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Tuesday, May 5, 2009

The most priceless decription of government in decades....

Marc Faber of GloomBoomDoom included the daily dirtnap in his May commentary that contained the following description of government:

The gold bugs realize that government is nothing more than a grandiose, malignant, homeowners' association and that any collective of do-gooders tends to do themselves in if given enough time.

Amen to that.

Posted by Mark Jeftovic in AntiPolitics at 16:06

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

All Hail The Chief and God Bless ...The Left

I know my friend and mentor The Atavist blogged yesterday that it makes no real difference who won the election, I am, to quote a favorite phrase of my attorney, "cautiously optimistic".

We all expect Obama to be a center-left politician and in the ordinary course of things, capitalist pigs such as myself are supposed to revile the left. Anyone who reads my blog knows I run down the lefties on a regular basis. But I have realized over the years that I have never given the opposite extreme: the lunatic right, the treatment they deserved in this space.

We are coming off of the worst 8 years in geopolitical history since the Viet Nam War. In 8 years, a small, neo-conservative cabal has squandered the accumulated goodwill of a once great nation, has financially bankrupted the same, neutered civil liberties and has set purely ideologically motivated precedents of pre-emptive warfare and American exceptionalism. It was nothing short of insanity and frankly, the rest of the world was sitting on the sidelines wondering how long the American citizenry was going to go along with it.

So yes, President Obama will be "left of center", but when a national agenda is set by Neocon loons (which it has been for the last 8 years) anyone tamer than a Nazi is a leftist.

I have a long-held summation about Leftists, Rightists and Centrists which I label as "Socialists, Conservatives and Libertarians".

Conservatives think they know how everybody else should live.
Socialists think we should all live the same way
Libertarians think they may know how to run their own lives and nobody else's.

While leftists miss the point on the fundamental laws of economics, in general their hearts are in the right place (no pun intended). Most leftists want to help their fellow man, alas, sometimes to a fault. But that said, it is generally out of spirit of brotherhood and community and for that, I salute them.

The right are ideologues and ideologues become so blinded by their own tunnel vision they end up being downright Evil. I once heard the Project For A New American Century crowd: Cheney, Rumsfeld, Perle et al, described as "Malthusians" and I think that label fits well.

So while the left tend toward "tax-and-spend" (and at the risk of veering off on a tangent rant coercion, theft and taxation), the right are about enslavement, serfdom, war (best racket ever invented), elitism and crony capitalism.

Neither side veers far from "socialism for the bankers" that routinely ruin our economies but at least one side didn't get a few million innocent people killed in the last 8 years and isn't pursuing a relentless blueprint to create a police state (not yet, anyway).

Tax Shelters, not Bomb Shelters

So yeah, give me the centrist-left guy - all I have to worry about are dealing with more taxes. That I can handle (there are always ways to deal with taxation).

What I don't want is to worry about having to build a goddamn bomb shelter for my 2 year old daughter.

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

The CRTC Gets a Clue...

I was pleasantly surprised this morning to receive the news that Tim Denton has been appointed a full time commissioner to the CRTC (that's our version of the FCC for you American's in the audience).

Having served with Tim on the CIRA Board back in the day, I know that Tim knows his telecom policy, understands technology and he's a lawyer. We need more people like that and I think he'll be in a position to bring his unique blend of expertise to the organization.

Posted by Mark Jeftovic in AntiPolitics at 13:43

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Help Kill Politics in Canada

I think the most underappreciated quip about politics comes from that seminal work *The Sovereign Individual* by Davidson & Rees-Mogg where they observe that:

"Too little attention has been paid to the fact that electoral politics lures disordered, messianic personalities into positions of power."

I endeavour to bring as much attention to that fact whenever possible, the point still seems lost on the majority of the populace. Aliester Crowley once posited that what separates man from animal is "the desire to be important", politics is the arena of choice for those too talentless to take a stab at celebrity.

Canada's political system is as homogenous and as removed from the actual will of the people as is our cousin's to the south. Every few years we get to choose between Tweedledee-Dee and Tweedledee-Dum, nobody asks us anything terribly important. Should we be sticking our noses in Afghanistan's business? Is it time to get rid of that income tax that was introduced as a temporary measure until we win World War I? Should be seeking Deep Integration with the US?

None of that really gets put to the voters. Instead we're given the choice between one brand of homogenized sludge or another, more of the same. Tax and spend, redistribute other people's property. Stick our noses in other countries affairs.

There are no viable alternatives in Canada. The Liberal party is just the Conservatives minus the neo-con ideology, and the NDP's are a pack of raving pinkos. The Green party is an emerging alternative that will eventually brush aside the NDPs on the left, the only alternative for the protest vote, for an end of politics-as-usual, the only party that stands for something that isn't positively brain dead in this country is the Libertarian Party.

In a nutshell Libertarians believe that everybody should be free to pursue their own interests provided their activities do not infringe on anybody else's rights to same. Pretty simple, pretty sensible. Why we are not living this way in a supposedly progressive western society is utterly beyond me. Libertarians believe for the most part, that if there should be any government at all, it should be a minimal one in place to protect the property rights of it's citizenry and the sovereignty of the country from external aggressors. The Wikipedia page on Libertarianism is a good primer/digest on the subject.

The Canadian Libertarian Party is now fighting for its life. Every three years political parties need to get 250 signatures filed to retain their political party status and the Libertarian Party is about 100 signatures away and has until the end of the month to do it.

It seems silly that they're having a hard time coming up with 250 people who don't see the Libertarian "live-and-let-live" values as the essential core message of progressive Western society from the Renaissance onwards.

I am not a big "joiner" of groups. Crowds bother me, herd mentalities make me sick and lemmings are just lemmings. But it is important for there to exist in Canada a political party who puts fiscal responsibility back into Conservatism, and the personal liberty back into Liberalism and calls the entitlement programs and redistribution of wealth of the Left for what is, which is essentially coercion and theft.

For that reason, and it is with a somewhat heavy heart and a sigh...I am joining the Libertarian Party of Canada and filing my papers as an official member, and I urge all like minded Canadians reading this to do the same by the end of June.

Do it today, and for once in your political life your endorsement will be important, it will make a difference and your actions will actually count for something other than as a rubber stamp for the same old same old bullshit politicians.

» DO IT NOW «

Posted by Mark Jeftovic in AntiPolitics at 13:11