

YOOPER SCOOPER

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Liberty

Liberty, in modern time, is generally considered a concept of political philosophy and identifies the condition in which an individual has the ability to act according to his or her own will.

Individualist and liberal conceptions of liberty relate to the freedom of the individual from outside compulsion or coercion; a socialist perspective, on the other hand, associates liberty with equality in wealth. As such, a socialist redefines liberty as being entitlements and connects liberty (i.e. freedom) to the equal distribution of wealth, arguing that liberty without equal ownership amounts to the domination by the wealthy. Thus, freedom and material equality are seen as intrinsically connected. On the other hand, the individualist argues that wealth cannot be evenly distributed without force being used against individuals which reduces individual liberty.

John Stuart Mill, in his work, *On Liberty*, was the first to recognize the difference between liberty as the freedom to act

and liberty as the absence of coercion. In his book, *Two Concepts of Liberty*, Isaiah Berlin formally framed the differences between these two perspectives as the distinction between two opposite concepts of liberty: positive liberty and negative liberty. The latter designates a negative condition in which an individual is protected from tyranny and the arbitrary exercise of authority, while the former refers to having the means or opportunity, rather than the lack of restraint, to do things.

Mill offered insight into the notions of *soft tyranny* and *mutual liberty* with his *harm principle*.¹ Overall, it is important to understand these concepts when discussing liberty since they all represent little pieces of the greater puzzle known as freedom. In a philosophical sense, morality must supersede tyranny in any legitimate form of government. Otherwise, people are left with a societal system rooted in backwardness, disorder, and regression.

The first known use of the word *freedom* in a political context dates back to the 24th century BC, in a text describing the restoration of social and economic liberty in Lagash, a Sumerian city-state. Urukagina, the king of Lagash, established the first known legal code to protect citizens from the rich and powerful. Known as a great reformer, Urukagina established laws that forbade compelling the sale of property and required the charges against the accused to be stated before any man accused of a crime could be punished. This is the first known example of any form of due process in the history of humanity.

Like Urukagina, most ancient freedoms focused on *negative liberty*, protecting the less fortunate from harassment or imposition. Other ancient legal codes, such as the Code of Hammurabi, similarly forbade compulsion in economic matters, like the sale of land, and made it clear that when a rich man murders a poor one, it is still murder. Still, these codes relied on a certain virtuousness of kings and ministers, which was far from reliable.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberty>

Shame on the Blame Game

Chrysler sales are down 25%, Ford is down 16%, GM is closing four truck and SUV plants in the U. S. and may drop the Hummer from its lineup. Semi truck sales are down and many independent truckers are



selling their rigs to go to work for the larger trucking companies because the independent truckers can't afford an \$1,200 pit stop.

The automakers can't blame anyone but themselves for their lack of preparation and vision. The billions spent on R&D (Research and Development) by the auto industry over the last few decades was a huge waste of money. They also failed to note the obvious trends of the consumers and that oil prices had become susceptible to a fickle market.

It started in the early 1990s with the admission by Ford that they were making \$15,000 profit on each Explorer they sold. The consumer was paying \$30,000 for a \$15,000 vehicle. Consumers could

no longer afford to buy a new car every three to four years; even auto loans were extended out to 90 months—7.5 years.

Today the auto makers scramble to blame oil prices, CAFE standards, taxes, retirement account commitments, unions, benefit packages and everything except their own failures to their consumers. The loyal brand-name owners of the 60s and 70s have had a change of heart.

The entire American auto industry is in the proverbial toilet.

Parts are made in foreign countries and even the steel used in the manufacturing is imported in some cases. The list of the various parts used for the making of autos read like the items sold at Wal-Mart.

Ford is preparing to make their Fiesta in Mexico. While mass-layoffs occur in the U. S., Congress keeps NAFTA and the CAFE standards intact. The choices made by the automakers is export jobs to Mexico and even open new plants and hire more workers in Canada.

An observation that automakers and the union big-wigs failed to notice was all those "Kerry" and "Granolm" bumper stickers on those little imports. The fallout has been disastrous—not because of those who buy imports, but because of those who refused to compete with those who make the imports.

The Gondola is Intact!!!

The politicians and purchased economists are trying to comfort citizens with a suggestion that just because the balloon is detached and we're plummeting to the ground, they are insisting all is well. They are emphasizing that "The gondola is intact!!!"

Many Americans are idealists. Most even have some level of expectations among those they elect and employ. Utopia is a concept that will not be attained until after death, even within our own families there is strife, jealousy and bickering. Therefore, we must adjust our expectations accordingly, within our families and among our public servants. But that does not mean we should completely surrender our expectations or deviate from the principles that we had established in our society before the government moved-in and corrupted most of the system and society.

While the environmentalists distract most Americans from the real problems facing the United States and the world, the liberals are able to manipulate the government enterprise behind their iron curtain. Our underachievers are quickly aligning themselves behind the political philosophies most associated with the subjugation of the masses through control and excessive penalty and taxation.

As the nation plummets to the ground, the liberals want us to stick our heads out over the sides of the gondola and enjoy the breeze. We should not be aware that gasoline prices have gone up over 36% since the Democrats took over Congress and in some cases food prices are up over 50%.

While the liberals concentrate on how to control Americans with new global warming initiatives, our food is arriving contaminated from China and Mexico. Our landfills are filling up with packaging materials and the short-lived, throw-away electronics that are imported. Even our pets aren't safe from the ineptness of the government. Al Gore was quite correct, even pets know the importance of an election, but then again, liberals view our pets as an invasive species.

