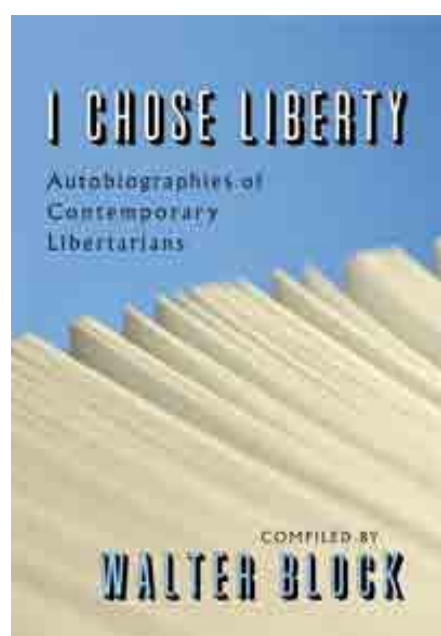
[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

### [Sir! No Sir!](#)

In the 1960's an anti-war movement emerged that altered the course of history. This movement didn't take place on college campuses, but in barracks and on aircraft carriers. It flourished in army stockades, navy brigs and in the dingy towns that surround military bases. It penetrated elite military colleges like West Point. And it spread throughout the battlefields of Vietnam. It was a movement no one expected, least of all those in it. Hundreds went to prison and thousands into exile. And by 1971 it had, in the words of one colonel, infested the entire armed services. Yet today few people know about the GI movement against the war in Vietnam.



## Getting you up to Speed: Books, Movies, Videos and Music

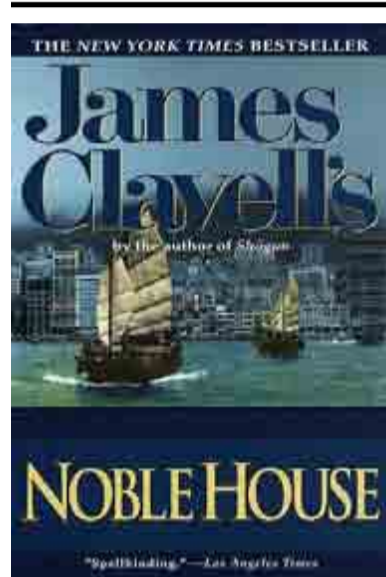


Category: Books  
By: Walter Block

### *I Chose Liberty: Autobiographies of Contemporary Libertarians*

Walter Block leaned on 82 of the world's most prominent libertarian thinkers and asked them to tell their life stories with an eye to intellectual development. The result is the most comprehensive collection of libertarian autobiographies ever published. Their stories are thrilling and fascinating. They reveal their main influences, their experiences, their choices, and their ambitions.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

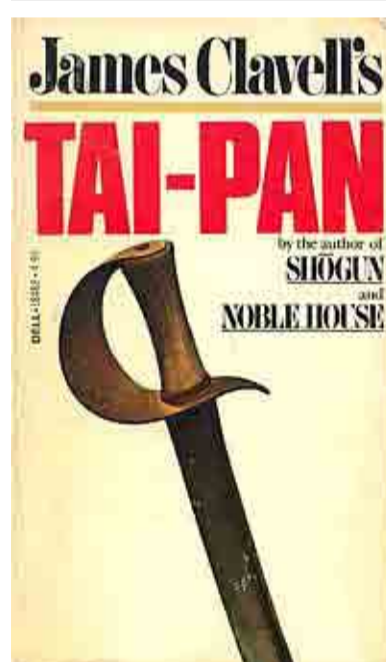


Category: Books  
By: James Clavell

### *Noble House*

Noble House is set in 1963. The tai-pan, Ian Dunross, struggles to rescue Struan's from the precarious financial position left over from his predecessor. To do this, he seeks partnership with an American millionaire, while trying to ward off his arch-rival Quillan Gornt, who seeks to destroy Struan's once and for all.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



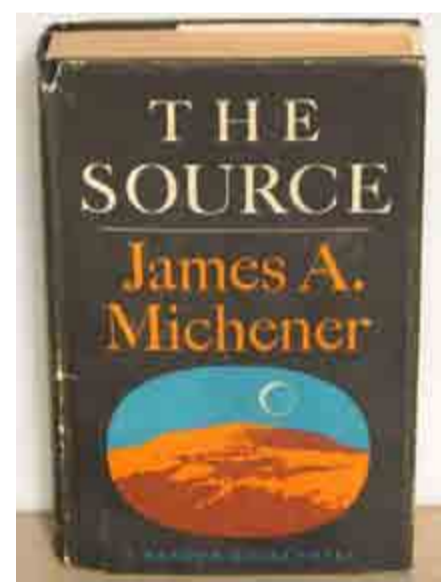
Category: Books  
By: James Clavell

### *Tai-Pan* (novel)

*Tai-Pan* is a novel written by James Clavell about European and American traders who move into Hong Kong in 1841 following the end of the first Opium War. It is the second book in Clavell's "Asian Saga".

