

SpokaneGOP

Our Guiding Principles: Individual Rights

By Juli Skinner

Inalienable rights are symbiotic in origin. British philosopher John Locke lamented that we are free to worship God because He granted us that right; we are therefore, His stewards. Our forefathers shared his insight, Madison writing, "...duties to God exist before civil society". As such, our right to worship our God without fear or threat is absolute, but it is not limited. Our natural rights include life, liberty and happiness as referenced throughout history but also extends to free will. Adam and Eve exercised theirs in the Garden of Eden. On 539 BC Cyrus Cylinders, freedom of worship and racial equality is inscribed. 1215 Magna Carta (England) outlines human rights. In his 1689 Second Treatise, John Locke articulates the meaning of inalienable rights. All are human rights, bequeathed upon us by God and upheld by our Constitution. They belong to each of us; they cannot be taken.

Throughout human history we have witnessed eras of extreme subjugation. Where it be by means of the government or a movement; every generation has its story to tell. Currently, citizens of a certain class in this country are experiencing an ebb in freedom. Cancel culture, wokeness, selective silencing, two-tiered justice and every other gross violation by diatribe being hurled our way, rips at the fabric of our most basic rights. As our enemies claw at us with their best effort at psychological warfare, take solace in our protections under God and our Constitution. We have the right to think and speak no matter how offensive it is, period. Unfortunately, our human rights are fueling the Left's physical intimidation on anyone in their opposition.

Equal Justice - All people have a right to equal treatment under the law. We support the enforcement of the original Bill of Rights as written and intended by the Founders.

Jobs, Economy and Currency - We support balanced budgets, reduced regulations, limited taxation and Free Market, allowing growth to the individual and to the economy as a whole.

Education - We are dedicated to reaffirming the importance of safety for students and staff. We support a rigorous "back to basics" curriculum as determined by parents and local school districts.

Keep and Bear Arms - You have the right to protect yourself against enemies both foreign and domestic.

National Sovereignty, Immigration and Defense - We believe America must have the strongest national defense necessary to defend our borders, homes and national interests.

Individual Rights - We believe individual human rights come from our Creator, not the government. We recognize the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness from conception to natural death. We believe in free speech, thought, worship and dissent without fear of government interference or penalty.

(Continued from page 1)

It wouldn't be fair to say that it's by a social caste system we find ourselves ensnared but rather, a political one. The other side of the political spectrum has brought the water to a slow boil leaving us conflicted on how to get out of the pot. Turn the other cheek? Full on domestic warfare? Neither of the two schools of thought seem plausible yet both have certainly been employed in times of conflict. The toll of another Civil War would devastate us and turning the other cheek doesn't work when evil is our rival.

In conclusion, it is not enough to sit back, hoping the scales will balance. Stand up for your indoctrinated children; support your neighbor being targeted; show your co-worker solidarity; stand against evil. Get involved with teachers, legislators, activists, parents who are fighting tirelessly against those who try to silence us, and God. It does not get better without you.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SPOKANE COUNTY.

Current laws affecting our county

Innerworkings of a County may go unseen by the public. And court decisions may be latent, or trivial to you unless you are directly affected by the laws. But for the people behind the scenes working hard to make sure the systems run smoothly for the good of the county and its citizens; it is incessant and active.

Tim Fitzgerald is an elected County Clerk for the Spokane Superior Court. Desert Storm, Desert Shield, Iraq and Afghanistan Combat Veteran, retired Marine Corps Colonel, helicopter pilot and former Presidential Command Pilot, Tim's resume lends leadership experience useful for the tasks at hand. As an elected official, he answers to his constituents, likening the duties to that of a CEO; accessible to all and free of politics. He values



Limited Government - Government is best when it governs the least. Big government infringes upon the rights of the citizens, is prohibitive, inefficient and extremely expensive.

Healthcare - We believe that the best healthcare model is one with very limited government intervention, based around the principle of individual responsibility.