America's taxpayers and consumers are rapidly becoming far more sophisticated and informed. The talking-heads on liberal news shows are not convincing the public that all the problems we have are because of Bush and his veep, Cheney. In fact, despite the failed attempts of FOX News to duck and block on behalf of people like McCain, the people are well aware that McCain and his congressional allies are the main problem.

Bush may have been too quiet on Iraq and several other issues, but regardless, overall he has been a major disappointment among his own supporters. Congress may have bucked him all the way, including John McCain, but the President has a pulpit to preach from and he didn't take advantage of it. Unfortunately, when he did he made revealing comments like identifying those volunteers protecting our borders as vigilantes and doing nothing to effect arrests and convictions of illegal aliens and those who hire illegal aliens.

The real concern here is that while those in political office, the communists media and the fringe kooks point out the gondola is intact, we haven't noticed they have been standing on the spare hot air balloon as we plummet to a sure death.

We need two things, right now. People with the guts to make immediate and unpopular decisions to get us out of this dilemma and people who we hope can combine their talents with vision and principle to help set the course for the future. We cannot afford to give the stage to the naysayer and blamers; they must be replaced with those who can at least articulate a vision and can convince us that they will reinitiate the Constitution. ~JCP

Freedom is never free! -- 4th of July Tribute--What Happened to Them?

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned.

Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the

British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year, he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later, he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more.

Standing tall straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't fight just the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government!

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't.

So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July Holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid. Remember: Freedom is never free!

It's time we get the word out that patriotism is NOT a sin, and the Fourth of July has more to it than beer, picnics, and baseball games. . . . Author Unknown

The Scott Loper Story <http://www.scottloperstory.com/>

Scott Loper, a U.S. citizen living in Canada, was a good cop, highly trained in surveillance and criminal investigation.

On the verge of exposing a police-run narcotics ring in Durham, Ontario, Loper was discovered by the ring and imprisoned for four years on extorted charges. There, he was tortured to the point where he often questioned his ability to make it out alive.

Those he had been about to expose were after the evidence - audio and video recordings Loper had made of their illegal operations. They also wanted him to keep quiet.

The Canadian government originally said the whole thing, including Loper's arrest, never happened, denying that Loper had ever lived in Canada, let alone been incarcerated there.

Had Loper been unable to produce evidence of his imprisonment, the denial would have succeeded. Loper had that evidence, which he had stuffed into his jeans as he was being released.

Caught in their lie, the Canadians want the whole ordeal swept under the rug. The U.S. government, rather than protecting its citizen, is complying with the cover-up.

Now free, and living in the United States, Scott Loper's main goals are involved with putting his life back in order and more importantly, to find his son Eddy, now 11 years old. Scott has not seen or heard from his wife and son since his arrest.

Article 36 of the Vienna Convention, signed by 164 nations in 1967, states that those nations are bound to notify foreign nationals, when arrested, of their right to contact their embassy or consulate, allowing that embassy or consulate to assure that citizen is treated properly.

The Canadian government says Scott Loper waived those rights. However, they could produce no document as proof of this statement. The reason, says Loper, is that no such signed document ever existed.

In an attempt to prove their lie, the Canadians finally came up with an unsigned document that holds absolutely no credibility. To add to the absurdity, the document is dated three years after Loper was arrested. Hardly the requirement of notice "without delay" as described by Article 36.

The ongoing series of articles on the right are

Nine part audio interview with Scott Loper and attorney Shields:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qMdWR4z0WE&feature=related>

written by World Net Daily staff writer Bob Unruh. They contain an amazing story of U.S. officials and Congressional representatives going to bat for Scott Loper, only to turn tail when the going got rough.

The Canadian government does not want this story to be told. The U.S. government seems happy to oblige.

There is a larger issue here that affects the safety and well-being of every U.S. citizen who ventures into another country. If the U.S. Government is unwilling to expect its neighbor to the north to comply with the Vienna Convention, what protection can we expect from our government when our rights are violated by other, less friendly countries.

The only resolution here is to force our government to do what it is supposed to do; to protect its citizens. In the case of Scott Loper, the U.S. needs to demand of the Canadian government the admission of illegal imprisonment and torture as well as compensation and help in locating his lost son.

Not an Eyebrow Rose By J. C. Powers

The federal government bailed out Chrysler Corporation; not an eyebrow rose. The federal government broke up AT&T; not an eyebrow rose. The federal government sued the tobacco industry through civil litigation; not an eyebrow rose. Many states "settled" with the tobacco industry to keep the victims of tobacco from suing tobacco companies; not an eyebrow rose.

The Democrats pulled lying under oath from Bill Clinton's articles of impeachment through an agreement with the Republicans; not an eyebrow rose. Sandy Berger removed critical documents from the National Archives which prevent a full disclosure of the event that lead up to 9-11 and he lost his access to secret information, temporarily; not any eyebrow rose. A good public servant (Scooter Libby) was convicted for lying to investigators who were investigating what turned out to be a non-crime; not an eyebrow rose.

The United States of America had been successfully attacked around the world and Osama Bin Laden declared war on the United States; not an eyebrow rose. The DC insiders who were assigned to the 9-11 Commission were prevented from obtaining documents and hearing testimony from Able Danger; not an eyebrow rose.

Hamtramck, Michigan permitted the Muslims to put up loudspeakers around the city to call Muslims to prayer rather than suggesting they operate their own radio station; not an eyebrow rose.