Publisher: "These 2 books help us understand the culture of China and its integration to the rest of the World."

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



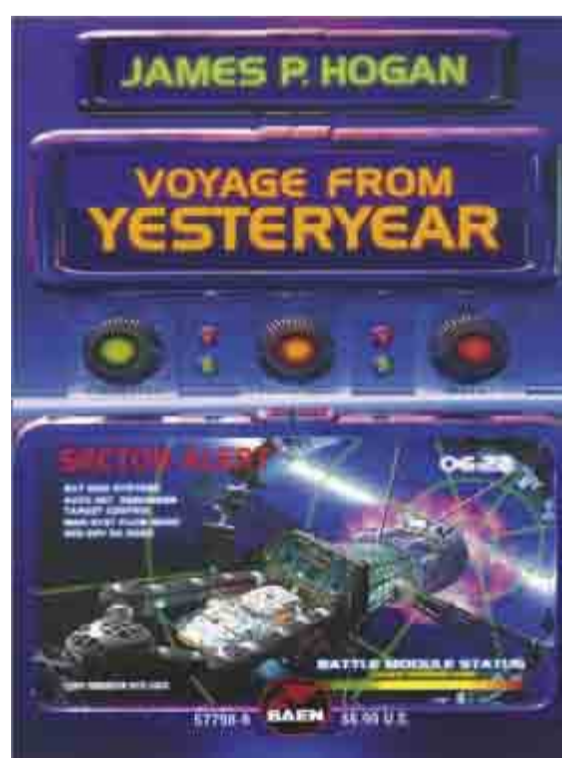
Category: Books  
By: James A. Michener

### *The Source* (1965) - Novel

*The Source* is a historical novel by James A. Michener, first published in 1965. It is a survey of the history of the Jewish people and the land of Israel from pre-monotheistic days to the birth of the modern State of Israel. The Source uses for its central device a fictional tell in northern Israel called "Makor" (Hebrew: "source").

Publisher: "Understanding Middle East's Religion and Politics"

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

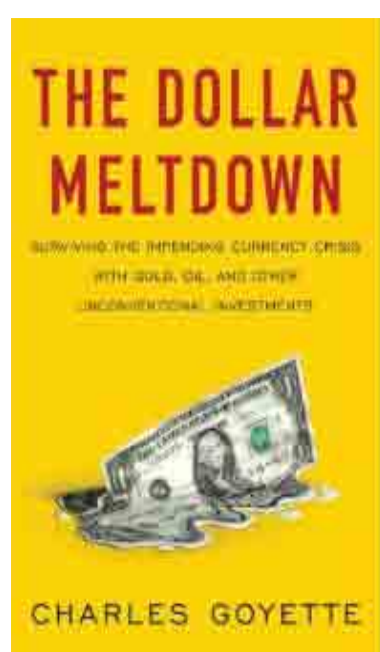


Category: Books  
By: James P. Hogan

### *Voyage from Yesteryear* (1982) Novel

*Voyage from Yesteryear* is a 1982 science fiction novel by the author James P. Hogan. It explores themes of anarchism and the appropriateness of certain social values in the context of high-technology. The inspiration for the novel was the contention that the ongoing conflict in Northern Ireland had no immediate practical solution, and could only be solved if the children of one generation were somehow separated from their parents, and hence did not learn any of their prejudices.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Books / Dollar Meltdown  
The  
By: Charles Goyette

### *The Dollar Meltdown*

Charles Goyette reveals the governmental errors that led to the current economic crisis and the bumpy road ahead. The signs are clear: Federal debt is compounding while growth has stalled, and America's foreign creditors are questioning the dollar's reserve currency status. Meanwhile, the "hidden" federal debt, much larger than the official debt, makes things even worse.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Movies

