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Professor Fails Entire Class To Give a Lesson On Socialism

101 votes

Submitted by [rockstar](#). on Wed, 01/25/2012 - 17:30
[Politics, General + Law\(s\)](#)

I got this from Facebook. I doubt its real but its a great lesson on Free Markets vs. Socialism

An economics professor at a local college made a statement that he had never failed a single student before, but had recently failed an entire class. That class had insisted that Obama's socialism worked and that no one would be poor and no one would be rich, a great equalizer.

The professor then said, "OK, we will have an experiment in this class on Obama's plan." All grades will be averaged and everyone will receive the same grade so no one will fail and no one will receive an A.... (substituting grades for dollars - something closer to home and more readily understood by all).

After the first test, the grades were averaged and everyone got a B. The students who studied hard were upset and the students who studied little were happy. As the second test rolled around, the students who studied little had studied even less and the ones who studied hard decided they wanted a free ride too so they studied little..

The second test average was a D! No one was happy. When the 3rd test rolled around, the average was an F. As the tests proceeded, the scores never increased as bickering, blame and name-calling all resulted in hard feelings and no one would study for the benefit of anyone else. To their great surprise, ALL FAILED and the professor told them that socialism would also ultimately fail because when the reward is great, the effort to succeed is great, but when government takes all the reward away, no one will try or want to succeed. It could not be any simpler than that.

Remember, there IS a test coming up. The 2012 elections.

These are possibly the 5 best sentences you'll ever read and all applicable to this experiment:

1. You cannot legislate the poor into prosperity by legislating the wealthy out of prosperity.
2. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving.
3. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else.
4. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it!
5. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that is the beginning of the end of any nation

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The Common Denominator: What Cyprus, Internet Tax, Gun Control, Election Fraud, Fake Birth Certificates, etc. All Have in Common

TommyPaine

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ralph hornsby

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+1 A perfect example of where we are headed

Submitted by [BillRow](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 17:56. [Permalink](#)

how we are going to get there. We need more teacher like this.

"A vote for the lesser of two evils is a vote to keep things the same", Buckminster Fuller..

A vote for liberty is always a vote for liberty.

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+2 Response to post below...

Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 00:51. [Permalink](#)

First I want to say thank you for interest in my opinion. I am going to only post a brief reference to the question I am answering so anyone following along should refer to below for the full question.

"1) After balancing the budget how long do you think it will take to reach the surpluses necessary to pay down the debt. Do you think inflating the currency will at least be a part of the solution?"

I personally don't believe it is possible at this point. I believe we have already passed the point of no return. If, by some miracle, all of the US got on board with the right policies, it would take decades at best. Inflating the currency, or not inflating wouldn't matter in terms of our ability to eliminate it. Besides, our money is debt based. Paying down the debt means what is in circulation is worth more. Creating more, steals value from the existing people who currently hold cash (middle class). If we inflate, it just means we owe that much more.

"2)Under the gold standard dollars will be redeemable in gold. Does the US govt. have that much gold? Or should the gold standard kick in after the debt has been erased."

The US doesn't hold that much, if any, gold. However, the value in the gold standard is in preventing the government from "creating" new money out of thin air, not in its

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Follow Up

Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:44. [Permalink](#)

1) Inflating would help as far as the value of \$15 Tn. would be much around half in 14 years time at 5% inflation.

You also have to pay other countries.

2)Yes, in the freedom to fascism documentary Ron Paul does say they they have not been allowed into Fort Knox for quite some time. How do you like the idea of a central bank with a single mandate of controlling inflation under congressional supervision?

3)Yes, I consider metals as having intrinsic value which does not fluctuate suddenly because they already have set values in different industries(Taking inflation into account ie your example of silver for bread)

IF you nationalized your central bank, maybe that could be the solution, if a gold standard isn't.

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....

Submitted by **wolfe** on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 02:11. [Permalink](#)

1) Just to be realistic and not theoretical for a moment, if we *really* monetized the debt, even slowly, it would destroy the foreign investments as badly as a default or bankruptcy through devaluation and we would have an invasion/war on our hands.

2) That is what we currently have. It's fractional, it's a mess, and it's fraud.

3) Allow our politicians access to the printing press to create money at will to hand out to the people? That would fail as fast as the Fed for obvious reasons. There is no perfect solution so long as fractional reserve banking exists because it allows whatever entity with power of the printing press to create money, thereby stealing from those who have to hold it for any length of time (middle class).

