



LIBERTY TREE

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THE GOVERNMENT'S

Dirty Little



Editorial by Dick Greb

In the June/July 2008 edition of the Liberty Tree, I wrote about the Treasury Department's TAXDEF initiative, and how it was necessary for the government to restrain any discussion of the legitimacy of the tax system in order for them to keep their confidence game afloat. The whole idea of encouraging voluntary compliance among taxpayers is directly related to the numerical imbalance between the people who want to take your property and the people from whom they want to take it. In fact, this imbalance is what creates the fragility of the system. When you have a relatively small number of takers and a huge number of takees, confidence in the system is the only thing that can maintain the flow of property from the latter to the former.

I want you to want me.

I need you to need me.

Cheap Trick

If the majority of the people believe that the tax system is fair, or necessary, or at least inevitable, they can also be convinced that ponying up their share of the burden is likewise fair, necessary, or inevitable. However, if people start really looking into the tax laws and into the underlying foundations of the system and the principles upon which they're based, they may well begin to recognize

that things aren't really the way they ought to be. The most fundamental of those principles is that taxes are only authorized by Article 1, §8, clause 1 of the Constitution to be laid and collected in order "to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States." And while these three purposes sound rather expansive, they are really just a general way of categorizing the other enumerated powers of Congress.¹ Taxes laid or collected for every other purpose are unconstitutional, and so, invalid.

Thought control is government's #1 job

Any thinking person can see that the vast majority of government expenditures today are for purposes outside of those enumerated in the Constitution, and therefore, taxes collected to pay those expenditures are invalid. And that's why the government doesn't particularly care for thinking people. They much more prefer non-thinkers: people who can be relied on to blindly believe and follow whatever load of nonsense government controllers can come up with. And since non-thinkers can become thinkers simply by starting to think for themselves, you will become an enemy of the government if you try to get the masses to do so. That's why officials spend so much time, money and energy going after outspoken organizations like Save-A-Patriot and individuals like Irwin Schiff, Sherry Jackson and Bill

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1. That is, "pay the Debts" refers to the debts arising from the power "to borrow Money on the credit of the United States" granted by Article 1, §8, clause 2; "provide for the common Defence" refers to the powers delegated in Article 1, §8, clauses 10 through 16; and providing for the "general Welfare of the United States" refers to the remaining powers — those in Article 1, §8, clauses 3 through 9, 17 and 18, including the maintenance of the three branches of government established by Articles 1 through 3 and the property rightfully acquired for forts, arsenals, etc.

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Benson. Like the “confidence” game it is, government’s hold on the American people depends on the people’s confidence in its legitimacy. Therefore, quashing speech — and ultimately thought — which denies that legitimacy is essential to their continued power.

After all, if sufficient numbers of citizens reject the purported legitimacy and stop voluntarily complying, the tax system would fail. Because of the taker-to-takee ratio, it simply cannot be sustained any other way. There are not enough IRS agents, and not enough time, for them to go through all the administrative hurdles necessary to collect taxes from any more than a small percentage of recalcitrant citizens. And even the IRS’ ultimate collection method of levies relies in large part on the cooperation of a significant number of other people who must also accept the system’s legitimacy. This is the weakness government tries so hard to keep the masses from learning. It’s the reason they must put so much effort into maintaining voluntary compliance, and ultimately into stomping out anyone who tries to educate the public on these issues.

This principle also has a much wider application. It’s one of the foundations upon which oppressive government is built. Again, the ratio of controllers to controllees works to limit just how far the former can safely push the latter. In practice, of course, the only controllees they need to worry about are those who oppose the efforts to control them. So, just like in the microcosm of the tax system, the trick is to manipulate the masses so as to minimize opposition and maximize voluntary cooperation. This keeps the controller-to-uncooperative-controllee ratio at its highest, allowing greatest pressure to be applied against them, to



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either make them cooperative, or remove them from society altogether by putting them in prison.²

I want you to want me

Methods of minimizing opposition to government oppression come in many forms. My editorial in the February 2008 issue of *Liberty Tree* entitled “Are you controlled?” focused on methods for reducing the effectiveness of those already actively opposed. But here I want to touch on a type of indoctrination used to combat what I see as a kind of Achilles’ heel for overreaching government. Like with the tax system already discussed, it contains the seed of destruction within it. As in the popular Cheap Trick lyrics, government needs you to need them, and ultimately wants you to want them. If the masses can be convinced that they *need* government to take care of them, then naturally they will *want* them to do so. Eventually, this process comes full circle and becomes self-fulfilling. Just like unused muscles become atrophied, people who want — and allow — the government to provide for all their needs will some day find themselves incapable of providing for them on their own. At that point, they can be subjected to whatever controls government wants to put on them. They are no better than slaves, dependent on the benevolence of their owners to satisfy all their needs, but of course, anyone who would keep others in such subjection can’t be all that benevolent in the first place.

