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Thomas Jefferson defined *rightful liberty* as “unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others—I do not add ‘within the limits of the law,’ because law is often but the tyrant’s will, and always so when it violates the right of an individual.”

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“Three Felonies A Day”

In 2009 Harvey A. Silverglate wrote, *Three Felonies A Day, How the Feds Target the Innocent*.

“The average professional in this country wakes up in the morning, goes to work, comes home, eats dinner, and then goes to sleep, unaware that he or she has likely committed several federal crimes that day.”

As James Madison stated, “It will be of little avail to the people, that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood.”

The problems we face today, as eluded to by James Madison and documented by Harvey A. Silverglate, have come true: “Thanks to an overabundance of 4,500-plus federal crimes and 400,000-plus rules and regulations, it is estimated that the average American actually commits three felonies a day without knowing it. In fact, according to law professor John Baker, ‘There is no one in the United States over the age of 18 who cannot be indicted for some federal crime.’ That is not an exaggeration.” John Whitehead, *Battlefield America*

To illustrate this point—that anyone over the age of 18 can be indicted for some federal crime—let’s look at a case just decided by the Supreme Court on June 21, 2019 (the date of this newsletter). “Petitioner[defendant] Hamid Rehaif entered the United States on a nonimmigrant student visa to attend university. After he received poor grades, the university dismissed him and told him that his ‘immigration status’ would be terminated unless he transferred to a different university or left the country. Rehaif did neither. Rehaif subsequently visited a firing range, where he shot two firearms. The Government learned about his target practice and prosecuted him for possessing firearms as an alien unlawfully in the United States.” The maximum sentence for this obscure violation is a fine plus 10-years in prison; Rehaif was found guilty by a jury—based upon the Judge’s erroneous jury instructions—and sentenced to 18 months imprisonment. The Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals agreed that the Judge’s instructions were correct. However, in a 7-to-2 decision, the Supreme Court did the right thing; and, reversed and remanded the decision of the Court of Appeals.

Think about this for a minute, for some reason Rehaif was targeted by someone in the federal government, i.e., what was the harm to anyone of going to a legitimate firing range and renting two different firearms for the purpose of target practice, then immediately returning the weapons to the original owner(s) and/or employee(s) of the firing range?!

In a convoluted opinion by the Supreme Court, the majority came to the right decision that would have been arrived at had they solely based their opinion upon “the traditional common law notion of the combination of the *actus reus* and the *mens rea*,” or rather, “to convict one of a crime, there must be ‘an evil-meaning mind with an evil-doing hand.’” This traditional common law requirement of both *actus reus* and *mens rea* is the true meaning of “the rule of law” which most politicians suggest still exists in the United States.

Justice Alito filed a dissenting opinion and was joined by Justice Thomas. According to Justice Alito, “Whether or not conduct satisfies that requirement [knowledge that one was committing a crime] involves a complicated legal question; requiring proof of such knowledge would threaten to effectively exempt almost everyone but students of constitutional law from the statute’s reach; and that would obviously defeat the statute’s objectives. . . Whether a defendant falls into one of the . . . categories often involves complicated legal issues, and demanding proof that a defendant understood those issues would seriously undermine the statute’s goals.” Unbelievable and sad...

This is just another example of two Supreme Court Justices who have no problem with Congress criminalizing ordinary behavior that harms no one. In addition, if only “students of constitutional law” would understand the statute, it appears that Justices Alito and Thomas have no problem with the average American being fined and sent to prison for a crime that harms no one, in order to boost the careers of government prosecutors; and, does not “burden the lower courts with claims for relief in a host of cases where there is no basis for doubting the defendant’s knowledge.” As James Madison put it, no law should be so incoherent that it cannot be understood. Apparently, several members of the Supreme Court believe otherwise!

Instead of being concerned with a “statute’s goals” and an over-burdened court system, Justices Alito and Thomas should be reminded of what Justice Louis Brandeis wrote: “Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the Government’s purposes are beneficent. Men born to freedom are naturally alert to repel invasion of their liberty by evil-minded rulers. The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding.”

