

Frontiersman

June 1995

*Politically, compromise is a form of surrender.
It means lose tomorrow instead of lose today.*

Where Are We Going?

By John H. Webster

editor's note: This article was originally written by Mr. Webster in January of 1989. It was subsequently used as a political campaign message during his bid for election to the U.S. House of Representatives from the thirteenth district in California.

"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...."

These famous words are from the Declaration of Independence, written by the fore-fathers of our country. To them, the primary purpose for government was to secure those natural rights.

The founders of our country created a government dedicated to protecting the natural rights of its citizens. They set up checks and balances to slow down the process by which it might forget what its original purpose was. It took a while, but the government has forgotten.

Over the years, government decided that some natural rights of the individual could be sacrificed for the "good causes" of the majority. It decided that for the "common good" it was justified in forcing society's values onto peace-

ful citizens with different values. The path was set toward more government intervention. The rest is history.

What resulted was a stampede of groups seeking special benefits for themselves and demanding that government get involved in and control every aspect of everyone else's life and business. Government was there cheering us on with promises of equality, fairness and prosperity if only we would just give up that last freedom in our lives and that last dollar of our paychecks.

Don't let them take it. We have lost too much already.

- With taxes, we no longer own the products of our own labor.
- With labor and emigration laws we no longer have the right to contract freely.
- With food and drug laws, we no longer can decide what goes into our own bodies.
- We now are a resource that is protected, controlled, and owned by our government, all supposedly, for good causes.

We all have a choice to make: should we allow our government to continue its growth and acquisition of power and control, or should we restrict it to its primary purpose as the protector of our freedoms and of our natural rights? ∞

"...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."
—from the Declaration of Independence

Dead Right

by Sam Aurelius Milam III

On Tuesday, May 16, 1995, by a vote of 101 to 46, the Texas legislature passed a law providing that Texans can now apply for a permit to carry concealed weapons.¹ Gun rights advocates are celebrating another victory. That's utter nonsense. Any right the people of Texas might have had to carry concealed weapons is now as good as dead. The final nail will be driven into its coffin when Governor George W. Bush signs the bill.

A right is something that is within your ability, for which you don't need permission, and that is generally or customarily accepted or condoned. If you have to ask for permission, it isn't a right. It's a privilege.

In order to exercise this particular privilege, an applicant will (so far) have to be 21 years of age or older, submit to as many as 15 hours of training, pass a test, and pay a fee of \$140 for a 4 year permit. No doubt the good folks of Texas will fall eagerly into line.

Against stupidity the very gods themselves contend in vain.
—from Joan of Arc, act III, sc. vi
by Johann Schiller (1759-1805)

The power to grant a privilege is identical with the power to control or to deny that privilege. In this particular case,

¹ NBC Nightly News With Tom Brokaw, Tuesday, May 16, 1995

More Thugs

by Sam Aurelius Milam III

On Thursday, May 18, 1995, in San Diego, California, the police killed another American.² He had stolen an army tank and used it to smash various cars and other obstacles. When they shot him, the tank was effectively disabled, its weapons were not loaded, and the man was effectively surrounded. He could not, at that point, do further harm so why did they kill him? Maybe it was revenge. After all, one

of the slaves had dared to defy them. Maybe they thought they could teach the rest of us a lesson about obedience. Most likely, they did it simply because they're jackbooted Gestapo style thugs. If they think with more than their trigger fingers, they seem to think that it's better and cheaper for the government to kill a suspect than to prosecute him.

² ITN World News, Thursday, May 18, 1995

there is nothing to prevent the Texas legislature from increasing the age requirement or the training time or the fee. Only God knows how onerous the training and testing might eventually become. Of the 40 states that now allow concealed weapons, 16 already require that an applicant must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the licensing agency, a need to conceal the weapon. Absolutely any requirement can be imposed is a prerequisite to the exercise of a privilege. A little imagination stimulated by some knowledge of history will easily convince you that the government will certainly abuse this kind of arrangement.

It's no surprise that the law passed the legislature by such a wide margin. This law doesn't increase people's access to weapons. It gives the Texas government yet another tool by which the people's access to weapons can be restricted. If people want a right to carry concealed weapons, there's only one way to get it. They must just do it, en masse, without notice or apology, and above all else, without asking their masters for permission.

Milam's Notes...