On the other hand, people who recognize not only that they don’t *need* government to take care of them, but that any such care — being administered through many layers of bureaucracy — must be inferior to what they can provide for themselves, will therefore not *want* government intervention. The natural result of this attitude is the refusal to legitimize government intrusion into

one’s daily life, and the more who reject the façade of legitimacy for all its extra-constitutional activities, the more unbalanced government’s controller-controllee ratio becomes. The greater that imbal-

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2. Prison is a good example of the extremes necessary to control an uncooperative population with a relatively small number of controllers. Even with many levels of security, prisoners must still be kept caged almost all the time, with only a very small number allowed out at any given time, to keep the controller-controllee ratio high.

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ance, the more draconian the measures that must be undertaken to maintain control, and the more draconian the measures, the more people who will be willing to fight to prevent them, thus unbalancing the ratio further, and continuing the cycle.

"If pro-Constitution is anti-government, then government must be anti-Constitution."

— Attorney Tom Cryer, Truth Attack

Enemies to friends?

Clearly then, government has a substantial vested interest in convincing everyone that they need more government, not just because it allows them to expand their sphere of influence, but also because it makes the control job much easier. People who believe that they couldn't live without government intervention in every aspect of their lives will be more willing to do whatever they're told to get it. And it's bad enough that every one of *them* means one less *Patriot*, but even worse, these believers will perceive attempts to restrain government to its constitutional functions as a direct attack against *their* interests. Therefore, they will actively work against Patriots. Government propa-

ganda helps make that connection in their minds as well, as when it constantly refers to Constitutionals, Ron Paul supporters, fundamentalist Christians, etc., as potential domestic terrorists. Of course, as Truth Attack founder Tommy Cryer aptly puts it on his radio program:³ "If pro-Constitution is anti-government, then government must be anti-Constitution."

When the masses merely acquiesce in government's extra-constitutional activities, they are not part of the controller-to-uncooperative-controllee ratio, but when deceived into opposing Patriot efforts to rein in unconstitutional government, they are effectively added into the controller side. However, when those same people begin to understand the nature of our problems (the government no longer considering the Constitution a legitimate limit on their power), and so join with us, the ratio really gets skewed. Because then they reduce the number of controllers at the same time they increase the number of controllees, and the more that happens, the harder it is for government to maintain its hold on its ill-gotten powers.

That's what makes Liberty Works Radio Network an important resource. Broadcasting over the airwaves gives us a chance to reach not just the choir, but also people who think they *need* government to take care of them cradle to grave. A steady diet of LWRN programming will help them understand that not only don't they need that kind of "help," they don't really want it either. Once the façade of legitimacy crumbles, seditious government officials will be exposed and treated like the criminals they are. That will be a small step on the road to recovery.



Christmas is coming, and the *Census* with it.

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth ... to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. — Luke 2: 1-5 (NKJV)

The census season is upon us, just one-quarter year past Christmas. In light of both seasons, how will you respond to this once-a-decade federal count?

In the first Christmas season over 2000 years ago, Caesar numbered the entire Roman world to tax it. The Greek word rendered 'registered' in Luke 2 is translated as 'taxed' by the Geneva Bible of 1599. A Geneva commentator wrote of this census by Octavian: "That is, the inhabitants of every city should have their names taken, and their goods rated at a certain value, that the Emperor might understand how rich every country,