Too many statutes, along with administrative rules & regulations, are so vague and complicated that only “students of constitutional law” can understand them, rendering “the rule of law” non-existent in the United States. It appears we are back to the days where we are “ruled by Kings.” Today, Kings have been replaced by members of Congress, government bureaucrats, and enthusiastic prosecutors trying to make a name for themselves. As a result, if you get on

the wrong side of any government official or elected politician, you can easily be indicted for some obscure federal crime.

As Justice Bradley once put it, “It is the duty of courts to be watchful for the constitutional rights of the citizens, and against any stealthy encroachments [by Congress and Government].” Three simple rule changes just might begin the process of restoring freedom. See Robert G. Beard, Jr., *Take Politics Out of the Supreme Court and Restore Freedom*, available through www.jeffersoniangroup.com (\$4.99 kindle and \$9.99 paperback) or directly from Amazon. Buy four copies; keep one and send the other three to your Congressman and two U.S. Senators.

The Crypto Corner

When Bitcoin hit \$20,000 per coin in 2017, a \$1,000 investment in Ripple (XRP) at the beginning of that year was worth \$360,180 on December 31, 2017. As one commentator pointed out, after the increase in value of crypto-currencies in 2017, Ripple (XRP) gained more in one year than Apple had in its entire existence. **This is a speculative investment but, I can’t remember a time in the past 40-plus years when an average person, not an accredited investor, could get in on the ground floor for as little as \$200... unheard of!**

Here are the crypto-currencies that I currently own and hold on the respective exchanges:

KRAKEN EXCHANGE (www.kraken.com):

1. Stellar Lumens (XLM) - \$0.130170; Market Cap - #10
2. Ripple (XRP) - \$0.477131; Market Cap - #3
3. Ether Classic (ETC) - \$9.12; Market Cap - #19
4. Ethereum (ETH) - \$306.26; Market Cap - #2

BINANCE EXCHANGE (www.binance.com):

5. Cardano (ADA) - \$0.095318; Market Cap - #11
6. NEM (Japan) (XEM) - \$0.092561; Market Cap - #20
7. Enigma (ENG) - \$0.636915; Market Cap - #127
8. OmiseGo (OMG) - \$2.29; Market Cap - #33
9. Time New bank (TNB) - \$0.005528; Market Cap - #267
10. Waltonchain (WTC) - \$1.56; Market Cap - #100
11. IOTA (MIOTA) - \$0.453786; Market Cap - #17
12. OX (ZRX) - \$0.351044; Market Cap - #42

As of this writing, there were 2,279 crypto-currencies listed on CoinMarketCap at <https://coinmarketcap.com/>. Bitcoin was number 1. As indicated above, XLM was number 10 and XRP was number 3; the rest of the coins listed above are similarly rated.

Obviously, I like every coin above. If you can afford \$600, you could purchase 1,000 Stellar Lumens (XLM) and 1,000 Ripple (XRP) coins; add another \$95 and you could purchase an additional 1,000 Cardano (ADA) coins.

I would strongly encourage everyone to take advantage of the greatest opportunity that has come around in our lifetimes.

Remember, you should **only use money** for crypto-currencies, **that you feel comfortable losing**. If you keep your commitment low, your upside may be substantial, while your downside is minimal.

If you can only afford to buy one coin, Stellar Lumens (XLM) is our favorite; just sacrifice a nice dinner out with your family and buy 1,536 coins for under \$200.

Don't wait too long, prices may rise exponentially when the institutional players obtain approval to create Exchange Trade Funds (ETFs). For example, the rise of Bitcoin from a low of \$3,600 to over \$10,000 today may have been partially motivated by Facebook's announcement to create its own crypto-currency.

How to Buy Crypto-Currencies

In my book, *Unlock the 4-Doors to Financial Independence*, Chapter IV explains in detail how and why I used the two exchanges, KRAKEN and BINANCE.

