



# The New Hampshire Free Press

News from The New Hampshire Underground

Moderation in the protection of liberty is no virtue; extremism in the defense of freedom is no vice. --Barry Goldwater

December 2008

FREE

## Keene Radio Host Jailed over Couch



By Michael Hampton  
homelandstupidity.us

Nationally syndicated radio talk show host Ian Freeman will spend 100 days in jail because he questioned the legitimacy of a system which would penalize him for having a couch in his yard and would conduct his trial in secret.

Keene resident Nick Ryder wrote on the Free Keene blog that the courtroom at Freeman's trial Friday afternoon at Keene District Court in Keene, N.H., was stacked with police "to try and outnumber the liberty activists."

Judge Edward Burke had hardly arrived in the courtroom before ordering Freeman jailed for 30 days for contempt of court and the proceedings moved to another room where spectators would not be allowed to hear what happened.

When word finally filtered out of the closed proceeding, Freeman had somehow gotten two more 30-day sentences for contempt and 10 days for refusing to pay a fine for having an illegal couch. The official reasons for the contempt charges were not immediately clear.

"It was oppressive," said Dale Everett, 40, of Keene. "They had a notice posted obviously targeting us, liberty activists, saying that anyone who didn't stand for the judge would be 'subject to sanction.' So I left. I wasn't prepared to get arrested today."

Freeman is the owner and host of the Free Talk Live radio show, which airs six nights a week on approximately 45 radio stations nationwide. Free Talk Live is an open format show, where callers can bring up any topic, with no caller refused. The hosts bring a libertarian perspective to the ensuing conversations.

The controversy began in August when Keene housing inspector Carl Patten visited Freeman's duplex, half of which he rents out, and cited him for a couch on his tenants' side of the yard.

Freeman said at the time he did not believe the city had a right to tell him whether he could have a couch on his yard. The couch was decorated for Halloween, complete with a pumpkin and lounging scarecrow.

After refusing to pay the fine and being threatened with arrest at his first hearing, Freeman attempted to negotiate with the city.

Patten claimed that he cited Freeman after receiving a complaint. Freeman said he would remove the couch if given an opportunity to speak to the original complainant, "like an adult, instead of calling in men with guns." The city refused and demanded he come to trial Friday, where he was jailed for contempt almost immediately.

"The Judge sees himself as royalty," wrote Jim Johnson of Winchester on the New Hampshire

Underground forum, "no one may question or disrespect his benevolent self."

Code enforcement activity has been on the rise nationwide with the failing economy reducing local governments' revenues and local bureaucrats desperately trying to take money from anywhere they can get it, using any excuse.

Free Talk Live recently interviewed one victim of code enforcement, 83 year old Ageda Camargo of La Quinta, Calif., who is being harassed by bureaucrats there over a garage which was converted into a bedroom decades ago, before she bought the house.

When the laws are unjust, as the vast majority of today's laws are, then a court of law will dispense injustice. Freeman's protest of the injustice done to him has not gone unnoticed. Many liberty activists have said the court's action has motivated them to get even more involved.

"The tyranny was stifling," Everett said. "It's the kind of experience that makes you rethink everything. And just to be clear, I don't mean rethinking everything in terms of backing off. Quite the opposite."

*Editor's Note: Pressure from government thugs proved too great for Mr. Freeman and family. On his third day being jailed, Ian contacted the judge, apologized and agreed to remove the couch and pay a fine. The judge suspended the 90 day contempt of court sentence and had Ian released.*

## Walk For Liberty Nears Completion

By Kat Kanning

Will Buchanan and his wife, Brooke, left Cannon Beach, Oregon for New Hampshire on April 14th. Will has walked all the way from the Pacific Coast in order to promote the idea of limited government. Brooke at times has walked with her husband, but has mostly acted as the faithful sidekick, driving the RV the couple camped out in, being the resourceful greasemonkey keeping their RV running, and generally keeping the project going. Will's brother John also accompanied the couple for part of the trip, doing some of the film editing.

Each day Will has made a video of his trip. These videos are available on his blog at [walkforliberty.com](http://walkforliberty.com). If you want a primer on libertarianism and its interaction with the real world, watch these videos. As an added bonus, you can enjoy the stunning scenery – America on foot.

Even a activity as peaceful as going for a walk will get you hassled by police in today's America. On day 163 of his walk, Will was detained by Whiting, Indiana police, who intimidated Will into deleting his footage of an oil refinery. More recently on day 198, Will was detained in Seneca Falls, NY when apparently some woman called the police to report the suspicious activity of a white guy walking. Police demanded ID and all sorts of personal information. The officer was polite until Will began questioning. Some woman being uncomfortable about a guy walking down the road is now "just cause" to detain a person who was admittedly doing nothing wrong.

The Walk For Liberty is fast approaching New Hampshire. Will has, for the most part, walked the whole of America by himself. It is symbolic of the Free State Project that once Will enters New Hampshire, he will no longer be walking on his own – he'll be joined by Freestaters on the last leg of his journey to the Atlantic Ocean. There will be a welcoming party to meet The Walk For Liberty at the New Hampshire border. This is scheduled to occur December 13th at 11:00am on Route 9, at the border between Brattleboro, VT and NH. Volunteers from the crowd will then walk with Will to Keene, and later, to the seacoast.

(Below: Walk For Liberty's route across America)



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# Reader Letters

## Flag Burning and Secession

This letter is in reference to your article "Activist Plans to Burn US Flag Nov. 3rd" and Ryan Young's letter from Reno, NV, "Regarding Burning the US Flag in Keene" Both article and letter appeared in the New Hampshire Free Press (October 2008).

I, for one, wish to congratulate "Jesse" Maloney, 21, of Keene, NH [who, after announcing his valid reasons] plans to burn a US flag just prior to the election on Monday, Nov. 3rd at 2:00pm in Central Square, Keene.

However, American Revolutionary War flags, such as "Liberty," "Betsy Ross" (13 stars and stripes), "Don't Tread on Me," colonial town militia and the 13 original sovereign state flags all predate the emergence of the flag which symbolizes the US Imperialist Empire. These pre-US American flags should never be burned because they flew under our glorious Articles of Confederation, the Constitution of the Revolution, which liberated us from British Tyranny until Shay's Rebellion (1786) was crushed by the US Empire in embryo.

American Revolutionary War flags should replace the US flag so that the Stars & Stripes shall never have to be burned again, any time, any place.

The un-American flag of the Tory-hatched, Bill of Rightless Constitution of the Us Federalist "Republic", born from the jack boot of Terror over the rebellious, anti-federalist colonists of western Massachusetts in 1786, is now, as it was at birth, a symbol of Universal Tyranny.

