

I am sure that those with a good knowledge of politics have figured out what my label would be. For those who have not figured it out yet, I am a libertarian. Our founding fathers were libertarian. They may have disagreed over federalism and states' rights, but they were in agreement that government should be as small as possible. They left all rights not explicitly defined to the people, not the government. They expected the people to stand guard and not be rolled over by power hungry individuals. Everyone should resist those who would destroy our freedom with ever expanding governmental powers.

I have heard many times how the Constitution is outdated and how it is a living document. I argue that piece of paper is just as relevant today as it was in the past. Our founders created a government that would be very limited in its power for they wished to free of kings, theocracies, unjust taxation and unnecessary imperialistic wars. I feel those threats are very real today.

We have a president who has grabbed tremendous power through executive orders and signing statements. We have a few Christian groups who would love to tell everyone else how to live. We are taxed at over 30% of our incomes to fund projects that would never be marketable without Federal and State intervention. We are currently in an undeclared war with terrorists. Our leaders say it is a conflict which may never end. What part of perpetual war does not shake you until your bones ache? I must say that the Constitution is needed in its original form, more than ever.

We have even lost rights that predate the Constitution. We have lost Habeas Corpus. A right fought for and won long ago. It seems pretty clear that the courts will not be able to hear such a case. So, who do you expect to declare your US citizenship to? Your jailer? I see the War on Terror more as the War on Freedom. We have damaged our nation more that any suicide bomber could have wished for. We have acted in a manner that must embolden the terrorists. They kill far less people than die from automobile crashes and we throw our rights away.

Without freedom, our flag is nothing to take pride in. When we choose to live without liberty, we have desecrated our flag far worse than burning it. When someone burns the flag of a free nation, they have not damaged that nation at all. They have only expressed an opinion. When a nation is no longer free, the flag represents slavery. Offering up our liberty goes against the struggle of all those before us. A struggle which led our founding fathers to create a government which would be at the will of the people and not the other way around.

We should resist taxes for they are a form oppression. They usually lead to waste and reduced quality of life for every American. I am certain many people get upset about the Bridge to Nowhere in Alaska. I am sure they argue that our money should not be spent in that manner. I submit that you should keep that in mind the next time you see or ride the Trolley to Nowhere. Alaskans helped pay for it, too. The greatest shame is the nearly nine trillion dollars of national debt. Our kids will be suffering a long time from the financial and political effects of that burden. We have oppressed the future generations in order to live well, today. We have, in effect, robbed our children's children. This crime was aided by us for not keeping our government in check.

We must turn this around. It will take sacrifice. We may need to have a lower standard of living until we pay off our debt. We will need to drastically reduce government programs. We may need to become less materialistic. It means refusing the call to nationalize every portion of our economy when some injustice is perceived. We may even have to accept that the winner of American Idol is irrelevant. We have some serious problems to solve and we should begin today.