If you haven't already opened an account, Coinbase (www.coinbase.com) is probably the easiest exchange to get started. My understanding is that you can use your bank account or a debit or credit card; unlike KRAKEN, where you must visit your U.S. bank and request a wire transfer.

Currently, on Coinbase, you can only buy Bitcoin and Ethereum, plus several other coins that I have not purchased. Therefore, if you are only interested in purchasing Stellar Lumens (XLM), Ripple (XRP) and Cardano (ADA), go to KRAKEN (www.kraken.com); it's a little more difficult and time-consuming, just carefully follow the instructions.

On the other hand, if you want to purchase several of the other coins listed, BINANCE is your best choice, but, you first must have an account with either Coinbase or KRAKEN because you need to acquire, with U.S. Dollars, either Bitcoin or Ethereum, to acquire the additional coins you desire on the BINANCE exchange. I use Ethereum (ETH).

If you open an account with KRAKEN or Coinbase, or, already have an account, you would then open an account with BINANCE (www.binance.com) as long as you do so before September 12, 2019 (see Binance Exchange and U.S. Citizens below).

When you open your account with BINANCE, do not get verified. Then go to Funds, then Deposit; and select ETH; you will then see a 42- character address, which is your hot wallet; copy this to a word document and save. Then logout of BINANCE.

Go to either KRAKEN or COINBASE and go to Withdrawal and select ETH. You want to send your Ethereum (ETH) to BINANCE and the address is the 42-character number (see Note below).

If you are using KRAKEN, they will first send you an email to verify your address at BINANCE; follow the email instructions.

Within an hour, you should receive an email from BINANCE stating that your deposit has arrived.

Go back to BINANCE. After login, go to top right corner and select ETH, then search for the token or coin you want to acquire. Once you see the coin, go to the top left and select Exchange – Basic and you should see your selected coin to buy in the center of the screen.

Note: The 42-character address for ETH is not case sensitive. When I first copied it on KRAKEN, they changed several lower-case letters to upper-case. I postponed the purchase and sent KRAKEN a question via email. They responded in less than 24-hours stating that the ETH address is not case-sensitive. Just make sure that the numbers and letters are there in the right order. If you copy and paste, you should not have a problem.

Binance Exchange and U.S. Citizens

On June 14, 2019, Binance updated its terms of use which includes a restriction of services and use by United States based individuals and corporations. Binance is one of the top exchanges worldwide and currently has over 40-million U.S. based customers. This decision was made due

to the regulatory environment in the United States; and, the desire by BINANCE to continue to be the ultimate top exchange globally.

On September 12, 2019, Binance users in the United States will continue to have access to their wallets and funds; we will just not be able to trade or deposit any funds on the Binance exchange after that date. If you follow my advice, you would not be trading anyway; and, since we will have access to our account for withdrawal, we should have no problem, i.e., we only need to withdraw when we have a substantial profit and want to convert to U.S. dollars.

Besides, according to BINANCE and “COMING SOON,” “Binance.US will provide secure and reliable cryptocurrency trading to users in the United States. Binance.US will be operated by BAM Trading Services and built on cutting-edge matching engine and wallet technologies licensed from Binance.”

Therefore, it is highly likely that all United States accounts currently on BINANCE will be easily transferred to the newly created Binance.US before the September 12, 2019 deadline.

Since I have less than \$10,000 in crypto-currencies on both the KRAKEN and BINANCE exchanges, I have no problem storing my coins on the exchanges for convenience and easy conversion to cash. Ultimately, if things go as planned, e.g., one-half of my coins are worth \$50,000, I would liquidate 50% of my coins, by converting to cash and wiring my money back to my account at Sun Trust Bank; then I would most likely transfer the remainder of my coins to my hardware wallet, the Ledger Nano S, which I purchased on Amazon.