When permission is requested, freedom is surrendered. When permission is granted, freedom is denied.
—October 24, 1978

Fiction

Whenever in our history, people have believed that violence was a legitimate extension of politics, they have been wrong.

—Bill Clinton, Michigan State University, Friday, May 5, 1995

History

If we wish to be free; if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending; if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained—we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms, and to the God of hosts, is all that is left us.

—Patrick Henry

Speech in Virginia Convention, March 23, 1775

The time is now near at hand which must probably determine whether Americans are to be freemen or slaves; whether they are to have any property they can call their own; whether their houses and farms are to be pillaged and destroyed, and themselves consigned to a state of wretchedness from which no human efforts will deliver them. The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army. Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us only the choice of brave resistance, or the most abject submission. We have, therefore, to resolve to conquer or die.

—George Washington

Address to the Continental Army, August 27, 1776

I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.

—Nathan Hale

Last words, before being hanged by the British as a spy
September 22, 1776

These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it *now*, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; 'tis dearness only that gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as *Freedom* should not be highly rated.

—Thomas Paine

The American Crisis, no. 1, December 23, 1776

I have not yet begun to fight.

—John Paul Jones

aboard the *Bonhomme Richard*, September 23, 1779

Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is the argument of tyrants; it is the creed of slaves.

—William Pitt

Speech in the House of Commons, November 18, 1783

What country before ever existed a century and a half without a rebellion?... The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.

—Thomas Jefferson

Letter to William Stevens Smith, November 13, 1787

The people made the Constitution, and the people can unmake it. It is the creature of their own will, and lives only by their will.

—John Marshall

Cohens v. Virginia, 6 Wheaton (19 U.S.) 264, 389 [1821]

While we endeavor to maintain peace, I certainly should be the last to forget that if peace cannot be maintained with honor, it is no longer peace.

—Lord John Russell

Speech at Greenock, Scotland, September 19, 1853

Government Services Disturb the Peace

by Steve Strayer

The rapid increase in the scope of peaceful activities which are prohibited or restricted by our political masters through nonsensical laws and rules has made everybody into frequent law breakers. Many of these laws are seldom enforced except at the whim of politicians, officials, or private individuals who may want an excuse to harass somebody.

One recent spring morning I was conducting an open house at a home I had for sale. I had just finished placing signs announcing

It isn't possible to sell a home, only a house. The buyer will make it a home after he moves in.
—Sam A. Milam, Jr.

the event and was lingering on the front step allowing my senses a treat. Birds chirped; neighborhood children called happily to one another; a gentle breeze brought the delicate scent of flowers. Nearby a young man waited in a van for a girl crossing the field at the end of the street. One could scarcely imagine a more tranquil scene.

Suddenly a white Ford Tempo with the seal of our town emblazoned on its side sped down the street, careened through a U-turn, and screeched to a stop across my driveway. Out leaped a woman, her face contorted into a snarl. Rushing toward the van she shouted. "Hey dummy, can't you read?" (The area is posted with NO PARKING signs for no apparent reason).

After dispensing with the villainous van jockey, she turned to me shaking her head, obviously presuming that I shared her disgust with anyone who would blatantly disregard a rule, even a senseless one. Handing me a card identifying herself as a "Code Enforcement Official," she assumed a demeanor reminiscent of a *Dagnet* episode. After establishing that I was indeed the person who had placed an "open house" sign at such-and-such intersection, she explained condescendingly that city codes forbid such signs. She responded to my question about the purpose of such a code with a vague reference to traffic safety, injuries, and legal liability. When I pointed out that every weekend our town is virtually abloom with similar signs including the very spot where I had put mine, she admitted that signs are tolerated at specified times as a courtesy to the "real estate industry" (i.e. Realtors, whose trade associations are among the largest contributors to political campaigns). When asked if selective enforcement of codes only against certain people or at certain times seemed reasonable to her, she grew impatient and hinted that only valor above and beyond the call of duty motivated her to talk with me rather than simply confiscating my sign as provided in code paragraph xyz.123.abc.

As this public servant hurried off to put a stop to some other harmless activity, I chuckled to myself, reminded of the benign over zealotry of such fictional characters as Barney Fife. After some reflection however, I realized that such incidents are not really laughing matters. Given government officials' lack of accountability for misbehavior toward private individuals, had this petty tyrant felt I was insufficiently submissive to her authority, she could with impunity have made up a story and caused me serious trouble.