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+1 Ha! For what I know, you make great valid points as a recap

Submitted by **Lysiandad** on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:28. [Permalink](#)

Ha! For what I know, you make great valid points as a recap of what I've read from various sources elsewhere. I wouldn't have done better! Thanks for the readers of this thread (godsfavson and others I suppose)

You're obviously well-informed. I'd just like to add with my small contribution especially on this you didn't forget to mention and I personally find especially important, since it's at the crux for laying down saner foundations for the rest to build up onwards:

"In other words, if you used silver to buy it back then[...]it would have taken almost the exact same amount of silver to make the purchase. We don't have more wealth in the system, just more paper.[...]So if the government held say \$100 worth of metal, they could distribute \$1000 worth of paper. This is actually the largest problem. It is institutionalized fraud and needs to be eliminated."

So, here's a rather expert argument to be aware of, going in the exact same direction, plus great historical insights for those who have missed it so far:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkhIZO05ifw>

(Prof. Murray Sabrin on the Fed.)

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Thank you.... :)

Submitted by **wolfe** on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:38. [Permalink](#)

Sometimes I wonder if I communicate well enough, so it is nice to hear when I have... :)

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+1 Just thought of this

Submitted by **Mashimaro** on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:11. [Permalink](#)

One thing to add: To whoever wrote the post earlier about the bell curve story. The professor in the story is wrong about capitalism. Capitalism is NOT about competition. Capitalism is about TRADE and VOLUNTARY EXCHANGE. Competition is a RESULT of capitalism because a subset of people realize that if they work very, very hard to compete with others that they can get more for themselves. There's nothing wrong with this as long as they don't resort to fraud or violence because they will, in their greed, also benefit others through trade and voluntary exchanges.

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Re:

Submitted by **godsfavson** on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:30. [Permalink](#)

Denominator: What Cyprus, Internet Tax, Gun Control, Election Fraud, Fake Birth Certificates, etc. All Have in Common

- Israel Has 300+ Nukes!
- OUTRAGE! US Government Owns Slaves!
- Atlantic Mag: Rand Paul Isn't 100% Pro-Life Anymore
- 340 sheriffs have publicly stated they will not enforce gun laws they believe are unconstitutional
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- The Real Reasons Why The Liberty Movement Is Preparing To Fight
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- What Does The Start Of A Movement Look Like ?

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Silver Slams Higher As Bitcoin Hysteria Shifts To Real Money

by **SteveMT**
8 sec ago

'nuff said!

by **ecorob**
28 sec ago

Nice.

by **MikeFWT210**
1 min 14 sec ago

Damn...

by **Lt496**
1 min 48 sec ago

As it should be...

by **ecorob**
3 min 38 sec ago

Why label yourself in the first place?

by **stm**
8 min 42 sec ago

Mitakuye Oyasin

by **Gene Greigh**
13 min 25 sec ago

The Holocaust is the foundational lie of the NWO

by **reporandy**
17 min 50 sec ago

If you actually believe that the USGovt

by **dducks**
18 min 11 sec ago

Nope.

by **ctkelly85**
21 min 10 sec ago

This is a cut and paste.

by **MaxK**
21 min 24 sec ago

Side issue.... the point

by **HonorGod**
25 min 2 sec ago

Yeah! Yeah! Unlock the minds! Break the chains! Yeah!!!!

by **fightapathy**

Competition is an integral part of capitalism. We agree that it healthy and drives costs down.

That is why Ron Paul advocates competing currencies.

But:

Suppose you had an orchard.

You grew fruit on it, ate some sold the surplus. It was enough to keep you in comfort.

Then a corporation came along with vastly lower prices. Took your customers away. You had no way to compete.

You had to sell the orchard just to get by and were left with just a house.

Then expenses got too big and you took out a loan with your house as collateral.

Tried working but couldn't make it in a world that changed too quickly. House got taken away. Homeless and no job...

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+1 Hmm.. no offense but you still seem to have a rather manichean

Submitted by [Lysiandad](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 02:10. [Permalink](#)

Hmm.. no offense but you still seem to have a rather manichean view of the dynamic of the markets with maybe a too abstract view of things.

You oppose the biggest to the smaller or smallest. A truly free-market based society is, I suppose, likely to share some attributes with what you witness in the wilderness and its food chain : predators, more peaceful gatherers, very specific sector and business domains, more versatile ones, etc.

But you seem to forget the human factor and the true nature of trade and exchange and its dependance to times adaptation. Have you ever been involved at least once in EACH of the three sizes of business (to keep it simple): small, mid-size, and large corporations?