Your plan may be different. For example, if you purchased coins for \$1,000, you may want to liquidate one-half of your coins when you realize a profit of \$5,000-to-\$10,000 and transfer the remaining coins to your hardware wallet. Another option might be to take a \$1,000-to-\$2,000 profit and let the remaining coins stay on the exchanges until they are worth \$20,000 or more; then take another \$5,000-to-\$10,000 profit and transfer the remaining coins to your hardware wallet, waiting for, hopefully, a six-to-seven figure profit.

I’m an optimist and based upon what happened in 2017, along with the substantial rise in the value of Bitcoin over the previous decade, I am hoping that the crypto-currencies I currently own will someday be worth \$2,000,000 or more. Remember, \$1,000 invested in Ripple (XRP) at the beginning of 2017 was worth \$360,180 on December 31, 2017; \$1,000 invested in NEM (XEM) was worth \$298,420; and, \$1,000 invested in Stellar Lumens (XLM) was worth \$144,410 12-months later, on December 31, 2017.

The upside is substantial; the downside minimal, if you only use money that you feel comfortable losing. By the way, my profits would be immediately used to buy DRIP stocks.

DRIP Investors Benefit from Market Crashes

If you invest in great businesses (DRIPs) that pay and raise their dividends each, and every year for at least 25-years, you can take advantage of the principles of “compound interest,” which Einstein believed was “the eighth wonder of the world.” Here’s why.

By purchasing DRIPs, even one-time, for \$10,000 yielding 5% at the time of purchase; and, the DRIPs raise their annual dividend payments by 10% every year for 30-years, you’d have \$5,428,527 from your original investment of \$10,000. The dividend payments in the 31st year would be \$4,305,661. By the end of the first quarter of the 32nd year, you’d have over \$10,000,000 without regard to any increase in the share price.

Now granted, 30-years may seem like a long time. But, consider if you start investing in the right DRIPs when you are 20 years old; by the time you reach 50, you just might have created your own annuity of DRIPs paying you over \$4-million per year, which will keep rising each, and every year thereafter.

These **Dividend Champions**, DRIPs that have paid and raised their dividends for 25-years and longer, **have continued to pay and raise their dividends during recessions, depressions, wars, and stock market declines**. As a result, **DRIP investors benefit significantly when the stock market declines because the dividends purchase more shares at less cost, plus, the dividend yields rise making it much more profitable to invest new money in these great businesses. For most people, this is a difficult concept to understand.** It goes against everything Wall Street and the financial planning community write and talk about... why... because if you buy DRIPs, the financial planning community does not make any money from you!

Let’s try to make this a little easier. As of February 28, 2019, there were 133 Dividend Champions, which averaged 39.4 years of paying and raising dividends; that would bring us back to 1980. Since 1980, there were four periods of major stock market declines: (1) November 1980-to-August 1982, the S&P 500 lost 27.8% over 22-months; (2) August 1987-to-December 1987, the S&P 500 lost 33.5%; (3) March 2000-to-October 2002, the S&P 500 lost 49.1% over a 30-month period; and, (4) October 2007-to-March 2009, the S&P 500 lost 56.4%.

Had you invested in Dividend Champions before November 1980, **your stock value may have declined by 27.8%, but, the amount of your quarterly and annual dividend payments would have stayed the same and continued to increase each year regardless of the change in the stock price.** Let’s say your dividend yield was 3% when you purchased your DRIPs; if the DRIPs declined in value by almost 28%, the yield would have increased from 3% to almost 4.2%. So,

the dividends reinvested would be purchasing more shares with a yield of almost 4.2% rather than the original yield of 3%.

During market declines, you not only reinvest your dividends to get higher yields, it is highly beneficial to invest more new capital during periods of stock market declines at greater yields that approach and exceed 5%. Remember the miracles of compound interest that are created over time!

Many of the DRIPs we recommend have paid and raised their dividends for much longer than 25-to-39.4 years. To name just a few: Coca-Cola (KO) 57-years; McDonald's (MCD) 43-years; Wal-Mart (WMT) 46-years; 3M (MMM) 61-years; Target (TGT) 51-years; Kimberly-Clark (KMB) 47-years; Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) 56-years.