My bet is that American Anti-federalist founding fathers, such as, Philadelphiensis Patrick Henry, John De Witt, et al, would have championed Jesse Maloney's burning of the US flag (and his reasons for doing so) because they authored the "sentiments" and precepts of the Revolution, i.e. the Bill of Rights, after having violently opposed the creation of the US Federal Constitution and Federal Government and its Tory flag which they declared to be: "a consolidated Union", "an Empire", "execrable commands of Tyranny", "commanding a standing army", "illegal", "undemocratic", "unconstitutional", "not a republic", "an aristocratic tyranny" "a despotic monarchy", "a destroyer of Equal Liberty", "a total dereliction from the sentiments of the Revolution." (1) How else could the US Empire have conceived, carried out and covered-up the genocide of its own people on 9/11/01, if it had not been born "a total dereliction from the sentiments of the Revolution?" (John De Witt)

Again, I would like to wish many happy returns of the day to Jesse Maloney for expressing his worthy ideas and for risking loss of Liberty in America's emerging secessionist fever and War on Tyranny, American Revolutionary War style. But, when I look into Obama's face, I see "Bleeding Kansas" and Gettysburg. (2)

Yours Truly  
For a Free Menotomy\*  
David G. Pearson  
Arlington, MA

(1) "The Letters of Philadelphiensis," The Complete Anti-Federalist by Herbert J Storing (Chicago, 1981); and The William and Mary Quarterly, 3rd Series, Vol. XII, No. 1, (1955), pp. 3-46 under the title, "Men of Little Faith: The Anti-Federalists on the Nature of Representative Government."

(2) See Secession: How Vermont and all the other States Can Save Themselves from the Empire, by Thomas H. Naylor, Feral House, 2008; and Vermont's free state secessionist underground think tank & citizen's network at POB 544, Charlotte, Vermont 05445, Telephone 802-425-4133, web vermontrepublic.org.

(\*) "Swift Running Water" stronghold of the Massachusetts, birthplace of the American Revolution and Uncle Sam (Wilson), originator of West Cambridge and Arlington, Massachusetts.

## Our Once Great Republic Now Fascist

It was Thomas Jefferson who said:  
"The issue today is the same as it has been throughout all history,  
whether man shall be allowed to govern himself or be ruled by a small elite."

It appears to many that our once great REPUBLIC has been morphed into an oligarchy that incrementally has taken our government in an opposite direction; that is from being the protector of our FREEDOMS, to restoration of the feudal chains from which our forefathers escaped. This direction is "socialist", the predecessor of communist. It actually represents public interests but this direction has put big business monopolies, (such as the unconstitutional "EASY PASS" monopoly, which violates constitutional Article 83, Part II,) into rewriting laws to privatize core public institutions for private Corporate profit. Accordingly, these monopolies are in collusion with corporate government at the expense of the taxpayers. Such behavior is the betrayal of honor in regard to core Constitutional virtues "of, by and for the people". It is a scoffing at the mandates of the supreme law of the land, violations of Oaths of Office and a "Wink and a Nod" as the taxpayers pockets are being picked. It is probably best described as anti-fascist; however is this direction really "socialist"? History will attest that "fascism" was given meaning by Benito Mussolini, who is second only to Hitler in giving meaning to the word "fascism". Benito is quoted as saying;

*"Fascism should more appropriately be called corporatism because it is a merger of state and corporate power."*  
(see "Fascism in America")

Well, there you have it as I see it. Comments are welcomed.

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## "As General Motors goes (to \$0.00 a share), so goes the nation"

The famous analogy of the health of american business to america's future has never been more appropriate. As GM goes into complete and final bankruptcy, kept alive merely as a government controlled shell for union workers to continue making products no one wants, so will America go under our new marxist leader and congress. [thetruthaboutcars.com/gm-shares-rated-at-zero/](http://thetruthaboutcars.com/gm-shares-rated-at-zero/)

I encourage you all to deal with this catastrophe the way I am - I've stopped spending for anything but absolute necessities. No more dining out, attending events, movies, buying anything. No more travel or vacations. I'll just stay home and drink (cheap) beer. This should make the recession into a depression if we all work together, and since the democrat supporting media love reporting on how terrible the economy is anyway, let's give them more to work with.

In addition, I'm going out of my way to tell everyone we're entering a 10 year depression and things will never get better. America's best days are in the past. We're finished economically, The chinese will surpass us within a decade. Our children will toil for foreign corporations. The country will become shabbier in every respect, year after year.

Repeat for the next four years, and then we'll see how many people are eager to re-elect Obama.

George Fungus



## Am I GOD???

Am I GOD! Is that why I will not die, now matter how close I come? Today is Thanksgiving. A day for us all to thank, I guess ourselves? I have many unanswered questions of "Why I am here?", "Who am I?", "Is this a dream or I am really dead?" The list just keeps growing. Are you confused? Well, so am I. Getting into the Veteran's Administration stopping my VA medical care for my 100% service connected disabilities seems useless to talk about. The (I want to say lack of) compassion or even the slightest bit of caring from any individuals leaves me to thing that I must be invisible. I get calls every day from friends and people that I do not even know (that got my number from someone else) for help. I stop and talk to people that I meet on the street that seem to be in despair or just could use a friend for a second or too. I volunteer every day to help others because I came back alive. I believe I owe those that came home dead or never at all this respect to make our nation better in any way that I can. I am not asking for your pity. I get some hate mail from people and others just tell me to stop writing. Most tell me to keep going because it is about time that someone stood for right against the powerful. You (the people of the United States) can use me to illustrate what is happening to veterans across the US. We have checks and balances to stop government wrongs, yet for some veterans (where the veteran has been lost under the rug), there is no help. I have four serious medical conditions from my tour in the USMC. Three are combat related. It is against the law for the government to use anyone's medical condition as a weapon to stop a person from writing letters to the editor. It is a slap in the face to our forefathers for the newspapers to censor the opinion of a 100% disabled veteran (or any citizen) when expressing wrongs in government. Even if the editors disagree with the opinion.

I guess wishing to come back alive to see the US once before you give your life for her is a nightmare. It is one of those dreams if you understood what it meant you never would have wished for it. Judge Peter Fauver used the power of the court to allow the Madbury NH selectmen to seek and get revenge on local residents that the selectmen wanted to inflict harm on. The NH supreme court knowingly allowed this by refusing to hear a case that documented and spelled it out clearly to protect the legal empire's dominance over the people. I volunteer my time to help Madbury NH residents and the courts and government use my medical condition to stop me. Everyone is to afraid to speak up for fear this will happen to them.

Thanksgiving is not a time to say thank you. It is a time at the end of harvest season where excess crops would be cooked and shared with others as a way not to waste them. I suffered head pain while drinking my coffee at a local coffee shop this morning. I wanted to die so bad at that moment. I do not want to live through another Thanksgiving. I am not GOD. I am a US citizen (that happens to be a 100% disabled US Marine). You the people of the United States of America are allowing our constitutional rights to be left to waste in the fields. I am not sure which is worse the pain from my disabilities received defending this great nation or the pain of seeing what our children (US Military) gave their lives for being diminished.

You in NH are doing this to me but let my life illustrated the pain you are doing to too many veterans lost under the rug.

Peter Macdonald  
Sgt USMC  
Semper Fi

## We want your letters!

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Subscriptions: \$20/year



## Thank You Mr. Burke

(See also 'Keene Radio Host Jailed over Couch', Page 1)  
By Dale Everett

Video available on YouTube shows Ian Freeman being ordered arrested by Judge Burke within a minute of walking into the courtroom and within seconds of Ian opening his mouth to speak. Free speech, be damned. Then Ian is led into another room where nothing can be filmed or audio recorded. Public trial by one's peers be damned. Then Ian is sentenced to 90 days for one of the most vague and sweeping of charges— contempt of court. Just punishment be damned. He got 3 days for the charge that he was there to answer for, a code violation for failing to force his tenants to remove their couch from their yard.