The Democrats prevented the United States from becoming energy independent; not an eyebrow rose. The federal government is requiring the change from analog signals to digital signals for all televisions; not an eyebrow rose. The environmentalist movement was substantially subsidized with taxpayers' money; not an eyebrow rose.

The 9th Circuit overrode citizen mandates; not an eyebrow rose. The United States Supreme Court facilitated the confiscation of private property for public "purpose"; not an eyebrow rose. Congress refused to initiate articles of impeachment against incompetent judges; not an eyebrow rose.

Democrats are promoting the complete nationalization of the oil industry; not an eyebrow rose. Congressman Bart Stupak and fellow Democrats are working to control water use; not an eyebrow rose.

Trillions of taxpayers' dollars will be used to combat a non-existing anomaly called global warming and the United Nations is imposing regulations on the US; not an eyebrow rose.

Amazingly, all the improprieties that have been occurring in the United States have gone virtually unnoticed or embraced with apathy. The Democrats and liberals are immune from scrutiny.

On the other hand, when conservatives do something stupid they are subject to unscrupulous lambasting by the media and conservatives are ostracized by their fellow conservatives. If these expectations were shared equally among all citizens and within every political party and if the media scrutinized without bias, the United States would be a different place; it would be the most highly respected nation on earth and would serve as a model for all people wanting freedom and liberty in their own nations.

Instead, the people are comparatively more ignorant today than ever, even though citizens invest trillions of their hard earned dollars in education annually, the graduates are coached ideologues rather than free critical thinkers.

The education system has systematically eliminated God, patriotism, competition, accountability and responsibility from the curriculum, as we are quite able to stand witness to the results of effective brain washing and diminished thinking skills; still, not an eyebrow rose.

"Invasion of the Mind Snatchers" By Ron Ewart, *President*

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Back in 1956 there was a science fiction movie entitled "*Invasion of the Body Snatchers*". A re-make of the movie was released in 1978. Both films were done fairly well and were a hit at the box office.

For those of you unfamiliar with the film, "seeds" from outer space descended on America and started growing into fairly large, man-sized pods. Through some mechanism the pod would select a victim and when the victim was asleep, the pod would start giving birth to an exact replica of the sleeping victim and before he could awake, the replica took his place and the original body disintegrated. In the end, the newly constituted bodies acted as a collective, collecting pods from the fields where they were being cultivated and distributing them widely throughout the land, thereby propagating the invasion. If a person recognized the plan and what was going on, there was no escape. They were immediately pointed out, captured, put to sleep and their body replaced by the contents of a pod. At the end Kevin McCarthy, the lead actor in the original version, saw what was taking place and realized that there was no defense. The Earth was doomed.

We see a significant and unsettling parallel in what is happening all over the world today, including the United States of America. But the pods don't take over bodies, they take over the minds of men, women and children by spewing lies, distortions, hype and propaganda, aided and abetted by the print and electronic media. The pods have already replaced all of the people in the United Nations, most of Europe, as well as the news media and they are acting as a collective to spread their social and radical environmental communist pods, world wide. Their

goal is to eradicate freedom and liberty for the purpose of creating a society of robots that follow the invaders and infiltrators blindly into the one-world-order, a world designed by the invaders. The pod victims become the worker-bees in the "hive" that will carry the pods to every corner of the Earth and take over the minds of all men, women and children, but the target is especially those individuals who are free thinkers, crave liberty and are willing to fight for it, as was Kevin McCarthy's part in the movie.

Every move by government now, in every country, is towards the collective and a way from the individual. Although America's Founding Fathers proclaimed that all of our individual rights were the unalienable gift from our creator, the invaders and the infiltrators are spreading the gospel of collectivism through our schools, colleges and government, at all levels, to eradicate those rights. Their "bible" is so-called social justice and environmental protection, as laid down in the United Nations scrolls and tablets with the title, Agenda 21.

The "bible" of Agenda 21 now permeates all governmental bodies, including the U. S. President, the halls of congress, the entire judiciary and state and local legislative bodies. It is the very core of government bureaucracies. School and college text books have been duly altered to reflect the new paradigm of collectivism, as defined by social justice and environmental protection in the "bible" of Agenda 21. Even large corporations, businesses and churches are taking up the charge of "green". Socialism and radical environmentalism have been sewn into the very fabric of our society and even little children spout the propaganda of the "green" cult.

To illustrate the brainwashing of our kids, here is a short story. A while back we taught a science lesson to 10-year olds once a week. One of our subjects was the weather. We know quite a bit about the weather because of our experience as a pilot. When we asked the students what four things effect the weather, thinking we would get answers like the Sun, ocean currents, humidity, jet streams and the like, we were taken back when the first suggestion by one of the kids was global warming and the second was man-made pollutants. The term brainwashed instantly came to mind.

The basic premise of these pod invaders is that all humans are a stain on the Earth and must be regulated and taxed to keep them from harming themselves and the planet. They do not deserve freedom, much less property rights. To them, government is best suited to accomplish the task of enforcing the regulations, taxing the people, managing the land and water and saving Mother Earth. And government has grown to mean a small cadre of elite world individuals who control the money, the food, the water, the land and the energy (*oil, coal, natural gas and nuclear*). The rest of the 6.5 billion people are just pawns in the grand scheme of world domination.

Unfortunately, the deed is done. The environmentalist's green seed and the resulting pods have been sewn all across the world and the pods are growing everywhere, just like in the movie. Un-planting the seeds, destroying the pods and re-programming the people is going to be a daunting task. One wonders if it is even possible, unless.....?