Any person, at any age, can do this on their own. Don't let Wall Street delay or ruin your dreams; and please, stop paying for your Financial Planner's vacations. You can do this yourself!

Continue reading and get started now!

Great Businesses to Buy Now

To become and STAY financially independent, you only need to do three things: (1) Pay yourself first; (2) live below your means; and (3) invest in DRIP's using *Einstein's Theory of Compound Interest*. Even if you became a multi-millionaire speculating in crypto-currencies, statistically, you would be bankrupt within 5-years, if you did not follow the three principles outlined above. For further details, please read *The Best Kept Secret To Financial Freedom* and/or *Unlock The 4-Doors To Financial Independence*; both are available through our website, www.jeffersoniangroup.com and Amazon.com. For all of you who purchased our books, we thank you; and, would appreciate it if you gave us a review!

Of the 12 Great Businesses that we believe should be in everyone's portfolio, the following *U.S. Dividend Champions/Aristocrats* (paid and raised dividends for at least 25-years) meet our parameters and are current buys:

1. Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM) - \$77.69, yield = 4.54%, Paid & Raised Dividends for 35-years
2. Coca-Cola Company (KO) - \$51.55, yield = 3.10%, Paid & Raised Dividends for 57-years
3. McDonald's Corp (MCD) - \$204.26, yield = 2.26%, Paid & Raised Dividends for 43-years, on average by 20.1% per year! Purchase now only if you have no position currently; otherwise, concentrate on yields in excess of 3%.

The following additional *U.S. Dividend Champions* are also good buys right now:

1. Kimberly-Clark Corp (KMB) - \$135.59, yield = 3.02%, Paid & Raised Dividends 47-years
2. Target Corp (TGT) - \$87.60, yield = 3.06%, Paid & Raised Dividends 51-years
3. Weyco Group Inc (WEYS) - \$25.92, yield = 3.70%, Paid & Raised Dividends 35-years
4. Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) - \$41.08, yield = 3.39%, Paid & Raised Dividends 42-years
5. 3M Company (MMM) - \$173.35, yield = 3.31%, Paid & Raised Dividends 58-years
6. Walgreen Boots Alliance (WBA) - \$52.45, yield = 3.33%, Paid & Raised 42-years

Contenders are companies that have paid and raised their dividends for 10-to-24 years. The following *Contenders* are priced right for acquisition:

1. General Mills (GIS) - \$53.77, yield = 3.63%, Paid & Raised Dividends for 14-years
2. Int'l Business Machines (IBM) - \$139.20, yield = **4.67%**, Paid & Raised 21-years
3. Omega Healthcare Investors (OHI) - \$38.05, yield = 6.92%, Paid & Raised 15-years
4. Qualcomm Inc. (QCOM) - \$72.72, yield = 3.41%, Paid & Raised Dividends 14-years
5. Enterprise Products Partners (EPD) - \$29.13, yield = 6.06%, Paid & Raised 20-years
6. Cardinal Health Inc (CAH) - \$44.70, yield = **4.30%**, Paid and Raised 10-years **on average 22.7% per year!**
7. Cracker Barrel Old Country (CBRL) - \$167.89, yield = **3.13%**, Paid & Raised 16-years **on average 22.9% per year!**

The next category of dividend payers are *Challengers*, which have paid and raised their dividends for 5-to-9 years. In today's market, we like the following companies:

- AbbVie Inc (ABBV) - \$78.78, yield = **5.46%**, Paid & Raised 6-years **on average 15.5%**
- Las Vegas Sands Corp (LVS) - \$59.23, yield = 5.18%, Paid and Raised 7-years **on average 23.9%!**

Another important criteria we use to select our stocks is the average annual increase in the dividends paid each year, i.e., it is not enough that a Dividend Aristocrat—an S&P 500 Company that has paid and raised its dividend for at least 25-years—has consistently paid and raised its annual dividend, **it must also have raised it by 8%-to-10% or more per year**. For example, many advisors, who favor dividend-paying stocks, recommend AT&T because it is a U.S. Dividend Champion/Aristocrat paying a current dividend of over 5%. However, its average annual increase has only been about 4%. In 25-years, a stock that yields 3% and increases its dividend by 10% per year, will have an annual dividend greater than the original investment of approximately 350%. Whereas, AT&T acquired with a yield of 5.42%, which increases by 4% per

year, would only have a dividend payable of much less than the original investment equal to about 21%.