I got the feeling Mr. Burke and his violent enforcers were disappointed. My suspicions seemed to be validated that he had plans to arrest a lot more innocent people that day when an unusual announcement was made before he entered that anyone who didn't stand for him would be subject to "sanction". I happened upon one of his enforcers on election day who expressed his eagerness to "cuff me himself" when he saw me in public and said he'd recognized me from court. I've attended several trials to support my liberty activist friends and I never stand for those given the title "judge" by our unaccountable monopoly governments. When I asked what he would be arresting me for since I haven't broken any laws, he left me with the cryptic answer of "You'll see." Now it seems clear to me what Mr. Burke and his thugs seem to have been planning for weeks— to use threats backed by real violence to crush the wills of anyone who would dare to question whether their "system of justice" is actually anything of the sort.

I'm tired of hearing how this is about a couch. One of the most irrelevant things about this story is the couch. Another rather inconsequential part of this story is the couch enforcer. The couch enforcer was the pebble that started an avalanche. This case will be a classic for demonstrating the gun in the room, for showing the growing escalation of violence that must back even the most trivial of an authoritarian government's demands against those who won't obey, like a parking ticket or a questionable code violation.

Ian was brutally silenced by that arrest. The members of their court monitor our activities. It's easy to do. Our communications and our activities are rather overtly open

to the public. We like cameras. We like speaking openly out in the light of day. Scheming and secretiveness are not parts of our nature. The members of the court knew the questions Ian was going to ask. They had plenty of time to prepare answers. Ian was silenced because he was about to ask a series of questions that would be very difficult for their court to answer and sound reasonable. He was going to ask questions that would make people think, possibly make them see the courts in a very different light. He was about to ask those questions on camera for video that would be made into a documentary.

To Mr. Burke, thank you for showing the violent nature of monopolistic governments. Thank you for helping to wake people up to the fact that arbitrarily established institutions of consolidated power do not consolidate morality or truth. Thank you for demonstrating why no system can work when there is no one to watch the watchers. Thank you for crystallizing the inherent paradox of expecting a supremely powerful monopoly to be accountable to anyone, how there can be no meaningful checks and balances on power from the inside of a monopoly on violence. Thank you for showing us that you are accountable to no one; certainly not to the citizenry that you ostensibly serve. Thank you for pointing out the gun in the room. Thank you for being one of the most effective recruiters for the Free State Project and particularly for the liberty movements to the Keene area. It's unfortunate that you had to do it at such a cost to the occupants of the Keene area who had their hard-earned money confiscated, ostensibly to do things like protect them from violent criminals. Instead their stolen money is being used to apply hugely disproportionate punishments to innocent people in order to protect your facade of authority.

Let this be fair warning to anyone who thinks they may want to work for real liberty and justice. Expressing your true beliefs openly and honestly in this country can make you a target to the people with a monopoly on violence. If you aren't prepared for the potential consequences, tuck your tail between your legs and hang your head low, particularly on public the state's property. Hand over your money when they demand it. Kiss their boots when they demand it. You don't have to mean it, but you have to act as if you do. After a while you will start to believe it. In the meantime, perhaps you can give a convincing performance. As for me, my acting sucks.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, walking by the jailhouse said to Thoreau through the window, "Henry, what are you doing in there?" To which Thoreau replied, "The right question is, Ralph, why are you out there?"

## Is Ryan going to jail?

By Ryan McGuire  
Originally published at EnigmaCurry.com

I've come to the realization that I will be going to jail in the near future. Not for hurting anyone, but because the oppressive and unconstitutional powers that be see me as an Enemy of the State and an affront to their illegitimate power.

Two friends of mine have recently been thrown in jail. Neither of them have harmed, had any intention of harming, nor even inconvenienced, anyone. Their "crimes" are for having "contempt" for the state-funded thugs that wish to bully them into compliance with their procedures. Their only "crime" is that they had some questions, questions that the state did not want to hear.

Lauren Canario, who was invited to the federal court building to retrieve her camera (that the feds stole from her), walked through a metal detector checkpoint at a time when the guards weren't looking. She was ordered to go back through the checkpoint and was subsequently arrested when she asked why she was required to do so. She'll be in federal prison for 30 days.

Ian Freeman, of Free Talk Live, today was arrested over a couch. You can read the backstory of his case where his tenants have an old couch in his yard that the

city of Keene wants removed. Ian is very willing to remove the couch, but simply wants to talk to the person who made the original complaint. Instead of hiding behind the force of government, the original complainant should speak to Ian in a friendly, neighborly way just as civilized communities ought to behave.

Instead, Ian was compelled to go to court today. He went there having every intention of complying with the request to remove the couch. He has also made this very clear to the court on previous occasions. He simply wanted to demand that he be confronted by his accuser, as is his constitutional right. However, within 45 seconds of entering the court room, he was railroaded into being found in contempt of court and was immediately arrested. The court removed the public observers from the room and only allowed them to view Ian on camera (without audio) to monitor the proceedings. The judge found him guilty, despite not being shown his accuser, and he has been sentenced to three days in prison for the matter of the couch and 90 days for being in contempt of the court's proceedings.

The Keene city court has today shown that it is a court that does not recognize the right to be confronted with one's accusers, a court that does not recognize the right to have a public trial, and a court which has gone way beyond simply upholding the "rule of law". What country is this exactly?!? The Keene city court has decided that it has a personal vendetta against all local liberty activists. Accordingly, the prospect of me going to prison is a virtual forgone conclusion. I will refuse to

back down from asserting my rights when the time comes. My line in the sand was crossed quite some time ago.

The state thinks it can quell liberty simply by flexing its muscles. On the contrary, an equal, and very much opposite reaction is about to occur.

# School's Open - Hide All the Children!

By Bill Huff

Is Kalifornia poised to launch one of the biggest manhunts in history? Are they going stamp out the scourge of homeschooling, once and for all – before it's too late? Is a free market in education the greatest domestic threat after al-Qaeda? Was John Connor homeschooled?

I have taught in government schools and thought I was a slow learner because it took me five years to leave. John Taylor Gatto stayed and documented an exhaustive indictment of the system. However, we should never be as upset about the "failures" of public education as we are about its "successes": Charlotte Thompson Iserbyt can tell you more than you want to know about the real agenda of government-controlled education. The dumbing down is quite deliberate.

A few observations I made have been validated again and again:

Government Schools are the Reproductive Organs of the State. They have been formulated according to the Prussian Model for State Control to train Obedient Servants of the State.

Academics take a back seat to Socialization/Compliance.

The students are Never the main concern of the system. It's not "for the Children." It's for the State.

The "Honor" of government school honor students cannot be recognized except within the bounds of Compliance. But how can compliance with Evil be defined as "Honor"? The young pliable minds of our children are often conditioned to think going along to get along is the equivalent of being smart.

Sam Blumenfeld has compared public school indoctrination to an "involuntary non-surgical prefrontal lobotomy." I agree! The child study team is studying the right kids for all the wrong reasons. If a young boy seems fidgety; inattentive; or doesn't seem to be able to get along with his "peers," he is studied, referred and drugged. The result: "Free Drug School Zones."