What I mean is I can return you the argument:

1. first, on a market, if you're small and a big one comes around, you're not forcibly eaten even if the raw costs of production of the second are lower "on the paper"; as a small one already present on the market, you may have very valuable, though intangible assets such as "savoir-faire", "customer relations", "consumer-customization capabilities", etc; and what you might as well end up with is finding yourself made a proposal to sell or associate or affiliate a part of

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You bring up another point...

Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:50. [Permalink](#)

Corporate personhood...

If you want me to address those evils, I can. But in purely free market, what you suggest is not the likely scenario. Nobody ever said free markets are utopian or perfectly handle every possible bad outcome. They simply are better, more efficient and yes better at charity as well.

I went from being homeless at one point in my life to making more in a week than most people make in a year... Back to being poor, and back up. All without a safety net. That's life. It's not perfect, but it is made less perfect by government interference.

By seeking to address the a problems, some imagined, some real... Government creates far more.

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+1 Absolutely correct...

Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:19. [Permalink](#)

At some point in this mess of comments, the original poster of that example acknowledged the difference.

My biggest issue with socialist rhetoric is that it always holds up the failures of socialism to explain why socialism is needed... :)

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26 min 20 sec ago

You can't debunk squat, "probably"...

by [ecorob](#)

25 min 23 sec ago

I expect it to climb a lot

by [MaxK](#)

30 min 26 sec ago

Two words for you zooamerica...

by [dducks](#)

30 min 44 sec ago

Thats over 10%!

by [ecorob](#)

34 min 16 sec ago

try this:

by [RPtriber](#)

37 min 37 sec ago

Not to be a "kill joy"

by [vinceableworld](#)

32 min 38 sec ago

Brilliant!

by [ecorob](#)

40 min 9 sec ago

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+1 This is not a new phenomenonSubmitted by [richgrise](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 18:31. [Permalink](#)

When I was in school, back when we had to walk ten miles uphill both ways through 10 feet of snow, (late 1960's), I had TWO different teachers relate almost the exact same story. But that was also before the socialists took over and turned the schools into propaganda mills.

Freedom is my Worship Word!

[Login or register to post comments](#)**OOops!**Submitted by [richgrise](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 18:35. [Permalink](#)

This was supposed to have been a response to paulverize's "teacher split the class in half - see below.

But I don't know how to delete and relocate a whole post.

Freedom is my Worship Word!

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When I went to school a teacher split the class in half

I'm surprised by how manySubmitted by [rockstar](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 02:50. [Permalink](#)

I'm surprised by how many people here are arguing in defense of socialism. How can you believe in socialism yet support Ron Paul? I'd think the freedom that RP stands for is the complete opposite of a socialism..

[Login or register to post comments](#)**-1 Re:**Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 09:52. [Permalink](#)

For the depth of Mr. Wolfe's erudite reasoning and logic, you need only read the following excerpt from his post:

//for my comments

"I am going to make this really simple for you.

How can a man earn 100,000 if there is only 10,000 in circulation?

He earns 10,000.

He uses it on goods and services. //so now he has \$0

He earns the same 10,000 back from those that he paid.

He uses it on goods and services.

Rinse and repeat 10 times. Voila.

He has earned 100,000 when there was a "scarce" money supply."

[Login or register to post comments](#)**Thank you for proving that you still don't get it...**Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 10:03. [Permalink](#)

:)

And showing exactly what I mean by refusing to listen and causing me to lose patience.

Btw, that example (though I paraphrased for brevity), I believe originated from "The Creature From Jekyll Island" from Griffin.... Btw, routinely referenced around here... But of course you know better than any of the experts on the topic... :) Seriously, try to understand what is being said. Your response amounts to : "It sounds crazy." without any further thought given. That is not the way to learn.

The comment was in reference to earning. Savings are irrelevant in regards to money since money is in fact only medium of exchange.

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[Login or register to post comments](#)**-2 "Savings are Irrelevant"**Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 10:26. [Permalink](#)

Wow.

I gave it great thought. In fact for a moment I almost agreed that yes, under these circumstances he can earn as much as he likes.

But.

Your premise was that only \$10000 are in circulation.

1)

Man-\$10000

Traders-\$0

2)

Man-\$0

Traders-\$10000

3)

Man-\$10000

Traders-\$0

That is how your scenario will pan out

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+1 Huh?