Property Rights - It is the right of all citizens to legally acquire, own, use and dispose of private property. It is your right to protect your property with reasonable force against another person who is threatening to infringe upon your property.

Infrastructure (Energy/Utilities, Transportation and Technology) - We understand that government must continue to invest wisely in infrastructure and transportation projects, especially those critical to growth and safety and strive to be a leader in energy and information technologies through our free market system rather than with government intervention.

Family Values - We support the right of families to be free to raise their children according to their personal morals, values and spiritual beliefs.

Find more on our principals

<https://d3n8a8pro7vhm.cloudfront.net/sc/rcc/pages/30/attachments/original/1544655338/Spokane-GOP-2014-Platform-FINAL.pdf?1544655338>

(Continued from page 2)

his staff, crediting them to being “true public servants”. This goes a long way when the fundamental objective is to make a community better. Of course, that’s up for interpretation but safety and fiscal independence tops out at a universal degree of importance.

The Blake Decision

In February 2021, Washington State Supreme Court ruled that our state’s felony simple drug possession statute was unconstitutional. This means that convictions within this category may be retroactively vacated or dismissed back to 1971. Consequently, they have to be re-sentenced under a resentencing hearing which amends felony scores. Finally, any felon who qualifies within the scope of the new law’s provisions, will be granted a refund of any debts in connection with their drug case. Mr. Fitzgerald is the County BLAKE program manager and in response, fully implemented electronic filing systems for all case types. Cases in the thousands with refunds will be processed. Mr. Fitzgerald developed a procedure and coordinated with the clerk, court, prosecutor and public defender to streamline these amended orders for the court to vacate the convictions and dismiss the counts.

Rent Moratorium

On the first of November, the Rent Moratorium expired. As a result, it is expected that Unlawful Detainer lawsuits will continue to increase over the months. This will ultimately plug up the court system. To mitigate the backlog, the court has ordered attorneys to utilize dispute resolution processes first. Any subsequent failed resolutions will then be handled by the judge assigned to these types of cases. Mr. Fitzgerald has been instrumental in designing a more accurate process to organize paperwork into proper categories whereby efficiently keeping the court system flowing.

When laws are passed, good or bad, elected officials are

-Spokane County-

POST NOVEMBER ELECTION:

*Republicans and Conservatives had a great night November 2nd 2021. We went to the “polls” and voted against progressivism. The caveat is however, we have more work to do. Mike Lish, Spokane City Council Dist. 3, Pos. 2 candidate, LOST by **262 VOTES**. To put it in perspective, Spokane County voter turnout was 36.87%. Only 131,002 cast votes of the 355,326 registered voters. This county still votes in Republican majority but the City of Spokane is in the minority; only two Conservatives will take their seats at swear-in. If you think for a moment that your vote does not count, look again at those 262 votes.*

Spokane has historically been referred to as a “town” because we tend to hold conservative values and we have a wholesome feel. It is maddening to watch Democrats devour our city and infiltrate beyond boundaries, staining the decency of our policies. It is therefore every legal voter’s obligation to research, and their duty to vote good candidates into office. There are resources for you. Find on the Spokane County GOP website, endorsed and recommended candidates; watch interviews and debates; use progressive websites. Yes, progressive sites will show you who NOT to vote for. Beware of candidates who masquerade as Conservatives. Do your due diligence and vote responsibly.

In closing: Let’s celebrate. Many of us have awoken and are willing to jump into the water despite fear of retribution. Thank you to all our great candidates. Thank you for voting.

(Continued from page 3)

mandated to carry out the provisions of those laws. Those who go above and beyond their duties to efficiently limit the economic impact on our county need recognition. Mr. Fitzgerald wisely spends his energy on making county systems run efficiently, which in turn, works to our benefit. J.S.