For a good read, get one of Blumenfeld's books: NEA: Trojan Horse in American Education, Is Public Education Necessary? If the teacher's unions really believed in excellence and academic integrity they would be overtly critical of government so as to make it impossible for them to survive as the most powerful lobbying entities. Their funding would dry up fast. What they do believe in is "Entrenched Mediocrity." They absolutely worship Tenure. And the worst teachers gravitate toward Administration where they can work less and do more damage. Thankfully, a small remnant has always existed and Sam maintains they were teaching "Closet Phonics" for decades. Otherwise almost no one would have learned to read during the plague called the Whole-Word Approach. Phonics is still trying to kill it! If you or your kid can't read – buy Sam's Phonics Book and call me in the morning.

As an academic exercise I emailed the Governor when he first took office to recommend two things that could help balance the California State budget. His website said he was open to viable solutions from anyone, anywhere. My first suggestion was a device that I am convinced can remove all emissions from any fossil fuel internal combustion exhaust. It is less expensive to make than a catalytic converter and can also increase fuel economy. You see, I had naïvely thought California had a smog problem.

The second recommendation I made was for California to lead the Union in aggressively promoting Home Education for as many of its students as possible. I was Not recommending Vouchers or any State funding for home schools. I was advocating for truly Free public education of a 100% voluntary nature, Free of State Money – Free of State Control. Could there be a better way to ease the fiscal crunch? The State would also be able to save all the money it is now wasting to advocate for State-Controlled "Free" Public Education. At the very least this plan could ease the burden of building more and more K-12 minimum security facilities. I reasoned: if Arnold were really sharp he might be inviting homeschoolers to tutor the hapless victims of State education. It might not be PC. But I bet it would work like magic.

I never received a response from Arnold. But I understand he is planning to support the Right to homeschool in the wake of the present controversial situation developing in his State. In that I can support him. Nevertheless, it would take a Terminator to loosen the grip the teachers unions have on education in this country. They are a bunch of Spoiled Brats if not Bolshevik Thugs.

In my book there is no such thing as a good reason to donate your children to the State. Homeschooling is the best option. Government-controlled schools are to be avoided at all cost.

Now back to Bastiat:

You say: "There are persons who lack education," and you turn to the law. But the law is not, in itself, a torch of learning which shines its light abroad. The law extends over a society where some persons have knowledge and others do not; where some citizens need to learn, and others can teach. In this matter of education, the law has only two alternatives: It can permit this transaction of teaching and learning to operate freely and without the use of force, or it can force human wills in this matter by taking from some of them enough to pay the teachers who are appointed by government to instruct others, without charge. But in this second case, the law commits legal plunder by violating liberty and property.

Homeschoolers are obviously dangerous! Everyone knows! And the data are frightening – especially to anyone who believes in the State as their god – or in "Democracy." In fact, the agendas drip from every word as you listen to the advocates of the System explaining why there must be some level of "control" over Homeschooling – and that it only "works" in very limited ideal circumstances.

They say they want to make sure Homeschoolers can pass the standardized tests. That makes sense. We don't want any misfits out there [like almost every person in history who ever changed anything for the better]. Statistically speaking homeschoolers can dance through the standardized tests. And, let's face it, the equivalency tests are not based on the highest common denominator. You may already know the standardized tests have been dumbed down as well. The public schools are graduating dumber and dumber classes every year. It's working!

If you want to see some socialization – go to the mall on a Friday evening when many of the public schools kids are dropped off for a few hours. One has to wonder how many tattoos are required to feel like one fits in [now I'll get hate email from Lydia the Tattooed Lady]. I have observed many thousands of homeschoolers as well, and I think I'll take my chances with free choice in education. Socialization in prison is also defined as compliance – and inmates often compare tattoos. But what is the difference between a public school and a prison if attendance is compulsory and they drug or coerce you into compliance? Are they training our kids to be good inmates or free thinkers? "School to work" has about the same ring to me as "Workers of the World Unite!"

I heard a lot of candid conversations in the teachers' lounge when I was teaching in the public schools. When homeschooling is challenged I often suggest the publication of covertly recorded conversations from public school teachers' lounges. I don't care if the voices are distorted to protect the guilty. I just want parents to hear what I heard. By and large the flowery rhetoric of teachers' convention keynote speeches has not yet penetrated the smoke of the teachers' lounge.

We need to do some "values clarification" training for anyone who is standing in loco parentis to protect and nurture our children. Equality before the law and asserting a "compelling interest of the State, in the education of Its children," are mutually exclusive values. The State cannot get pregnant – and it has no right to your children. Therefore, before you drop the kids off, you may want to know a lot more about what is being inculcated. Talk to your kids about everything going on in their schools.

There are many dedicated and sincere folks out there who have decided to sacrifice for high ideals to engage in a teaching career. But given better information and free choices I don't think the government would recognize the free public school they would create. When given the opportunity to describe an ideal teaching situation, many

of them will list the best aspects of homeschooling without realizing it.

Part of the problem today is that most of us were never taught anything very well. Many of us caught the compliance message. But we don't really have solid criteria for measuring the academic aspects of the government schools – much less the more crucial values of creativity and independent thinking. The standardized tests are controlled by a monopoly. And it would be counterproductive from their point of view to test for Classical Libertarian ideals. The teachers might start teaching to the test.

The public schools as they exist can Never compete with the free market on a level playing field. Whereas public school administrators are clamoring for regulation of homeschooling it should be the other way around. The public should be made aware of the effectiveness of homeschooling and demanding that any "free" public school be brought under scrutiny of the public and subject to comparison with all free models for education.

Free homeschooling is a threat to all forms of collectivism and totalitarianism.

How can you tell what those homeschool kids are thinking? We must all be controlled you know. Otherwise we'll have chaos. Homeschooling is a scary prospect to a control-freak government. Not only do all collectivists have to Know what's going on inside your head. They have to Design what's going on inside your head. Homeschooling will always cause problems for Collectivists, Totalitarians, Despots and Aristocrats. That's why I love it.

There are two kinds of people who are comfortable with leaving you to your own devices: those who don't care, and those who are comfortable enough to believe their own worldview can thrive without the support of the State. Therefore, public government-funded and controlled schools can Never leave you or your kids alone. They can never teach Liberty. They know they have a tenuous hold on their previous monopoly. Without compulsory attendance laws they would have never gained their present stronghold. We had a free market in education for a very long time in America. It served us well.

Perhaps Arnold realizes his State can never survive economically without creativity and productivity from the grassroots. Homeschooling and Austrian Economics may be the future for Kalifornia. Research shows homeschooling to be about 10+ times as economical as public schools if we only take the cost per student into account. New data also show that the amount spent per student in some of the most challenged public schools is inversely proportionate to the test scores. Take a look the DC schools if you really want to see what public school educators can do with more and more money per student. You can factor out the body armor if you insist.

Caveats: Homeschoolers must realize excellence in academics is only one reason for homeschooling. The protection of the hearts, minds and souls of our children is paramount. Liberty is the reason for homeschooling. When you use academics as your only measuring stick you are falling into a trap. If your goal is only to score ten points higher in all the measures used by the Establishment, you probably need better reasons to homeschool.