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Social Contract: The Series Part 4: Imagine

by Sam Aurelius Milam III

Some time before or during the Middle Ages, men began their efforts to convert governments from those based on the sovereignty of the monarch to those based on the sovereignty of the people. In historical terms, this process isn't very far advanced. While most governments in the world today make a pretense of acknowledging the sovereignty of their people, none of them behave as if it is actually true. They display their various constitutions, and broadcast the rhetoric of human rights, but rigidly maintain their geographical boundaries, and forcibly control the people within those boundaries.

An example of this inconsistency can be found in the State of California, where the sovereignty of the people is acknowledged.

"All people are by nature free and independent and have inalienable rights"
—from the Constitution of the State of California
Article 1, Section 1

Most state constitutions have some such verbiage. However, it is completely ignored by the actual operation of government at the local level. Consider Black's definition of a municipal corporation.

" A body corporate consisting of the inhabitants of a designated area created by the legislature **with or without the consent of such inhabitants**"
—from Black's article *municipal corporation*
<emphasis added>

Some of the apparatus of governments has thus undergone a change which is not reflected by the functions of governments. This is why elections, which allegedly exert the will of the people, have so little real effect on the actions

of governments. Present governments continue to exercise the ancient powers of the despot, disguised by the recent apparatus of the Social Contract.

If the Doctrine of Social Contract is to be considered valid, then we must learn a radically different world view, and a fundamentally different understanding of the relationship between governments and people, and of the relationships between and among individuals. Governments continue to behave the way they do because people have not yet learned to understand the Doctrine of Social Contract, their obligations under it, or their ability to legitimately forego those obligations. Today, the struggle toward understanding continues, as men dispute old notions, trying to imagine a better world. We're in a long transition, at the end of which, if it's completed, our descendents will be free and sovereign adults. Along the way, there will be a lot of government to overcome, and a lot of human nature to somehow accommodate. The end isn't yet in sight, and may be centuries away. Meanwhile, to sustain us in the struggle, we have the legacy of the past, the strength of our convictions, and the example of the dreamers. We also have the dream.

"Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion too
Imagine all the people
Living life in peace
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will live as one"
—John Lennon (1940-1980)

Excrement Occurs

by Sam Aurelius Milam III

The Communications Decency Act of 1995 (SB314 and HR1004) will, if passed, establish criminal penalties for any transmission of images or text which is deemed obscene, lewd, or harassing.¹ The puritans, of course, will decide which words indicate such content. Yet, if they can prevent our children from seeing smut like...

ass, assoil, bag, ball cock, balled, balling, ballroom, bitch, boob, booboisie, booby hatch, booby trap, box, broad, buns, bush, bust, butt, cock, cock-a-hoop, cock-a-leekie, cockpit, copula, dong, drive shaft, fairy, gay, head, hump, knocker, lay, muff, nuts, organ, piece, prick, pricker, pricket, pussy-toes, queer, screw, screwball, screw cap, screwdriver, screw eye, screw jack, screw log, sexduction, sexennial, sextet, sextile, shittah, shittimwood, snatch, tail, tailpiece, tit, titman, tittup, virginal, virgin wool
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...the words in the box, then they will have passed a good law. Right? Wrong. For each of the words in the box, a perfectly legitimate meaning is shown in the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language. Furthermore, for every word that's forbidden because of its meaning, there will arise a synonym. See for example the title of this article, which isn't "Shit Happens". Or is it? That's the problem. The arrogant morons who want to dictate our morality to us can't even tell which words are the bad ones. While these idiots are justified in trying to persuade us to be decent, passing a law isn't persuasion. It's despotism and censorship, however holy the motive. Just because a thing is bad doesn't necessarily mean that it should also be illegal.

If we want to keep our freedoms of expression, we must accept a grim fact. While the use of the sword should always be justified by the pen, it is equally true that the use of the pen must sometimes be defended by the sword. When necessary, violence in the defense of liberty is a virtue.

¹ Libertarian Party News, May 1995, Vol. 10, No. 5, *Legislation*, page 8

Personals

(for our amusement by Dante DeAmicis)

SWM, 35, Into self defense, target shooting, hunting, home security. Looking for overeducated liberal who will marry me for my house then constantly berate me for being a "gun nut". Help me keep my bad attitude.