NOTE: We cover many of these issues in our "*Vanguards of Freedom*" booklet series. For more information log onto: www.narlo.org/vanguards.html

Iowans

There is a class of people that inhabit the Midwest, fly-over country, that have more fortitude and resilience than those people who live along the edges of the country—or the fringes of the nation. The people in Iowa are pretty much raised to keep their negative comments to themselves and always be there to help your neighbor. The obvious has been taking place; they have even taken a liking of FEMA.

The impression one gets when you finally get a mile or so past the Iowa State line is that this is where the soul of the nation shines. Despite the fact that liberals in the State of Iowa legalized the distribution of RU-486, the revered morning-after pill that simply flushes an embryo out of the woman, Iowans are still Iowans, no matter how many Nazis or communists relocated to the State. They are the protectors of the soul.

While most Iowans will view their neighbors as worse off than they are, even though most of their home is hung up under a bridge in Louisiana, they also have a tendency to never view anyone, including themselves, as victims. Things will always happen; good and bad. The people of Iowa are the people we think of when a politician mentions a people that cling to their God and their guns. Its called perseverance, fortitude and faith.

More Power to the Federal Reserve! By Don Hooper

Editors; WASHINGTON (AP) 6-19-08

Treasury Secretary, Henry Paulson said Thursday that the government must move quickly to give the Federal Reserve more power to regulate the financial system, contending that this years financial market turmoil had highlighted the need for action

Paulson said that the central bank's powers should be expanded in the wake of the near collapse earlier this year of "Bear- Sterns," the giant Wall Street investment firm.

He said there was a need to consider quickly on how to give the fed the power it needs to obtain information from investment banks and the responsibility to intervene to protect the overall financial system. (End Quote)

A response from: Don Hooper,
R-Iron River,
1st Congressional District candidate:

The above statement leaves me almost speechless. The Federal Reserve is a privately owned world wide banking system that is accountable to no one. The President and the Congress has to brush their teeth, comb their hair and put on their best image to even ask " The Reserve" to give the order to start the money printing presses to print worthless currency not backed by anything but "confidence" in America's ability to pay it back. (Which they will never pay back)

Of course The Reserve will never refuse the request of the U.S. Government because as soon as the new currency is distributed to the reserve banks across the country, the government is subject to paying interest on the requested amount to the Reserve, whom the government gave the authority to regulate the nation's money supply in the first place. (Back in 1913)

It does not cost the Reserve anything to print the money except about one cent per bill, whether it is a hundred dollar bill, or a twenty, or a ten or a single dollar bill. That is the printing cost for the order, not the ink and the paper and the labor. That is paid for by the government which owns the mint, which is you and I, (I think.) Now if that confuses you, don't feel bad because you are not alone.

Let me try to simplify this: -- You are giving me the authority to regulate your money. If you want more liquidity, you ask, or order me (depends on who thinks they are in charge) to provide the cash for your needs. Then I will dig into your source to give you your money and charge you interest on that amount for doing so. It does not matter if you do not have enough money in your reserve for your needs, because if you don't, I will manufacture more for you with your printing press. (Sounds like a Doritos commercial.) This is what happened when we removed our currency from "The gold standard". All our money used to be backed up by the gold in Fort Knox, Kentucky and would never diminish in value caused by inflation.

The Federal Reserve wants more power, not because they don't know how much money we have, (After all they printed it) but because they want to know how you are going to spend it. If they don't like your investments, they will choke you off via higher interest rates. It makes me wonder what happens to all that interest money we pay to the Fed's for the use of our own money. Can you imagine how much is paid to them from the trillions (Yes trillions) that are printed against our gold reserves?? No one knows because they are accountable to no one. We have approximately a thirteen trillion dollar annual economy.

Also, I would like to know if foreign countries have committed their gold reserves to the world's money supply.

I think not.

My friends, this is only a scratch on the subject of the American dollar. But it is a huge gash on the future of American security. The answer is that we must return to the gold standard and eliminate the Federal Reserve if we are to control our own future.

Don Hooper, (Candidate for the United States House of Representatives.)

DonHooper@alldial.net
<http://tcoinc.com/hooper/>

906.265.9329

Editor's Note: Don Hooper is one of the three Republican candidates running in the August Primary for the 1st Congressional District.

*Sen. Barack Obama behind his presidential-like seal during a meeting of Democratic governors, Friday, June 20, 2008, at the Chicago History Museum.
(AP Photo/Alex Brandon)*

Sen. Barack Obama's campaign has stirred a lot of buzz with its latest innovation, a new seal that combines elements of **the actual presidential seal** and Obama's logo.

Some people are poking fun at the Obama folks for this. But if you want voters to imagine your candidate as president, what better way to do that than to have him appear behind a faux presidential seal? It actually makes sense on a certain level.

And this is probably a good time to experiment with it. That way, if there's a voter backlash, the sense that Obama has gone too far, the campaign has plenty of time to throw the seal down the memory hole in the hope that it will have been forgotten by Election Day.

They may want to rethink the Latin inscription "vero possumus," however. It made me think of opossum. I don't think the campaign wants people thinking of opossum when they look at Obama.

Vero possumus essentially means "Truly we're able" which is basically "Yes, we can," the Obama campaign's slogan.

Maybe "speratus" which means "hope" would've worked better. At least it wouldn't have people thinking of opossum.

Editor's Note: Is it just me or does the seal also remind you of the UN seal?