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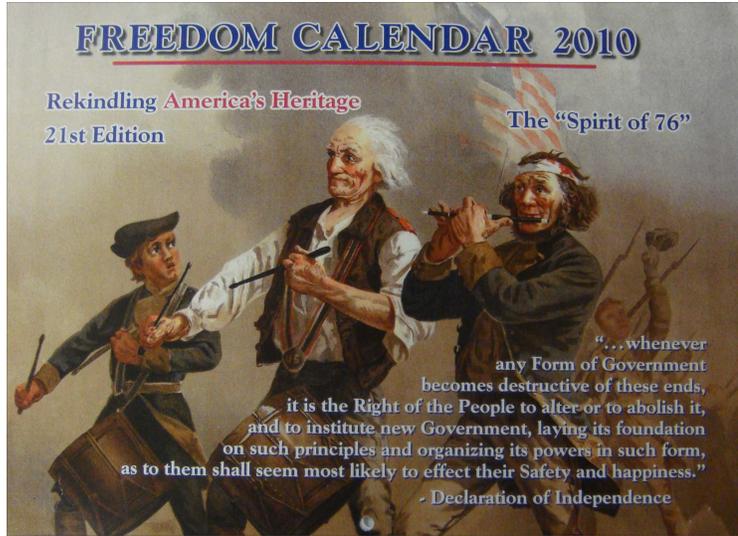


IT'S IN OUR HANDS
www.census.gov/2010census

3. Truth Attack Hour airs M-F from 5-6 pm EST on Liberty Works Radio Network.

JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS:

Save-A-Patriot FREEDOM CALENDARS for 2010 are here!



These timely calendars are just what is needed to re-educate newly awakening Americans to the founding principles and remind them of the true purpose of government. They mark important days in American history, **explain a section of our U.S. Constitution each month**, and contain many quotes from the Framers & Founders. A fantastic educational gift, or order one for yourself! **ONLY 11 FRNS each (ppd.)** To order, send FRNs or totally blank postal money orders to:

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city, family, and house was.”

There is nothing new under the sun, and since the imposition of taxes are at least as certain as the rising of that radiant orb,¹ so is counting the people. And so the federal Constitution sets forth the reason and timing of the census:

Art. I, Sec. 2, Cl. 3: Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States ... according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons ... The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years ...

Art. 1, Sec. 9, Cl. 4: No Capitation, or other direct Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

We see the census power is granted so that direct taxation without representation is prohibited to the federal government. Further, federal taxes are only to provide for the “common Defence and general Welfare,”² so an enumeration of the people is all that is necessary or proper.

The limitation to a count is evident in the first census act in 1790, which authorized federal marshals to count the inhabitants of their district, omitting Indians not taxed and distinguishing between free persons and slaves. However, it also authorized distinguishing the sex and color of free persons, and the number of free males 16 years of age and over. Such additional in-

The demand for more extensive information thus began with the first Congress.

quiries into sex, age and color can have no other purpose than to ascertain the “military and industrial strength of the country.”³

The demand for more extensive information thus began with the first Congress, and has only continued. In 2010, the census will ostensibly ask only ten questions, but these include the names, birth dates, and race of all household members, as well as phone numbers and mortgage/rent info.⁴

Should you be a ‘good citizen’ and give the federal government all it asks for? After all, Caesar demanded the people enroll and be taxed, and Jesus, the One who came to us *just at that time*, did say, “render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s.” But He also said to render “to God the things that are God’s.”⁵ And the Constitution says Congress can only *count* you. So what will your response be in 2010?

The census slogan says: “It’s in Our Hands.” Whose hands — yours or theirs? As we get closer to the 2010 tax-and-census season, we’ll explore your rights vs. the federal government’s census power. Stay tuned.



1. Or death, take your pick.
2. That is, the general welfare as it may be addressed by the limited powers of Congress in Art. I, Sec. 8, see also the 10th Amendment.
3. See <http://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/1790m-02.pdf>
4. See 2010.census.gov/2010census to preview the form.
5. Matthew 22:21 (NKJV).

The number of persons within my division, consisting of _____, appears in a schedule hereto annexed, subscribed by me this _____ day of _____, 179—. A. B. Assistant to the marshal of _____.

Schedule of the whole number of persons within the division allotted to A. B.

Names of heads of families.	Free white males of 16 years and upwards, including heads of families.	Free white males under 16 years.	Free white females, including heads of families.	All other free persons.	Slaves.

The 1790 census schedule, filled out by the marshals in taking the first enumeration of the people of the united States: a name and five numbers were all that was required.