To take full advantage of *Einstein's Theory of Compound Interest* and become financially independent in 10-to-15 years, you must acquire DRIP's that raise their annual dividends by 8%-to-10% or more per year. Our portfolio of 38 DRIP's, on average, increase their annual dividends by more than 10% each year.

How to Implement This Program:

Our recommended portfolio now includes 38 DRIP stocks. As of this writing, only 17 meet our criteria, i.e., 3% or greater yield when acquired. If you have investment capital of \$200,000 or more, it would be appropriate to purchase 100 shares of each of these 17 stocks which would cost about \$133,000.

If you have at least 100 shares of all 38 DRIP stocks, you should add the ones listed above with annual dividend yields of 3% or greater at the time of purchase.

By the time you get this newsletter, the prices will have changed but, you should buy the companies you desire, assuming the dividend yield at the time of your purchase is above or near 3.00%.

Some of you may already own many of these stocks; feel free to add to them. First purchase the stocks you own less of. Some of you may not own any of these great businesses. Some of you may have \$100,000 to invest while others may only have \$1,000. Using a discount broker (e.g., E*TRADE, Schwab, TD Ameritrade, Fidelity, etc.), whether you buy 10 shares or 1,000 shares, the brokerage fees will be less than ten dollars! In addition, **once you acquire any of these DRIP's, you should instruct your discount broker to automatically reinvest the dividends.** The reinvested dividends should be done with no additional cost.

If you are just starting this investment program, first acquire the three *U.S. Dividend Champions/Aristocrats* that we have recommended for everyone's portfolio, i.e., XOM, KO, and MCD. The order of our listing has nothing to do with one company being better than the others; they are all great businesses! If you have enough investment capital to invest in all three, 20-to-100 shares of each, then you should consider doing so. Your goal would be to acquire 100 shares of each of these three *U.S. Dividend Champions/Aristocrats* before moving on to any of the other recommendations.

If you only have \$1,000 to invest, buy 18-to-20 shares of Coca-Cola (KO); then buy more shares the next month; or, pick any other great business listed as *U.S. Dividend Champions* that you

personally like; they are all great companies that have paid and raised their dividends for more than 25-years. As an alternative, you might select one-to-three stocks to acquire each month.

Start investing in these great businesses... NOW!

Remember, the only way to become financially independent, assuming you do not win the lottery or strike it rich speculating in crypto-currencies, is to acquire assets (e.g., DRIP's) that pay you enough passive income to cover and exceed your lifestyle expenses. Even if you are lucky and become a multi-millionaire overnight, you will need to invest in DRIP's to maintain your financial independence.

When you buy a DRIP, you are buying it for life. At some point in the future, you will no longer reinvest ALL the dividends; you will live off the dividends.

Democratic Giveaways and Loss of Freedom

Each democratic presidential contender is "in a battle to out give one another." Dr. Walter E. Williams, in an article entitled *Socialist Promises* (www.walterewilliams.com/socialist-promises/), explained and compared the promises made by today's presidential contenders to those of their "socialist predecessors" to include Adolf Hitler, Stalin, and China's Mao Zedong.

As H.L. Mencken stated, "All government, of course, is against liberty." George Washington explained, "Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master." History has proven both Mencken and Washington right; in an effort to convert their societies to socialism, Lenin and Stalin were responsible for the deaths of 67-million people; and, when you add China's Mao Zedong, Cuba and North Korea, the death toll probably exceeds 100-million people.

There are those that try to convince the rest of us that socialism exists where the means of production, distribution, and exchange are owned by government. Therefore, since government does not own everything, the United States is not a socialist country. However, as Nobel Laureate Dr. Milton Friedman explained, with an income tax rate on corporations of 35%, American stockholders only own 65% of their incorporated businesses.