Homeschoolers can, and do, excel in many disciplines. The news is full of success stories all the time. They should also excel in free thinking and living. In addition, it is important to recognize that State Education facilitates State Worship. If you have spiritual values that you want to pass along to your children you will want to contemplate the essentially religious nature of the Omnipotent State and how it plays out in what is being passed off as "religion-neutral" education. The god of government must have its own schools.

"Once abolish the God, and the government becomes the God." ~ G. K. Chesterton

Those of you who are considering other non-State schools for whatever reason should also be warned: The elitist, globalist agenda is more dominant in many of the most exclusive and expensive alternative schools. Just ask



yourself: "Would Al Gore's kids go to this school?" Then you'll know what to do. Clue: Homeschool your kids!

Another insider tip: The right to homeschool is not a gift from the government. Therefore, those clamoring for "good homeschooling laws" are just as constitutionally confused as those who want "more good gun laws." The results will be analogous.

Thomas Jefferson founded the University of Virginia without the "help" of the federal government. And if Tom were alive today, I am quite sure he would be looking to Homeschooling as a wellspring for the next great exploits in truly free education and the transmission of Liberty to our posterity.

Finally, I have a little homework assignment for those of you who would like to test some of the ideas above. You can purchase a tasteful bumper sticker with the title of this article to grace your Prius. Click here to order. I have already tried the exercise and had endless hours of amusement as cars with students and parents pulled up behind me and I watched in the rearview mirror as the kids started talking to their parents about the meaning of the message.

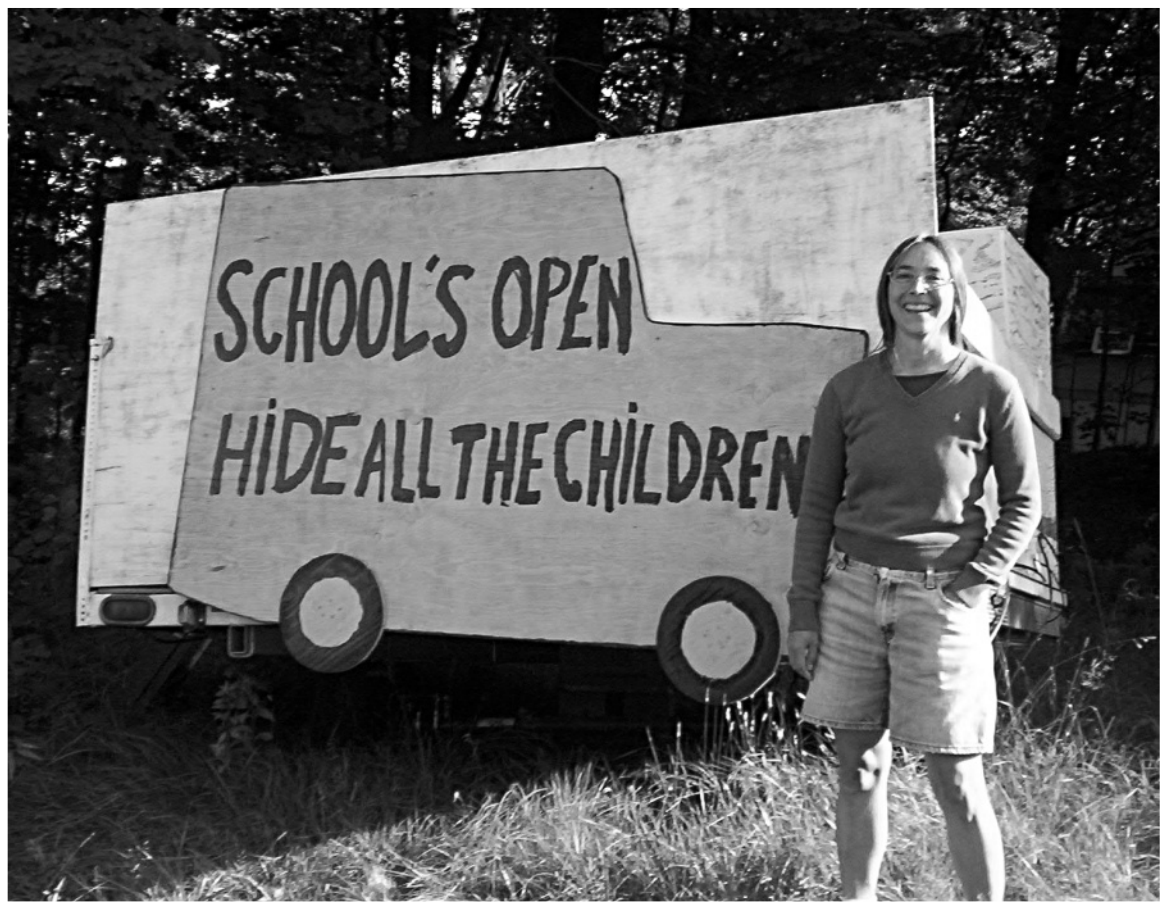
Were those children contemplating Academic Liberty for the first time in their lives?

Do they have a right?

Bill Huff is a Classical Libertarian and proprietor of LEXREX.com and JamTheCulture.com; a former public school music teacher turned home schooling advocate; a US Navy veteran, and host of WarIsARacket.com. He is available as a guest lecturer or for interviews on talk radio.

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Originally published on lewrockwell.com



Lauren Canario with her Winchester, NH road sign

## Warning to Government Thugs

The purpose of this newspaper has been to inform people about the New Hampshire freedom movement. We want to notify government operatives that this movement will continue to keep growing. Our suggestion is that you quit your government jobs now and consider joining peaceful, voluntary society.

So you are hereby put on notice that:

If you ask for our cell phones, we might not give them to you. If you come to see how our horses are kept, you can't. If you want to see ID, you'll be outta luck. If you want to ticket us for stupid things, we're not going to pay. Gunslingers will continue to open carry while picking up trash in Manchester. There will be Keeniacs who will continue to refuse to pay fines. Many of use will refuse to pay war taxes.

Sometimes we do feel the pain. Sometimes we will back down when the government yells 'take a seat', but others are there to rise up and take their places in the painful front lines. This kind of resistance isn't going to diminish even when we have setback. The rate of people moving to NH for freedom is growing. The willingness to stand up to tyranny is growing.

--The New Hampshire Free Press

*Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are people who want crops without ploughing the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning; they want the ocean without the roar of its many waters. The struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, or it may be both. But it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand; it never has and it never will.*

*Find out just what the people will submit to and you have found out the exact amount of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them; and these will continue until they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.*

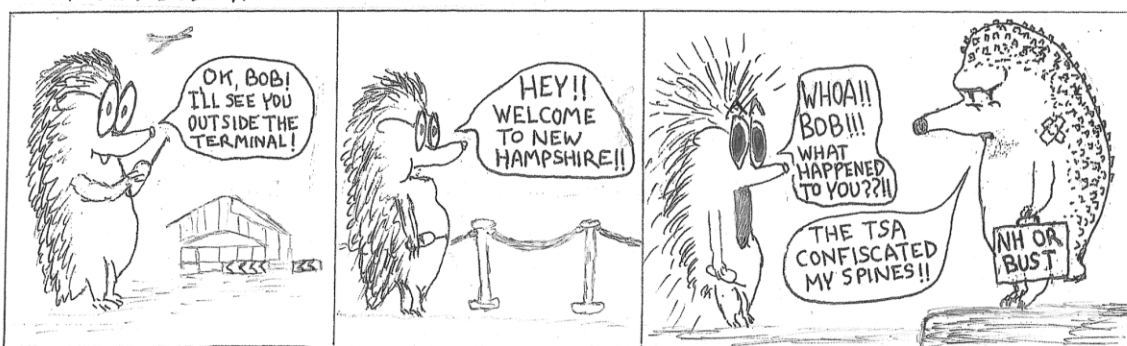
--Frederick Douglass

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BY JIM DODSON



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- Serenity/Firefly comics

We are currently open Tuesday - Thursday and Saturday from 10-6, and open Friday 10-7.