White Looters in Iowa By Mike S. Adams

During the week after Father's Day, I received a number of interesting emails from readers asking me to write about the dearth of looting after the recent floods in Iowa. Specifically, they wanted me to write about the reason there was so much more looting in New Orleans after Katrina hit the "Chocolate City" in 2005. Of course, the problem involves so much more than race - a factor most people are thinking about, even if they won't admit it.

That people would oversimplify many post-Katrina problems as "race problems" is unfortunate but somewhat understandable. I recall watching a Fox News reporter standing on a bridge in a flooded area of New Orleans just after Katrina. When the first black individual came wading out of the projects the reporter was simply astounded. Like me, the reporter had no idea that folks had been sitting in the projects waiting for someone to come and escort them out of harm's way.

It was also sad to see that it was one black face after another emerging from the flooded waters. And it was sadder still that the words "we need" were the first spoken into the camera by these citizens - all utterly unprepared to provide for themselves and their families.

But of course the ugliest scenes were yet to come as looters would turn downtown New Orleans into a place more like downtown Baghdad. Some of the looters who would participate in the destruction of their own neighborhoods would later suggest that they were entitled to loot because of years and years of "oppression."

Of course, talk of historical oppression goes a long way towards explaining why blacks would be more inclined to loot than whites. But it doesn't go far towards explaining the fact that looters are predominantly male rather than female. At some point, variables other than race have to be written into the equation.

There is another observation that is just as obvious as the fact that black males are more likely than black females to take advantage of the opportunity to loot as a means of eradicating historical oppression. I am referring, of course, to the fact that black females are more likely than black males to take advantage of affirmative action as a means of eradi-

cating historical oppression. In fact, overall differences between blacks and whites - in important areas including income and education - are largely due to the failures of black males relative to everyone else in society, including black females.

Sociologists have, at least to date, failed to grasp what lies behind this problem. This is largely because of their foolish contention that there are no inherent differences between men and women. They continue to believe, or pretend to believe, that gender differences are merely "socially constructed." I believe otherwise.

A man has as an inherent component of his being a need to be useful in some form of occupation. He also needs to provide for his children if he has any. The man who is able-bodied and does not work does not need to be taught to feel worthless. He feels that way without instruction. That is why a man is less likely to be driven to unemployment by drink than to drink by unemployment. That feeling of worthlessness similarly accompanies the man who does not care for his children. And it need not be taught to him by others. He imagines what people should be saying to him long before the first aspersions are cast.

For some forty years now the government has been providing incentives for (predominantly minority) men not to work and for women not to keep them around to care for their children. This idea that they are not needed as workers or as fathers cuts against their nature as men. It is a very dangerous pair of ideas with a very dangerous pair of consequences - only one of which has been addressed in this short essay.

The violence that is committed in an act of looting is not born of some idea that a man is entitled to the things kept from him by historical oppression. The violence against another man's place of work is born of his own sense of worthlessness for having not fulfilled his responsibilities as an able-bodied man. This non-sense about oppression is merely an afterthought - a form of rationalization in the Freudian sense. If used often enough it becomes more than an individual malady.

It becomes a cultural malady as well.

But the personal violence exhibited by minority men against other minority men is not so easily explained by economic oppression. Enlightened minds can easily grasp the effect of illegitimacy - and I speak here of illegitimate fathers because there are no illegitimate children - on minorities raised in single parent homes. But I believe the separation of fathers from their children explains, not just the transmission, but the genesis of violence in minority communities.

Sociologists write volumes on the scores of black men executed annually in the criminal justice system. But they are silent regarding the thousands of minorities killed at the hands of other minorities annually. Such a thing would not be possible unless black males had come to hold other black males in such low regard. And that is something that, in turn, would not be possible unless they also held themselves in very low regard.

So I am not at all impressed that, on Father's Day, Barack Obama chose to chastise black men for failing to take care of their children. It takes little courage to state the obvious fact that their absence will make things tougher on the current generation of children raised in single parent homes.

I would be far more impressed were there any indication that Barack Obama understood the impact the War on Poverty has had on the current generation of fathers who have been displaced by government programs. Of course, if he did understand that he might be tempted to admit that he, too, is contributing to a very complex problem. And there is every indication that, if elected president, he will continue to contribute to the problem and force the rest of us to contribute our "fair share" too.

Jeremiah Wright recently found himself embroiled in controversy for suggesting that the government invented the AIDS virus to kill black people. It would have been closer to the truth to say that was the reason they have injected the virus of government aid into minority communities.

The Federal Reserve Fiasco

By C. J. Williams

As it now stands, lending institutions can loan out their holdings to the tune of nine times the amount held, so, in essence, when we deposit our paychecks or monetary “windfalls”, banks can lend out nine times the amount of our deposit. Multiply that by a gazillion people and you’ll have a better grasp of how much worthless credit is being issued.

The Federal Reserve, a.k.a. “the Fed”, is the equivalent of a “central bank”. It’s actually a bank for banks, but it’s also a bank of sorts for the federal government. The government has no oversight authority regarding the Fed, and no power currently exists that can demand it be audited. Its powerful decisions are derived from elitist “think tankers” whose job it is to second guess economic “cause and effect” related to lowering or raising interest rates and/or printing more worthless paper money that has routinely over the past many years put the American people further and further into debt.

