

Freedom Matters

A Weekly Newsletter

Dane County, Wisconsin

Vol. 1, No. 12

Monday, November 26, 2001

We are a free people in a republic, under a constitution which limits the powers of government to those necessary to secure the unalienable rights of each person to their life, liberty and property. Yet, when a legislature is in session, no one's life, liberty or property is safe. It's the curse of a democracy. That's why we have a republic instead. *Freedom Matters* dedicates itself to the fight to restore our republic. Most of the press and courts fail to do so. They've forgotten that freedom matters.

A Call for More Readers

by Mike Byrne

Freedom matters exists because we are aware that the trend toward more and more government restrictions on our property rights is unacceptable. And we believe that if given the complete information on these issues the majority of citizens agree with us. Therein lies the problem. People are unaware, like the frog in the slowly warming water, of what is happening around the country. If they remain unaware they will be asking in another few years: What happened to the land of the free?

A movement is a-foot we call "rural cleansing." Rural settlement is actively being discouraged and even reversed. Sincere, dedicated adherents to a misguided and misinformed planning effort are trying to head off an imagined "disaster" to the human race and the planet we all live on. They are convinced it is humans who are causing this impending "disaster." They are also maneuvering through political channels to ensure that we citizens are prevented from causing any more harm than these crusaders feel is necessary.

In a short-sighted way they are enacting an "end justifies the means" strategy. They are telling themselves that human beings are like clay, and that a future society can be kneaded and molded without fear, that our own individual destinies must be weighed against a common interest, and are subservient to it. This idea stands in stark contrast to the backdrop of history. Nowhere has that idea triumphed over evil, and nowhere is the power and success of individualism so completely proven as in the two hundred plus years of United States history.

Our efforts depend on you! Pass this word around! We need more readers. Lots more! Any new e-mail addresses you can get for us will multiply the knowledge we send out. Like a thousand points of light we need more of you and your friends...

Inclusionary Zoning

by Bob Bowman

Zoning developed its legal power in the 1940s, because it was politically popular as an exclusionary tool. It was used to build the paradise of well-to-do single-family homes. Its political popularity made it the law, to be used by the NIMBY. As you may know, that's the person who says, "Not in my back yard." However, as with any government monster, zoning is quite capable of turning around and biting the people who created it, the NIMBY's themselves, as well as anyone else who gets in the way. It is beginning to do that in the form of "inclusionary" zoning. Home owners in Portland, for example, are forced to turn single-family homes into apartments, through "inclusionary" zoning. Quiet streets are turned into traffic nightmares, through "inclusionary" zoning. When people put legal shackles on themselves in the name of "local control," more remote levels of government are happy to take it over to use for social engineering. When we set out to control others, we end up making slaves of ourselves.

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Any of these issues are available as e-mail in response to a request by e-mail. We will do our best to send them out promptly.

Readers' Bulletin Board. e-mail us your comments. Include your name, for publication by *Freedom Matters*

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