As Dr. Friedman suggested, for socialism to exist, legal title to property is unnecessary, only control of property. Therefore, if government has the power of unlimited taxation and regulation of commerce and private property, socialism can and does exist in the United States. The mere fact that Congress can now pass legislation to tax and take property from one group and give it to another is exactly what socialist countries do.

The collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the Soviet Union in 1992 brought a dramatic end to a seventy-year experiment between two alternative ways of organizing an economy: central planning and control by government (socialism) versus private markets (capitalism). This collapse affirms Friedrich A. Hayek's thesis "that central planning is indeed *The Road to Serfdom*." However, according to Dr. Friedman, "Political leaders in capitalistic countries who cheered the collapse of socialism in other countries continue to favor socialist solutions in their own [e.g. United States and Great Britain]. They know the words, but they have not learned the tune."²

In spite of the failure of central planning, politicians in the United States, including the democratic presidential candidates, are ignoring private property rights and freedom of contract principles in favor of heavy regulation and taxation or, more government control over what the American Founders believed to be inalienable rights; rights that supersede government and cannot be forfeited or taken away by a legitimate government. Our Founders believed in freedom and "rightful liberty," the exact opposite of socialism and democracy. That's why they gave us a Republican form of government, with a written Constitution, limiting the powers of government and protecting inalienable rights and private property.

Dr Friedman explained, ". . . governments of so-called capitalist countries are just as backward as governments of communist countries in dismantling the socialist practices that have mushroomed in recent decades." Friedman cited the never-ending increase in the fraction "of income that goes to finance government spending" and "the flood of detailed regulations that control [American's] lives" and wrote, "In the words of the Declaration of Independence, [the United States] government continued to erect 'a multitude of new offices' and sent 'swarms of officers to harass [the] people and eat out [their] substance'."³

As Dr. Friedman suggests, central planning and socialist policies do not work. In addition, such policies are immoral if you believe individuals are born free and should not be enslaved.

I would suggest that there are two types of people that desire socialism: (1) The power-elites, e.g., democratic presidential candidates, that want total control over the lives of all Americans, and, will live like Kings while the rest of us stand in line for basic necessities; and (2) the ignorant masses that believe in the Utopian view that if you spread the wealth, everyone will live like Kings and be free to do whatever they want to do. Unfortunately for the later, eventually, we run out of other people's money. Margaret Thatcher

² Milton Friedman, *Capitalism and Freedom*, viii, University of Chicago Press (2002).

³ Milton and Rose Friedman, *Free to Choose*, ix-x, First Harvest edition (1990).

As H. L. Mencken once put it, “Democracy is a pathetic belief in the collective wisdom of individual ignorance.” This ignorance has been compounded in recent years through government-controlled compulsory schooling and indoctrination.

Because of this indoctrination, almost everyone in this country believes that a declared socialist can legitimately run for public office; and, continue to hold that office, while violating their oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution. If American children were required to read the classics; taught the politically incorrect version of U.S. History; were required to read and understand the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution; and, read *The Law* by Frederic Bastiat, most existing professional politicians currently in office would not be.

If we desire to continue the experiment in individual freedom started by our Founders in 1776, we must separate Education and State; we must stop turning over the education of our children to the power-elites that control government.

Dum Spiro Spero—While I breathe, I hope.

Slainte mhath,

Robert G. Beard Jr., C.P.A., C.G.M.A., J.D., LL.M.

SIGN UP FOR OUR ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER

Please go to our website, www.jeffersoniangroup.com, and sign up for our electronic version of this newsletter.

The benefits of doing so are: (1) You will receive the newsletter sooner; and (2) you will be able to click-on the various links within the electronic version so that you may access related information directly.

In the future, we plan to stop printing and mailing hard copies of this newsletter, unless you specifically request a hardcopy from us.

Thank you for your cooperation!