# The Socialism of Public Schooling

By Jacob G. Hornberger

While the nation is on the subject of socialism, we really ought to talk about public schooling. With the possible exception of the military, it's the best example of a socialist institution one could ever find. It's not a coincidence that public schooling is one of Fidel Castro's favorite government programs.

Actually, "public schooling" is a misnomer. It would be more accurate to call it "government schooling" because it's a government operation from start to finish. That's different from, say, public movie theaters or public restaurants. Those are private businesses that are open to the public.

Like the military, public schooling operates in a top-down, command-and-control manner. It's a perfect model of socialistic central planning, a system in which government officials plan and direct the activities of the citizenry rather than simply leaving the citizenry free to plan and direct their own affairs.

Whether the control comes from the state government, through the state department of education, or the local government, through a school board, the principle is the same — a group of appointed or elected government officials is directing the educational decisions of multitudes of students. That's different from the private sector, where consumers, through their spending decisions, determine the direction of entrepreneurial and business activity.

Government officials decide the textbooks and the curricula in government schools. Thus, they decide the substance of what is to be taught to the students. In socialist countries like Cuba, we usually call that process indoctrination.

An American teacher might deviate from time to time from official doctrine, but if the deviation is major and persistent, the teacher will ultimately be forced into conformity. For example, suppose a schoolteacher begins teaching students that the drug war is immoral and destructive and, therefore, that drugs should be legalized. Outraged parents would bring their wrath down upon the school board, which would pressure the principal, who would send an appropriate message to the teacher.

How are public schools financed? Through coercion. Everyone, even people who do not have children, is taxed

to fund this government enterprise. It's called taking money from everyone to subsidize those who have children. Or as Karl Marx would have described this process of spreading the wealth, "From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs."

The private sector gets its money differently. Private businesses must produce goods and services that people find sufficiently valuable to pay for voluntarily.

How do government schools get their customers? Through force. That's where compulsory-attendance laws come into play. If a parent fails to send his children into the public school system or fails to subject them to some alternative form of government-approved education (e.g., charter schools, government-licensed private schools, or homeschooling), the parent is subjected to extreme sanctions, including imprisonment. Of course, that's not the way that businesses in the private sector get their customers.

What's the alternative to government schooling? No, not charter schools or a voucher system or even a system of government-licensed private schools or government-supervised homeschooling. Those reforms leave government in charge of education and continue to rely on coercion.

Instead, the genuine alternative to government schooling is a free market in education — that is, an educational system that is entirely free of governmental involvement — a total separation of school and state. A free-market educational system would operate the same way that restaurants and movie theaters operate. Consumers, not the government, would decide the appropriate educational vehicles for their children, and businesses and entrepreneurs would supply those demands by providing people with educational products and services.

Advocates of government schooling claim that parents are not competent to make educational decisions for their children. That raises an obvious question: Why not? Aren't most parents products of public schooling? If public schooling has produced a nation of adults who lack the competence to guide their children's education, why do we want to continue a system that is likely to produce the same result?

Jacob Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation, publisher of the book *Separating School & State: How to Liberate America's Families* by Sheldon Richman.

# The Neo-Alchemy of the Federal Reserve

By Congressman Ron Paul, TX

As the printing presses for the bailouts run at full speed, those in power are no longer even pretending that the new giveaways will fix our problems. Now that we are used to rewarding failure with taxpayer-funded bailouts, we are being told that this is "just a start," more funds will inevitably be needed for more industries, and that things would be much worse had we done nothing.

The updated total bailout commitments add up to over \$8 trillion now. This translates into a monetary base increase of 75 percent over the last two months. This money does not come from some rainy day fund tucked away in the budget somewhere — it is created from thin air, and devalues every dollar in circulation. Dumping money on an economy, as they have been doing, is not the same as dumping wealth. In fact, it has quite the opposite effect.

One key attribute that gives money value is scarcity. If something that is used as money becomes too plentiful, it loses value. That is how inflation and hyperinflation happens. Giving a central bank the power to create fiat money out of thin air creates the tremendous risk of eventual hyperinflation. Most of the founding fathers did not want a central bank. Having just experienced the hyperinflation of the Continental dollar, they understood the power and the temptations inherent in that type of system. It gives one entity far too much power to control and destabilize the economy.

Our central bankers have had a tremendous amount of hubris over the years, believing that they could actually manage a paper money system in such a way as to replicate the behavior and benefits of a gold standard. In fact, back in 2004 then Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan told me as much. People talk about toxic assets, but the real toxicity in our economy comes from the neo-alchemy practiced by the Federal Reserve System. Just as alchemists of the past frequently poisoned themselves with the lead or mercury they were trying to turn to gold, today's bankers are poisoning the economy with accelerated fiat money creation.

Throughout the ages, gold has stood the test of time as a consistently reliable medium of exchange, and has frequently been referred to as "God's money", as only God can make more of it. Seeking superhuman power over money in the way alchemists did in ancient times caused society to shun them as charlatans. In much the same way, free people today should be sending the message that this power and control over our money is no longer acceptable.

The irony is that even had the ancient practice of alchemy been successful, and gold was suddenly, magically made abundant, alchemists still would have failed to create real wealth. Creating gold from lead would have cheapened its status to that of rhinestones or cubic zirconia. It is unnatural and dangerous for paper to be considered as precious as a precious metal. Our fiat currency system is crumbling and coming to an end, as all fiat currencies eventually do.

Congress should reject the central bank as a failure for its manipulations of money that have brought our economy to its knees. I am hoping that in the 111th Congress my legislation to abolish the Federal Reserve System gains traction so that the central bank can no longer destroy our money.

## New Hampshire Liberty Essay Contest

Cash prizes for students' essays - top prize \$200!

Winning essays will also appear in these pages.

Open to all New Hampshire residents 21 and younger.



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2009 Theme: Non-violent Resistance and Protest

See website for complete rules of entry.

Essays due by May 31, 2009.

You say depression, and I say recession.  
Depression/recession,  
recession/depression--  
Let's bail the whole thing out!