This is perhaps best explained in an excerpt from Rep. Ron Paul’s excellent new book, “The Revolution – A Manifesto”. The excerpt begins on page 140:

“Throughout most of American history the dollar has been defined as a specific weight in gold. Until 1933, in fact, 20 dollars could be redeemed for one ounce of gold. But that year, the U.S. government went off the gold standard, and henceforth, American currency would be redeemable into nothing. The government actually confiscated Americans’ holdings of monetary gold, nullified even private contracts that called for payment for a good or service in gold, and declared the dollar no longer redeemable into gold by American citizens – but made allowances for redemption by foreign central banks at 35 dollars an ounce, a devaluation of the dollar from its previous ratio of \$20.67 an ounce. And even this tenuous link to gold was severed in 1971, when Richard Nixon declared that within a year, at the \$35 exchange rate, we would not have an ounce of gold remaining. Other governments had begun to realize that the dollar, which was being massively inflated, was losing its value, and more and more were demanding gold in exchange for dollars. At that point Nixon officially closed the gold window, so that not even foreign central banks could get gold for dollars. In so doing, he cut the dollar’s last lingering tie to gold.

“Now let’s consider at least a few of the nuts and bolts of how the Federal Reserve System typically operates. When we read that the Federal Reserve chairman is cutting interest rates, what does that mean? Analysts are referring to something called the federal funds rate, the rate that banks charge when they borrow from each other. The banks are required to keep a specific fraction of their deposits on reserve, as opposed to lent out, to be available for customer with-

drawal. Banks can find themselves below the reserve requirement set by the Fed if they have made a lot of loans or if an unusually large amount of people have withdrawn funds. Banks borrow from each other when they need additional cash reserves to meet the reserve requirement.

“The federal funds rate rises when there is too much demand from banks looking to borrow and too little supply from banks willing to lend... Although it (the Fed) cannot directly set the rate, it can intervene in the economy in such a way as to push it upward or downward. The way it pushes the rate down is by buying bonds from the banks. That gives the banks more money and therefore more reserves on hand to lend to banks that need it. Funds available to be lent to other banks are now less scarce, and a correspondingly lower federal rate reflects this.

Where does the Fed get the money to buy the bonds? It creates them out of thin air, simply writing checks on itself and giving them to banks. If that sounds fishy, then you understand just fine.

“...When the Fed intervenes like this, increasing money supply with money and credit it creates out of thin air, it causes all kinds of economic problems. It decreases the value of the dollar, thereby making people poorer. And in the long run even the apparent stimulus to the economy that comes from all the additional borrowing and spending turns out to be harmful as well, for this phony prosperity actually sows the seeds for hard times and recession down the road.”

To continue with this synopsis, allow me to quote Rep. Paul’s words on page 159: *“Right now our government is borrowing \$2.2 billion every day, mainly from China and Japan, to pay for our overseas empire. As our dollar continues to decline, thanks to the Federal Reserve inflation, the American debt instruments that these countries are holding lose their value. We cannot expect these and other countries to hold on to them forever. And when they decide that they no longer wish to, our fantasy world comes crashing down on us. No more empire, no more pledging ever more trillions in new entitlements. Reality will set in, and it will be severe.”*

Frightening, isn’t it, to know this is happening right under our noses, and to realize that those whom we’ve elected to office, presumably other than Rep. Paul, could care less? While they strut and pompously pontificate about all the good they’ll do if elected, once elected they do little in the way of good compared to all the harm they do through tax and spend legislation padded with a few billion slipped in here and a few billion slipped in there, as though money grows on trees. Well, thanks to the Fed, apparently it does, though it has little value anymore.

The earmarks, the pork barrel spending on a plethora of multi-million dollar roads and bridges to nowhere and gifts to conservancies and land

trusts and historical preservation outfits; the billions of dollars allocated to fund U.S. empire building in foreign lands, and billions more for useless entitlement programs that do nothing but treat symptoms rather than the cause of peoples’ misery, are breaking the taxpayers’ backs.

In America, a great many of our military veterans live and sleep on sidewalks and in doorways of our major cities; a great many of our nation’s children go to sleep at night shivering in heatless hovels listening to the rumblings of their empty bellies; and a great many young families struggle to pay their bills while an obstructionist Congress, dominated by Democrats and RINOS and led by socialist comrade Nancy Pelosi, caves in to Gang Green’s rabid eco-environmentalism and prevents drilling for oil on American soil or off our nation’s coastline; while an obstructionist Congress refuses to close our borders and send foreign freeloaders packing; while an obstructionist Congress votes in favor of Obama Lama Ding Dong’s \$845 billion Global Poverty Tax to alleviate suffering in third world countries in spite of the fact that charity should begin at home; while an obstructionist Congress votes to override a president’s veto of an outrageously expensive entitlement program for the farming industry; and while an obstructionist Congress turns a deaf ear to the will of the people and opens its welcoming arms to UN treaties that are contrary to the Constitution of the united States of America and our Republic.

If you really want things to change for the good of all Americans, give what you can afford to the campaigns of those whom you know in your heart support Rep. Paul’s effort to restore the Constitution and safeguard our inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Five or ten dollars may not seem like much, but to political candidates who aren’t being funded by lobbyists and other special interest groups, or even their own political party because they’re known Constitutionals, every little trifling amount means a lot.

If we want to get the monkey off our back, we need to unseat the monkeys currently wasting our money in Washington, D. C., and once you’ve read Rep. Paul’s book, you’ll be more than ready to do just that. While it may be available in your local book store, “The Revolution – A Manifesto”, published by Grand Central Publishing, can also be ordered online now at Amazon.com for under \$12. It’s in stock, you should have it in only a matter of a few days, and I highly recommend that you read it.