CONSTITUTIONAL CORNER

By Lori Burns

The Declaration of Independence, although not a governing document, contains the foundational principles which led to the establishment of our constitutional republic. "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." The individual is at the very heart of the protections mandated in the Bill of Rights: freedom of religion, speech, assembly and the right to petition our government. Freedom to bear arms, sanctity of our homes from quartering soldiers, privacy, due process, trial by jury round out the sacrosanct rights covered. The right of citizens to vote and make their voice heard is one of the greatest rights given us by God.

Even though all of the rights listed above are God-given, it is human nature, that those in power are endlessly seeking to diminish those rights. Current legislation in the U.S. Congress would allow the IRS to track nearly every citizen through the banking system. We are guaranteed the presumption of innocence, but this law alone would flip that on its head with the presumption that most Americans are "cheating" the IRS, allowing them a constant unlawful search upon our banking. The IRS, like any other enforcement agency, can get a warrant and provide probable cause to investigate suspected criminal activity. This is just the latest example of the burgeoning and wildly out-of-control big government, which is endlessly eroding our individual rights.

It is a general maxim that my individual rights end, where they infringe upon yours. I don't have the right to kill another person. I don't have the right to steal another's property. Those are obvious examples. Issues become cloudier when we start couching public policy under the headings of "Public Good" and "Public Safety". The governmental responses to COVID have become increasingly tyrannical and over-bearing in the name of



CONSTITUTIONAL CORNER (Cont.)

safety. Nowhere in the Constitution is the government charged with keeping us safe. It is the responsibility of each individual citizen to assess the risks of living and make decisions accordingly, accepting the accompanying consequences (known or unknown). The erosion of our individual rights to pursue happiness and liberty through working, socializing, worshipping the way we see fit, in the name of public safety is a slippery slope we may never recover from. We must stand firm against this tide of collectivist thinking and behavior. Once we have glibly given away our rights, the road to regain them is almost always awash in violence. No one desires that future; therefore, the time to stop it, is now.

We hope your Thanksgiving was filled with food, family and faith. Prayers to those who have lost loved ones, those who fight against evil, those who cannot find peace and those who seek it. We are together.

1 Peter 2:16 - "Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God."

Don't Feel Sorry for or Fear for Your Kids;
Raise Them up to Walk in Faith

Don't feel sorry for or fear for your kids because the world they are going to grow up in is not what it used to be.

God created them and called them for the exact moment in time that they're in. Their life wasn't a coincidence or an accident.

Raise them up to know the power they walk in as children of God; Train them up in the authority of His Word; Teach them to walk in faith knowing that God is in control; Empower them to know they can change the world.

Don't teach them to be fearful and disheartened by the state of the world but hopeful that they can do something about it.

Every person in all of history has been placed in the time that they were in because of God's sovereign plan.

He knew Daniel could handle the lion's den; He knew David could handle Goliath; He knew Esther could handle Haman; He knew Peter could handle persecution.

He knows that your child can handle whatever challenge they face in their life. He created them specifically for it!

Don't be scared for your children, but be honored that God chose YOU to parent the generation that is facing the biggest challenges of our lifetime.

Rise up to the challenge. Raise Daniels, Davids, Esthers and Peters!

God isn't scratching His head wondering what He's going to do with this mess of a world. He has an army He's raising up to drive back the darkness and make Him known all over the earth.

Don't let your fear steal the greatness God placed in them. I know it's hard to imagine them as anything besides our sweet little babies, and we just want to protect them from anything that could ever be hard on them, but they were born for such a time as this.

*~Alex Cravens, Youth Pastor
Butterfield Church. Russellville, Arkansas.*

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Spokane County Republican Party
<https://www.spokanegop.com/>

Ponderosa Republican Women, PRW
<http://www.PonderosaRepublicanWomen.com>

House Republicans
<https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/2021/02/01/how-you-can-be-involved-in-the-legislative-process/>

SAVE THE DATES:

February 28 2022

WFRW Day at the Capital

March 5 2022

Lincoln Day

ANNOUNCING:

Alveda King

as guest speaker at Lincoln Day
Celebration.



Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position. Contact Terri at terrizelevits@gmail.com.

Spokane GOP

2021 SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

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