Submitted by [Mashimaro](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 00:47. [Permalink](#)

Money is simply a commodity of significant rarity that is readily used for exchange, usually because it is also easy to transport and identify. Gold has, historically, met all these criteria best, but other items have also at one time or another (salt, sea shells, government issued paper). You don't need to multiply how much money is in the system in order to get wealthier or richer, you simply need to facilitate trade so that more people are able to participate in whatever activities society deems "productive" by virtue of where they invest their resources (on aggregate). The idea of a free market is that all of the participants have absolute choice in how they allocate their individual resources, whether that's personal survival, luxuries, investments in future returns (in self or others), charity, the environment, etc. That's why the forced Bell Curve is better for showing fascism than capitalism. Capitalist classrooms aren't easy to make because free markets require specialization in DIFFERENT resources (they don't treat all jobs or resources equally, because they're not created equal). If you could, say, do really well in Science, because you're good at it and your friend is good at English and then you could trade your points so you both get good grades at the end of the semester, THAT would be capitalism. Capitalism encourages SPECIALIZATION because being REALLY GOOD at one thing is rewarded by being able to TRADE for what

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+1 Your scarcity argument is a flawed premise...

Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 10:40. [Permalink](#)



There is no scarcity of effort, it is impossible. Only laziness creates scarcity in that situation and the lazy can starve, I don't care about them, and I will not be held back by them either.

And there is no scarcity in a market as a whole, because the very concept of a market is an exchange of effort. A *resource* may become scarce in a market, which will be resolved by the market through redirected effort.

Money is a measure of earning/effort, not wealth. The idea that you are wealthy because you have a lot of money is ridiculous. Money only feeds you if someone is willing to take it in exchange for food, meaning an effort exchange.

I was not arguing from authority. Merely pointing out who it was that you disagreed with and were saying is wrong. I have given numerous counter points to you, that you ignore and walk past.

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-1 Empathy

Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 11:26. [Permalink](#)

Ok, so this is the resolution. you believe the only ones who are poor are the lazy and they should be allowed to starve.

Step out of your bubble my friend. In India a thousand farmers commit suicide because their crops failed and they could not feed their families.

Many die because they were born poor, had no education and have no home so freeze to death on the streets or die from heat and dehydration.

In your own country people are mentally ill or physically incapable of work. Should they should be allowed to die?

We, as a nation decided that our laws and policies would reflect our conscience as a people so we do our best to take care of these people.

Your country's constitution does not contain the word 'socialist' so you practice capitalism hoping it will make everyone prosperous enough in the long run, or at least have enough money going around that people will donate voluntarily to take care of the poor and that is also acceptable.

What you do is cast everyone who believes in some kind of socialism i.e more

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+2 I'm not sure about which point you're trying to make, if any

Submitted by [Lysiandad](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 13:33. [Permalink](#)

... Sorry in advance if it feels like an intrusion in an already well advanced argument between you and others (wolfe), but just thought I could share my opinion, if it can save you(us?) some time:

godsfavson, you wrote : (a) "you believe the only ones who are poor are the lazy and they should be allowed to starve"

and then

(b) "In your own country people are mentally ill or physically incapable of work. Should they should be allowed to die?"

I might be misled but both the (a) claim and (b) question provide the reader with the strange (and unwelcomed) feeling of an attempt of putting words in someone else's mouth. I've read the other replies in the thread and that's my feeling, anyway.

Starting with (b) : of course nobody in one's sane and compassionate enough mind is willing to leave the mentally ill or physically incapable to work to a cruel fate. You seem to be calling for a tautological answer which would not be allowed to be "NO", unless the reader had agreed with all your

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Re:

Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 14:09. [Permalink](#)

No man, its an important discussion, more minds the better.

I did not HAVE to put words in his mouth though I'm not above that, lol :)

"There is no scarcity of effort, it is impossible. Only laziness creates scarcity in that situation and ""the lazy can starve, I don't care about them"", and I will not be held back by them either."

He makes the connection that all poor people are so because they are lazy. Though not spelled out, that is clearly his meaning.

In socialism, I go as far as social welfare programs, govt. ownership of land and businesses is not part of it. Socialism can be used to mean a variety of things before you bring that up. Socialism does not equate to Communism.

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+1 On Socialism

Submitted by [Mashimaro](#) on Mon, 01/30/2012 - 01:05. [Permalink](#)

Since I used to be one:

Socialism is a BROAD umbrella of ideas which center around redistribution of wealth using some kind of arbiter, usually the government, so that the poor of society might receive relief from their condition by taking resources from those who have more than enough to live with. It sounds noble and very Robin-Hood-esque, and many people that believe the philosophy have noble intentions.

Fascism and Communism are the two major ways socialism has appeared in the world in actual form. There are less drastic hybrids that have had some success in very small countries with incredibly strict immigration policies.