~CJ

THE ECHO CHAMBER

The Michigan State House and the Senate are looking at approving a state-wide smoking ban. It is strongly and urgently suggested that those in Lansing get their own collective Houses and the Governor's office in order before dictating to business, industry and private citizens on how to run their own affairs.

When I ran for the State House in 2002 the anticipated deficit was \$400,000; that was eight years after the voters in Michigan approved a 50% increase in the sales tax to help fund schools. Today the General Fund and School Aid Fund deficit is \$920,000,000; this despite the cutting of \$1 billion in spending, the largest income tax increase in generations, issuing \$490,500,589 in bonds against the annual tobacco suit settlement money in May of 2006, and the Governor's hiring of a Chief Operating Officer. The Michigan Treasury also reports tobacco revenue in 2006 at \$1,169.0

million; that would be accurately depicted as \$1,169,000,000.00.

The Republicans in Lansing eliminated the Single Business Tax, but by compromising with the money-starved Democrats, legislators found a way to replace the lost revenue. The SBT was replaced by the Michigan Business Tax, which in some cases escalated business taxes by 424%. The huge increase in tax liabilities may account for some of the 28% earning losses among Michigan's small businesses and the residual unemployment rates.

Michigan has lost 300,000 jobs since 2000; including 170,000 manufacturing jobs. The benefit of losing both jobs and employees is that the unemployed had to leave the State to look for work. That has helped reduce the 7.6% unemployment rate to only 6.9% in April 2008. The annual unemployment average in 2007 for the 15 counties in the UP is a mini-

mum of 7.6%, ranging from 5% in Dickinson and Menominee counties to over 10% in Baraga, Keweenaw and Schoolcraft counties - <http://www.milmi.org/>

Michigan currently assesses a 19 cent tax on each gallon of gas. This is after the State collected the 6% sales tax from the distributorship. The legislators in Lansing are contemplating a 10.8 cent increase in gasoline and upping the current 15 cent diesel tax by 4 cents; each penny increase on diesel generates \$10,000,000 in revenue for the State. With the current burden on goods and services because of the outrageous transportation costs, Lansing has once again displayed their overpowering brilliance to identify a problem and tax it.

Are reelections in order?

Jim Hafeman, Negaunee, Michigan

Take the Diseased GOP Back, Abandon It! By Bonnie Alba *June 22, 2008*

What's in a name? Republican or Democrat? The major parties used to be clearcut on principles. Not anymore. In light of the last 20 years of Democratic and Republican leadership, the results have been dismal. President Bush's and Congress' ratings are at an all-time low.

Our Choices: We have the stumbling-over-words McCain, depending on which group he is speaking to, attempting to please the attendees by 'his record.' This, while Obama of the silky, silver tongue attracts an idolizing crowd of worshippers reminding me of those rock concert teenagers, screaming, pulling their hair out and fainting under the lights.

Is there a choice? Or, are we left with the axiom of voting for the 'lesser of two evils?' According to radio talk-show pundits like Rush Limbaugh, it's all about 'winning.' In other words, keep the establishment in place.

Not me. I'm giving up the idea that the Republican Party represents me. So what if Obama is elected! The only difference between Democrat and Republican is that one will move us faster than the other down the road to ruin -- a socialist democracy much like Europe.

Apathy is growing among citizens, but most voters will enter the November voting booths and go with the flow -- vote the way they always vote, the same-name party, you know, 'My Party, do or die.'

There's apathy for good reason. It is obvious that the two-party system is suffering a disease of the soul which can be traced back to the seats of power -- Washington, D.C. This long, drawn-out

presidential campaign season has propelled citizens, who cannot abide either candidate, from their own respective parties.

Who do we vote for? McCain? Obama? The diehard Republicans will always vote the GOP way (I was once one of the crowd). Ditto for the Democrats. But there is a growing group of Independents out there who have come to the same conclusions many of us have. Big Government is corrupted and broken. Like Humpty Dumpty, even all the King's men and all the King's horses can't fix it.

The ongoing debacle in Congress and the President's administration has soured our stomachs. Do you think they've forgotten their purpose in going to the Capitol of the United States? Do they think we have short memories of what they've done? Or, Not Done?

Where are the major problems facing our nation? You know them -- National Debt (add \$1.5 billion a day); Social Security and Tax reforms; Illegal Immigration; 4,000 dead -- not Iraq but along our border with Mexico; not to mention inflation and energy problems. Where's the seriousness of electing a leader who can steer our nation? The media has made a farce of it all.

The Republican Party soul is sick and blinded by the rot. The GOP platform is lacking in substance and once-upheld conservative principles are missing in action. Constitutional principles are no longer the focus. Do they even exist within the Party anymore?

Of course diehard, anti-McCain Republicans

will probably 'sit out' this presidential election. But it's not that simple anymore. I want a political party, a President, a Congress, which abides by the U.S. Constitution; that the oath of office means something. Not the currently held status quo that government must grow and take care of us. The most obvious fact is that both major parties are no longer about keeping their oaths and abiding by the U.S. Constitution and haven't for the past 100 years.

Have we heard anything from McCain or Obama that we haven't heard from Congress for the last eight years? In other words, more of the same.

I think [Joseph Farah of World Net Daily](#) and others have the right idea. Farah's starting a 'None of the Above' movement which should catch on in this election season like no other.

The cancerous disease of the Republican Party's soul is progressive until it is treated and returned to health. The Party can't recover its soul until it is lost. The cure is to abandon it in order to renew and bring it back to health. The other axiom, 'win for the Party's sake,' hasn't worked too well, has it?