SWM, 26, Techie Type. Would like to merge files with serious woman hacker (either of them). Must be able to talk for hours comparing and critiquing all major commercial software programs. Respond to my on-line address, leave your on-line address.

SWM, 32, Professional. Want to meet emotionally unstable woman who wants to do nothing except have kids and get fat watching soap operas while I bust my ass 60 hours per week. Then after taking me to the cleaners in a divorce, force me to subsidize her anti-daddy thought control to my kids. April fool, I'm getting a "mail order" bride.

SBM, 20, Body builder. I want a widowed white woman whose husband saved lots of money while working himself into an early grave. Now its time to party party party.

DWF, 29, (more or less) Interested in travel, dining out, and the finer things in life. Call if you're financially secure professional, ambitious, successful, generous, and so on, and want commitment and kids. The rest of you losers don't bother.

Buck Hunter Shoots Off His Mouth

Dear Buck

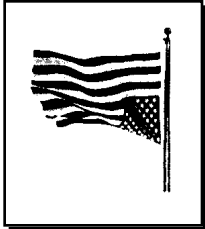
My girlfriend is so sexually demanding that I can't keep up with her. What can I do to reduce her interest a little?

—Worn Out

Dear Worn Out
Marry her.

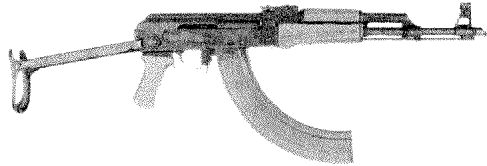
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Produced at Mere Keep



Nation in Distress

*It's time for us to stop arguing with
the anti-gun evangelists...*



*...and instead just warn them to
leave us alone.*



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The Evils They Have Wrought

by Sam Aurelius Milam III
Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.

—3 John 11, Holy Bible, King James Version
Definition: **religion**... - 4. A cause, a principle, or an activity pursued with zeal or conscientious devotion....

—from the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language
Definition: **cult** - Any group of devout religious believers that becomes the target of government disapproval, persecution, or atrocities.

—[the Frontiersman, May 1995, page 3](#)

On July 1, 1987, armed IRS agents invaded the home of Bill White, a member of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County. The invasion was based on an allegation that the United Libertarian Fellowship, a church established by Bill, wasn't really a church at all but was really a fraudulent attempt at tax evasion.

..... During the following so-called investigation, the IRS sought collaborators from within the membership of the United Libertarian Fellowship. John Webster was one of the members they approached. Below is the text of the letter that John wrote in response to the IRS query.

My association with Bill White has been mostly through the United Libertarian Fellowship of which I am a member. Although I am not very active, I have attended a number of the Fellowship's pot-luck socials. These socials are for the express purpose of introducing prospective members to the philosophical, moral, social, and yes religious values of the Fellowship, and for the sharing and witnessing between members of those values. I share these values.

The philosophy of the Fellowship deals with the difference between right and wrong, good and evil, and the fact that people have been endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights — life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and most important, self ownership. A person owns himself, the product of his labors, and whatever he receives in trade by mutual consent, from another. These are **natural** rights and laws; a person forfeits these **only** by violating the rights of

others, except for this, no man-made law can morally take away a persons natural rights.

Evil is the violation of another person's natural rights. Evil is the taking of what another person legitimately owns by force or the threat of force. Evil, even for a good cause, is still evil.

So, you see the United Libertarian Fellowship is a legitimate religious/philosophical union of people — a church if you will. The I.R.S. on the other hand is the illegitimate evil mouth that feeds a government bureaucracy bent on reducing all of us to its slaves, forcing us to grovel at its feet for handouts.

Shortly thereafter, John also became a target. The perpetrators this time were yet a different group of thugs, the local police. They trapped John into a contrived and so-called criminal act, forcibly entered his home, and stole (among other things) the computer containing the text of the letter that he had written about Bill White. After keeping the computer for about 5 years, the police finally decided that it didn't contain information that could be used to prove either John's innocence or their guilt. Only then did they return the computer. When it was recently returned, the text of John's letter became available. I'm happy to print it here.

Both Bill White and John Webster spent many months behind bars as a result of the trumped up charges that were concocted against them. They are both, in my opinion, victims of an evil that has now become insufferable.

....all experience hath shown 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. —from the Declaration of Independence