At any rate, being poor is not caused by laziness. However, struggling with poverty can cause people to give up and become "lazy" because they lack hope. The real question is what is the best way to move resources to those who are poor, inept, without hope, or suffering from disabilities? The answer, I have found, is that free markets create surplus goods and technology and create an environment that benefits the poor

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+1 That was not my meaning...

Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 14:12. [Permalink](#)



Nor was it the only time you put words in my mouth. Almost every one of your responses does that. And once again it is intellectually dishonest to carry on a debate that way.

You bringing in sick, and incapable people was your plea to emotion since you do not have a logical response.

No unifying philosophy can address that, other than one's INDIVIDUAL charity. To steal, to give is immoral.

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If we were robots

Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 23:36. [Permalink](#)

Edit:

Not putting words in your mouth man. When there is an implication to what you're saying then I can point it out. I might use that tactic to win a debate but it is self defeating when I'm trying to acquire knowledge. That's why I usually try not to deal in hypotheticals because they can distort truth very easily and convincingly. Sometimes to put a point across I'm forced to. That is not to say I'm trying to disparage you or your argument. Simply wondering what your philosophy would lead to in certain circumstances.

Then we could be driven only by logic. But we are not and our emotional needs to protect the lives of others must be met. Indeed most societies in the world DEMAND that they be met.

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+2 Charity at the end of a barrel of a gun is...

Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 12:18. [Permalink](#)



mugging. Not charity.

You feel sorry for someone, feed them, help them... Do not steal from everyone else to make you feel better.

India is socialist. Hardly an example of why free markets fail.

I do not call socialists kooks or idiots. They however do have basic misunderstandings and lack of knowledge of economics. Almost anyone can be taught if they want to learn. I do however call those who actively support it thieves, because that is what they are. They take effort from one and decide who that effort should go to. That is theft, and a form a slavery.

And for the record, the other half of the population is fascist, not capitalist. Only about 5-10% of the population show any signs of understanding.

You talk a lot but say little of substance.

The Philosophy Of Liberty -

<http://www.jonathangullible.com/mmedia/PoL.English.The.Philo...>

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Wrong

Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 12:45. [Permalink](#)

You cannot claim to have special knowledge in the field of economics and say THAT is why everyone else disagrees with you.

In economics when so much depends on the actions of human beings, it is a little arrogant to make claims of absolute knowledge.

You will make a good politician but a very poor seeker of truth.

Individuals make a pact with society and live under it in exchange for protections and common utilities. The govt. levies necessary taxes for these services under the constitution which is considered a reflection of the collective will of society.

The preamble to our constitution has 'socialist' in it so we can use money for welfare. Your country's doesn't so you don't want one.

Be under no illusion. If a constitutional amendment is required, do you really believe your congress won't pass it?

Supreme Court Justices have said your social programs are constitutional, you claim to know better. To make it worse you take a jab at me at the

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+1 lol...

Submitted by [wolfe](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 12:58. [Permalink](#)



I make no claims to absolute knowledge. But I do make claims to knowledge, which I do possess. Something that socialists cannot do, because all socialist claims are based on false premises.

I don't take jabs at you. But I will state where your arguments are flawed and where you need to educate yourself. I have long since lost patience with you. You have completely disregarded information in favor of flawed premises and artificially constructed problems.

You should read some texts on libertarianism, or Austrian economics. I have apparently read far more on socialism and communism than you have. So return the favor before trying to debate the subject.

There is no common pact to do anything for me. I have signed no contracts, I have not requested such services, they are forced upon me by forcing my payment for them.

The US is already socialist, no need to do anything further to create it. In fact, every plank of the communist platform has already been implemented in the US. Look it up. In some cases, using private entities to mask government involvement (fascism).

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This

Submitted by [godsfavson](#) on Sun, 01/29/2012 - 13:08. [Permalink](#)

"There is no common pact to do anything for me. I have signed no contracts, I have not requested such services, they are forced upon me by forcing my payment for them."

Then my answer to you is go live in the jungle on your own. You are not a libertarian, you are an anarchist.

I have not read books on Libertarianism or Austrian economics but have seen videos of lectures.

You possess knowledge but incomplete knowledge on the basis of which you want to let people die of hunger.

"First do no harm" heard of that?

What would you say if 1000s died and your great plans never worked out. Would you say 'sorry'? Would it be enough?

We simply try to do the best we can, morally and financially. To take extreme steps on something we can only speculate about is irrational. Unintended consequences should be a term you are familiar with.

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