I recommend citizens explore the Libertarian and Constitution Parties. Bob Barr is running on the Libertarian ticket and Chuck Baldwin is running on the Constitution ticket. Baldwin's ['If I Were President'](#) article is a winner, even if he only accomplished 10 percent of what he would like to do. They could do no worse to America than those current occupiers of our Capitol.

RECOMMENDED LINKS

UPPER PENINSULA PATRIOTS

Disclaimer—These links are here for your review and deliberation. Some may contain opinion while other may be completely researched—others may be a mix of facts and fiction.

DISCLAIMER—KOA STATEMENT

The Yooper Scooper is a private newsletter to be exchanged among friends and like-minded individuals via the internet or through a hard copy printed at personal expense. Even though Democrats can campaign from the pulpit while conservative ministers have to remain silent with threats of being removed from their non-profit status by the Democrats, the freedom of speech still has meaning and relevance among the people. We would like to take this opportunity to stress that if you take offense to the content of this newsletter you are probably indeed a descendent from monkeys. As for the rest of us, we hold the truths of God, Creationism, Free Will, the Ten Commandments and the Constitution close to our hearts and within our souls.

~ J. C. Powers, Editor

yoopscoop@yahoo.com



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NATIONALIZING OIL

House Dems Call to "Nationalize" Oil Industry

<http://www.stoptheaclu.com/archives/2008/06/18/house-dems-call-to-nationalize-oil-industry/>

Maxine Waters, as best as she could do to find the right word

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KN6s1KVFBNg>

The time for nationalized U.S. Oil is now

<http://www.collegiatetimes.com/news/2/ARTICLE/7001/2006-04-25.html>

MEET THE FEDERAL RESERVE—Video 00:26:38

<http://www.restoretherepublic.com/content/view/1240/71/>

MICHIGAN'S DECAYING ECONOMY

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/propa.html>

<http://audgen.michigan.gov/comprpt/docs/r271028507.pdf>

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/treasury/CigTobaccoTaxes2006Stat_207785_7.pdf

<http://www.michigan.gov/gov/0,1607,7-168-81249-,00.html>

<http://www.ns.umich.edu/htdocs/releases/story.php?id=1069>

<http://www.nfib.com/page/researchFoundation—http://www.milmi.org/>

http://www.milmi.org/admin/uploadedPublications/1029_miurat_map.pdf

<http://www.detnews.com/2005/specialreport/0510/18/A01-352693.htm>

MICHIGAN'S CAPITOL CONFIDENTIAL

<http://www.mackinac.org/pubs/mcc/>

RATTLESNAKE REVOLUTION BLOG

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Rattlesnake_Revolution/

GLOBAL WARMING UPDATE

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080606/ap_on_bi_ge/japan_iea_climate_change

This Side UP By J. C. Powers

First Bart Stupak sponsored legislation that prohibited Michigan from slant-drilling in the Great Lakes while other states do. He then spins around and investigates the oil companies for the high cost of a barrel of oil. His ANWR anti-prosperity environmental friends have also prevented converting coal to oil, which drove up the cost of diesel and everything connected to it, like our food—from the farm to the store.

Mr. Stupak is now on another environmental trek—this one will control the use of water in Michigan. It appears to be more of a control that affects only those who use large quantities of water, but like his buddy Mike Prusi, the truth is always well out of reach. State Senator Mike Prusi, as you may recall, sponsored State legislation that requires the metering on rural wells—beginning of course with those who use more than 100,000 gallons per days.

In public policy, incrementalism refers to the method of change by which many small policy changes are enacted over time in order to create a larger broad based policy change. Incrementalism contributes to our demise.

Let's all keep in mind that first came a little tobacco tax. Then the government sued the tobacco industry, which ultimately helped prevent victims of smoking from suing tobacco companies themselves. Next came a huge tobacco tax, and now there's an attempt to totally eliminate smoking in most public places. Only the unorganized smokers smelled a rat and were subject to the victimization by the state. They were unable to collectively yell foul!

Once you start adding up a few things, it becomes pretty obvious that we're fighting a formidable foe. They're quite capable of taking advantage of the stupid. Let's face it, there is no challenge in convincing stupid people that polar bears are drowning due to our carbon footprints. That leads me to another point about incrementalism.

God only makes a few stupid people; they're an important part of our society and serve their purpose well. Over the years people create stupid people, with the change in hot lunch programs and then the inception of the donut-breakfast programs in our schools are only a start.

The government redesigned the education system to virtually eliminate expectations and the only competition occurs in sports, but that, too, may become a thing of the past.

When kids are socially inept, government steps-in with alternative education programs to aid the functionally stupid. Schools instruct the stupid on how to breed and may offer the suggestion of stopping-by the nurse's office to pick up condoms, but the ultimate goal is to load society with the stupidest people possible. Of course, we can't forget the contributions made by the private sector, like Merck and other drug companies—Thimerosal has brought autism rates from 1:1,500 to 1:75 or even less.

There's been talk over the years about the U. P. of Michigan ceding from the State. At one time it may have worked, but since 1992, the UP has turned into a paradise for the profoundly inept politicians. The UP media and the people have been influenced by the professionally inept people, like university professors and environmentalists. Until the citizens grasp political realities, it is unlikely that we can ever become truly independent.

Incrementalism: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incremental_planning - Stupidity: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stupidity>

Thimerosal <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thimerosal>