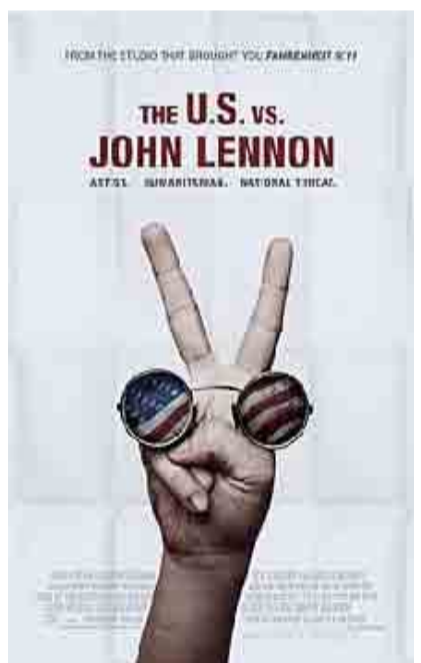
By: Peter Jackson

### *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy

*The Lord of the Rings* is an epic film trilogy consisting of three fantasy adventure films based on the three-volume book of the same name by J. R. R. Tolkien. The films are *The Fellowship of the Ring* (2001), *The Two Towers* (2002) and *The Return of the King* (2003).

Publisher: "Power Corrupts"

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Movies

By: David Leaf & John Scheinfeld

### *The U.S. vs. John Lennon* (2006)

*The U.S. vs. John Lennon* is a 2006 documentary film about English musician John Lennon's transformation from a member of The Beatles to a rallying anti-war activist striving for world peace during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Publisher: "The Threat of Peace & Love to the State"

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Movies

By: Renny Harlin

### *The Long Kiss Goodnight* (1996)

A women suffering from amnesia begins to recover her memories after trouble from her past finds her again.

Publisher: "A Playbook for False Flag Ops"

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



## Getting you up to Speed: Books, Movies, Videos and Music



Category: Entertainment: Movies  
By: Edward Zwick

### [The Siege \(1998\)](#)

*The Siege* is a 1998 American action-thriller-drama film directed by Edward Zwick. The film is about a fictional situation in which bloodthirsty terrorist cells have made several attacks on New York City. .

Publisher: "A Script used by the Bush Administration"

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

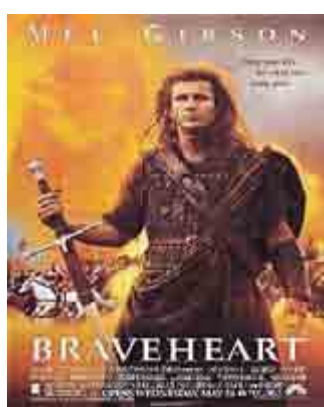


Category: Entertainment: Movies  
By: Roland Emmerich

### [The Patriot \(2000 film\)](#)

Peaceful farmer Benjamin Martin is driven to lead the Colonial Militia during the American Revolution when a sadistic British officer murders his son.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

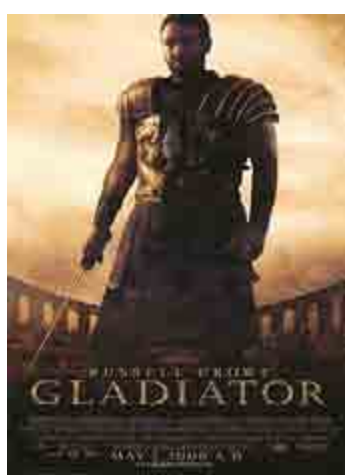


Category: Entertainment: Movies  
By: Mel Gibson

### [Braveheart \(1995\)](#)

William Wallace, a commoner, unites the 13th Century Scots in their battle to overthrow English rule.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Movies  
By: Ridley Scott

### [Gladiator \(2000 film\)](#)

When a Roman general is betrayed and his family murdered by a corrupt prince, he comes to Rome as a gladiator to seek revenge.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Movies  
By: Andy Wachowski & Lana Wachowski

### [The Matrix \(1999\)](#)

A computer hacker learns from mysterious rebels about the true nature of his reality and his role in the war against its controllers.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Music  
By: Jordan Page

### [Celebrate American R3VOLution Jordan Page 4th of July 2009](#)

Jordan Page rocks the house for Adam Kokesh!

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Entertainment: Music  
By: rebel inc.

### [Rebel Inc.](#)

rebel inc. is an intense rock band formed on the outskirts of Detroit, MI, now residing in Baltimore, MD. The original members, Kevin(guitar) and Adam(vocals), relocated with another Detroiter, Brian(drums), and found their bass sound in Benny, an Iowa native who also moved to the Charm City.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: The Philosophy of Liberty

By: Ken Schoolland

### [The Philosophy of Liberty](#)

The philosophy of liberty is based on self-ownership. This simple but elegant and hard-hitting animation will explain exactly what that means. It's a great tool anyone can use to educate children and adults about our right to life, liberty, and the property we create - and our responsibility to think, speak and act.