-- Sam A. Robrin

# The Manchester Declaration

Adopted at the Third North American Secessionist Convention, November 15, 2008, Manchester, New Hampshire

We, the delegates to the Third North American Secessionist Convention, meeting in Manchester, New Hampshire, do declare the following:

- The recent election in the United States, far from signaling a change in the imperial system or a restructuring of the essential political order, unfortunately perpetuates the two-party system and its old familiar politicians that for decades have promoted the interests of the corporate/financial elite whose willing servants they remain.
- The recent financial flailing and machinations in the U.S., including the trillion-dollar bailout of the institutions that created the economic meltdown in the first place, provide ample and blatant evidence of Wall Street's control over U.S. politics in the interest of trying to see that the rich get richer and the rest get nowhere.
- Together these two processes, along with a long string of abuses and usurpations over the past decades, unmistakably indicate that the U.S. is bankrupt in every way—financially, economically, politically, socially, academically, militarily, spiritually, and morally.
- This fact should demonstrate to the North American public, and the world, that it is the very scale and complexity of the various interlocking political and economic systems that is the fundamental cause of their failure—as well as the reason that no one on the scene has any idea whatsoever of how to fix it.
- That being the case, it is necessary, for the restoration of democracy—not to mention sanity, prosperity, sustainability, governance, and peace—that the imperial system be dismantled, and various states, regions, and elements of North America exert their right to secede into independent regimes laying their foundations on such principles and organizing their powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.

It is to this end that the secessionist movement will dedicate its energy, time, talents, moneys, and sacred honor, and we invite, indeed implore, the participation of our fellow citizens.

Passed this day, the fifteenth of November, 2008.

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The Third American Secessionist Convention was hosted by the Middlebury Institute, whose aim is to study separatism, secession, and self-determination. Secessionists from all over North America came together, from Québécois to the Alaskan Independence Party, Independent Long Island, Cascadian Independence Project, Free State Project, Second Vermont Republic, and Christian Exodus attended the convention. This declaration was agreed upon by the official delegates to the convention.

## WE WON'T PAY!

**A Tax Resistance Reader**



Edited by David M. Gross

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## Small Things have The Most Profound Repercussions

By Kat Kanning

My friend Lauren Canario is imprisoned by the federal government. Why she is there is not the important thing. (She refused to give up her cell phone at a court security checkpoint.) What is important is that she is resisting the government. We can go on and on detailing government abuses – from 9/11 to Iraq to TSA checkpoints to torture to public schools, but all that knowledge will do no good unless we actually resist tyranny. THAT is what Lauren is doing, resisting them. They say “Jump,” she says “No.” A small minority of tyrants can rule the vast majority of compliant subjects. They cannot control millions of people resisting them.

One does not need to get thrown in jail to resist the government. Peter Macdonald of Bow, NH, writes letters to the editors every day, and does his best to help out people who are being oppressed by government. My family refuses to pay federal income taxes. David Krouse of Keene refused to register his car. David Manning, also of Keene, refused to pay traffic tickets. Many people have been refusing to stand in court for judges. Cooper Travis of Candia refused to let officers search his home without a warrant. He also refused to stop filming at his own home and got hauled into jail for it. Even my teenage daughter will stand up to the police and tell them no occasionally.

My point is that it doesn't have to be big--just do something so you're not a 100% compliant victim. How can you begin your resistance? Here are a few not-too-dangerous suggestions. Even the small things can lead to jail these days, though. Ian Bernard did not sit fast enough and was sentenced to 30 days in jail for it. (Don't believe me, watch the video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RlcT-3niVes>) So defy authority at your own risk.

Make the bureaucrats' jobs difficult. Let them know you don't like what they're doing. The very least you can do is make sure their job is not easy – make them hate what they're doing to us. Don't let them think that they're really doing it all for our own good. Make them face the fact that they're a part of the tyranny.

Ask questions. Someone in government demands your money or time, ask them, “Why should I?”

Say no to an officer. It's liberating.

Laugh at a government official. They take themselves too seriously.

Do things that are technically legal but frowned upon. Example: open carry of firearms in New Hampshire--legal but makes the government unhappy.

Film or photograph tyranny in action.

Help support people who resist government more actively, for example, people in the community fighting for property rights or someone committing acts of civil disobedience. Writing letters to imprisoned dissidents helps. Often it is the families of people who stand up that take the worst beating. A little encouragement goes a long way for helping families keep their courage up. Families might need more tangible help – financial or material support.

Deal in barter or with cash to cut the government out of your business dealings.

Use silver or gold for currency.

Assist the Catholic Workers. They have been helping people and doing civil disobedience for many years now.

Try some of Gene Sharp's 198 ideas for nonviolent resistance:  
[http://www.aeinstein.org/organizations/org/198\\_methods.pdf](http://www.aeinstein.org/organizations/org/198_methods.pdf)

22 Ways to Help Tax Resisters  
<http://nhunderground.com/forum/index.php?topic=13797.0>

Revolution, You Say You Want A...  
<http://nhunderground.com/forum/index.php?topic=8273>.

(Thanks to Tom Sawyer, Moorlock, John and 41Mag from the NH Underground for resistance suggestions.)

# Trampling The Rights Of The Child: The Treatment Of Juveniles In Guantánamo

By Andy Worthington

According to the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (on the involvement of children in armed conflict), to which the United States has been a signatory since January 23, 2003, juvenile prisoners — those under the age of 18 when their alleged crimes took place — “require special protection.” The Optional Protocol specifically recognizes “the special needs of those children who are particularly vulnerable to recruitment or use in hostilities”, and requires its signatories to promote “the physical and psychosocial rehabilitation and social reintegration of children who are victims of armed conflict.”

In January 2003, four doctors in Guantánamo put together a fascinating document, entitled “Recommended Course of Action for Reception and Detention of Individuals Under 18 Years of Age”. This was clearly influenced by international agreements regarding the distinctions between adult and juvenile prisoners (including the Geneva Conventions, which were, in general, shredded by the administration), and it laid out, in painstaking detail, how juvenile prisoners held at Guantánamo should be treated.

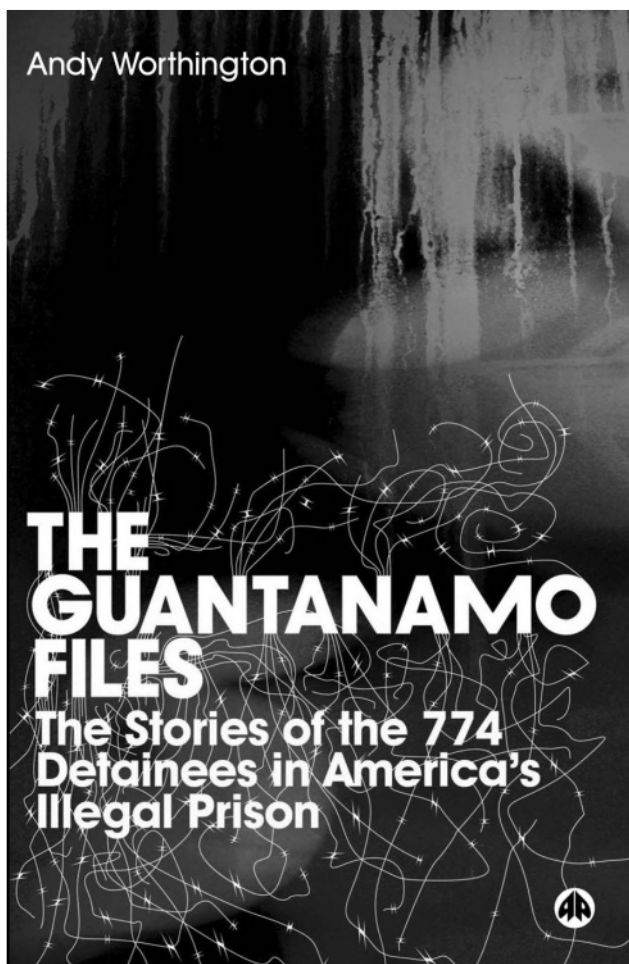
Noting, in the first instance, that “all efforts should be made” to prevent juveniles from being imprisoned at Guantánamo, the doctors proceeded to explain that the exposure of juvenile prisoners to adult prisoners would “have a high likelihood of producing physical, emotional, and psychological damage,” and recommended that they be held separately from the adult population, with “a primary living space with a minimum space of 20ft by 30ft,” and an “open, outside recreation area,” measuring at least 50ft by 50ft, in which they “should be allowed to play” for at least three hours a day.”