**\*Translated into dozens of languages\***

Publisher: [How FreedomsPhoenix is using this to free Arabia](#)

- Artwork for a Peaceful Revolution
- HarheaPhoenix (FreedomsPhoenix) Edition in Arabic

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)



Category: Precious Metals / Wallet Voting

By: Drew Phillips

### [What is this coin worth?](#)

Do you have any U.S. coins from before 1977? Some of those coins are actually 90% silver in weight and now sell for up to 20 U.S. paper dollars.

Do you know how much your coins are worth? This calculator will help you convert back and forth between silver coins and U.S. paper dollars.

[Make a Comment](#) • [Email Link](#)  
[Send Letter to Editor](#) • [Save Link](#)

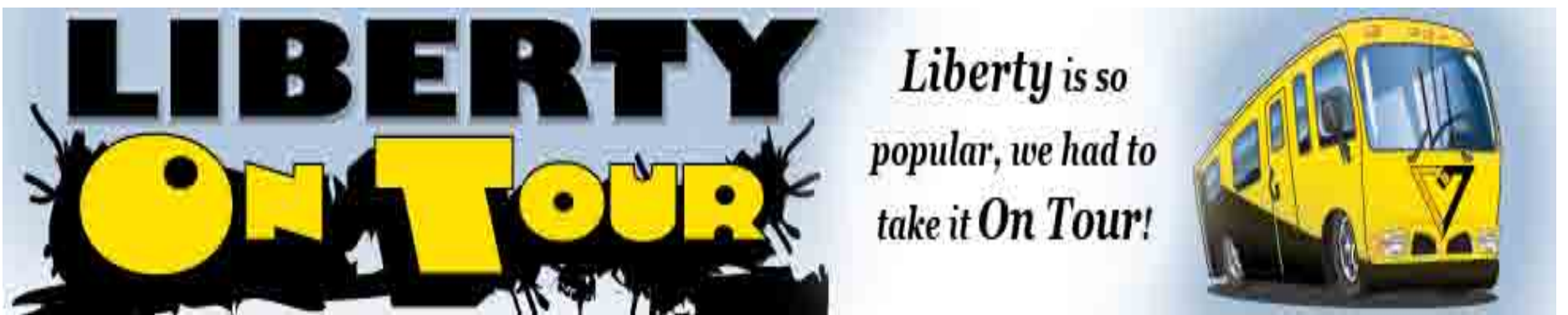




**Cop Block** is a decentralized project supported by a diverse group of individuals united by their shared goals of police accountability, education of individual rights and the dissemination of effective tactics to utilize while filming police.

We seek to highlight the double standard that some grant to those with badges. By documenting police actions – whether they are illegal, immoral or just a waste of time and resources – then calling the police stations involved (ideally while recording and then later sharing your conversation), we can work together to bring about transparency and have a real impact.

In addition to this direct pressure on police departments we want to be an educational resource on institutional changes that would curtail the common right-violations and unaccountability today by those with badges and a place to showcase different techniques, viewpoints and courses of action.



**Liberty on Tour**, founded in 2010 by Pete Eyre and Ademo Freeman, couples on-the-road activism with new media to advance the voluntary society. Through in-person interactions, online networking and constantly-varying content, LOT advocates for self-government, personal responsibility and consensual interactions.

Liberty On Tour's impact has continued to grow thanks to the inclusion of other individuals and their projects under the LOT banner, which also combine traveling with a principled message. If you have an idea for a project of your own [let us know](#) and we'll work together to determine if it's a good fit. We bring to the table our institutional knowledge, ready-made infrastructure and contacts on the ground.

If you're not-yet ready to hit the road but like what we're about, check out how you can [Support us](#).



**We Are Change** is a citizens based grassroots peace and social justice movement working to reveal the truth behind the events of September 11th, as well as the lies of government and corporate elite who remain suspect in this crime. In addition, we are here to aid the sick and dying first responders through fundraising and social outreach programs in order to promote awareness of those who suffer from physical, emotional, and psychological traumas they received in the aftermath of 9-11. We also seek to connect with those who are interested in educating the public while engaging in peaceful, non-violent demonstration about the pertinent issues that are affecting our lives each and every day. Furthermore, We Are Change is a nonpartisan independent media organization comprised of patriot journalists working to hold those engaging in activities that do not represent the wishes of "We the People" – by asking the hard questions that the controlled corporate mainstream media refuses to do.