The doctors also recommended that juvenile prisoners should be educated for four to six hours a day, and listed a large number of staff — interpreters, social workers, medical and psychiatric professionals, and a nutritionist — who should be assigned or on call to provide assistance to the prisoners. They concluded by stating that all personnel “should refrain from wearing military uniforms and utilize appropriate civilian attire.”

Although the doctors assumed that their “Recommended Course of Action” would become a “SecDef directive” (a directive from Donald Rumsfeld, the Secretary of Defense), all of their recommendations were ignored. The reality for the juveniles held at Guantánamo (twenty-two in total, according to the Pentagon’s own records) was detention in conditions akin to solitary confinement, in cells that measured 8 ft by 6 ft, little opportunity for exercise, and no educational facilities whatsoever. In addition, adult prisoners were held as their neighbors, no staff were provided with expertise in the requirements of juveniles, and their dealings with the prison’s personnel were always with people in military uniform.

As far as the administration was concerned, the age of the Guantánamo prisoners was completely irrelevant, and the premise for this was confirmed by Donald Rumsfeld at a press conference in May 2003, after the story first broke that juveniles were being held at Guantánamo. Rumsfeld stated, “This constant refrain of ‘the juveniles,’ as though there’s a hundred children in there — these are not children,” and General Richard Myers, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, added that they “may be juveniles, but they’re not on the Little League team anywhere. They’re on a major league team, and it’s a terrorist team, and they’re in Guantánamo for a very good reason — for our safety, for your safety.”

Behind this gleefully dismissive rhetoric, the truth was even darker. Guantánamo’s most celebrated juvenile, Omar Khadr, was severely wounded after a firefight in Afghanistan in July 2002, when he was just 15 years old, but on arrival at the US prison at Bagram airbase, he was subjected to chronic abuse. According to his own account, reported by Amnesty International, he “asked for pain medication for his wounds but was refused,” said that “during interrogations a bag was placed over his head and US personnel brought military dogs into the room to frighten him,” and added that he was “not allowed to use the bathroom and was forced to urinate on himself.” Like



many other prisoners, he was also hung from his wrists, and explained that “his hands were tied above a door frame and he was forced to stand in this position for hours.” An article in Rolling Stone, in August 2006, added further details, noting that he was “brought into interrogation rooms on stretchers, in great pain,” and was “ordered to clean floors on his hands and knees while his wounds were still wet.”

In Guantánamo, the abuse of Khadr continued. On his arrival, in October 2002, just a few weeks after his 16th birthday, he was immediately subjected to a regime of humiliation, isolation and abuse — including extreme temperature manipulation, forced nudity and sexual humiliation — which had just been introduced in an attempt to increase the meager flow of “actionable intelligence” from the prison. He told his lawyers that he was “short-shackled by his hands and feet to a bolt in the floor and left for five to six hours,” and that “occasionally a US officer would enter the room to laugh at him.” He also said that he was “kept in extremely cold rooms,” “lifted up by the neck while shackled, and then dropped to the floor,” and “beaten by guards.” In one particularly notorious incident, the guards left him short-shackled until he urinated on himself, and then “poured a pine-scented cleaning fluid over him and used him as a ‘human mop’ to clean up the mess.”

Omar Khadr was not the only juvenile to receive brutal treatment in US custody. Mohammed El-Gharani, a Chadian national and resident of Saudi Arabia, who was just 14 or 15 years old when he traveled to Pakistan in October 2001 and was seized in a random raid on a mosque, has also been subjected to a regime of “enhanced” techniques to prepare him for interrogation — including prolonged sleep deprivation, prolonged isolation and the use of painful stress positions — and has also been regularly abused by the Initial Reaction Force (IRF), a heavily-armored riot squad used to quell even the most minor infringements of the rules. On one occasion, an IRF team slammed his head into the floor of his cell, breaking one of his teeth, and on another occasion an interrogator stubbed out a cigarette on his arm. As a result of this violence he has become deeply depressed, and has attempted to commit suicide on several occasions.

Another juvenile, Mohamed Jawad, an Afghan who was 16 when he was seized after a grenade attack on a US jeep in December 2002, was also subjected to prolonged sleep deprivation, under the program known euphemistically as the “frequent flier program,” which involved moving prisoners from cell to cell every few hours to prevent them sleeping. In Jawad’s case, this took

place 112 times over a two-week period in 2004.

To make matters worse, both Khadr and Jawad have been put forward for trial by Military Commission, the system of trials for “terror suspects” conceived by Vice President Dick Cheney and his close advisers in November 2001, even though, as Khadr’s lawyers pointed out in February,

If jurisdiction is exercised over Mr. Khadr, the military judge will be the first in western history to preside over the trial of alleged war crimes committed by a child. No international criminal tribunal established under the laws of war, from Nuremberg forward, has ever prosecuted former child soldiers as war criminals ... A critical component of the response of our nation and the world to the tragedy of the use and abuse of child soldiers in war by terrorist organizations like al-Qaeda is that post-conflict legal proceedings must pursue the best interest of the victimized child — with the aim of their rehabilitation and reintegration into society, not their imprisonment or execution.

The examples above will hopefully suffice to demonstrate that, in the “War on Terror,” in which a rogue administration, devoted to unfettered executive power, has refused to be bound by the law, those seized and detained as juveniles were doubly unfortunate. After the scandal of the juvenile prisoners was revealed in 2003, the administration made a small concession to its international obligations (and to common decency) by holding three Afghan boys, who were aged between 12 and 14 at the time of their capture, in a separate block, Camp Iguana, where they received treatment that at least approached the requirements laid down by Guantánamo’s scorned doctors.

However, this was only until they were released in January 2004, and for the other 19 juveniles, including five who are still held, the administration’s disdain for the Optional Protocol, with its requirement to rehabilitate children caught up in war, has remained as pronounced as ever. It is one of many crimes that Barack Obama should address as urgently as possible.

Andy Worthington is the author of *The Guantánamo Files: The Stories of the 774 Detainees in America’s Illegal Prison* (published by Pluto Press/the University of Michigan Press, and available from Amazon — in the US, the UK and Canada).

As published exclusively in “Preventing Torture within the Fight against Terrorism,” Volume 2, Issue 6, November 2008, a bi-monthly newsletter published by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), based in Copenhagen, and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), based in Paris. The newsletter is available to download here. For further information, please email Brandy Bauer, IRCT Senior Communications Officer.

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