

SpokaneGOP

Our Guiding Principles: Property Rights

By Juli Skinner

What is property? A house, land, hat, a dog? That new snow blower you purchased just before climate change activists told you that we mortals had the power to change weather? Ahh shucks. I can't keep up with the "existential threats". Are we globally warming or cooling? But I digress. Owning property encourages independence. It leads to personal enrichment,



entrepreneurship or both. Much has changed since breaking from English rule and establishing independence in our new world. But no matter if it's 1787 or 2022, we strive to support our families freely and contribute to community wholly.

Whatever property is or whatever tangible assets we accredit it; the intrinsic value associated with ownership alone engenders great independent motivation in reaching our goals.

Property ownership has existed since it's been attainable. As long as there are profits to be made or self-governance to be gained, property has been historically, and will be subject to, challenges. History books paint The New Deal as a beautiful system of government support. In reality, it opened the doors to overreaching policies. The Housing Acts of 1937 and 1949 amplified old practices. Government eminent domain exploded during the FDR years with promises of federal funding for property seizures. Compensation notwithstanding, private owners could do little to resist takeovers. They watched possible future dreams and capital slip away. But don't spend too much time chewing on that little factoid; Bill Gates and China

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.

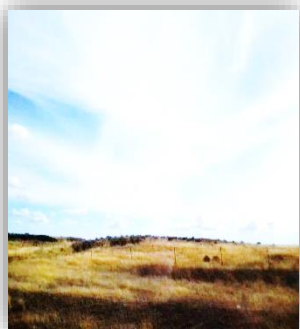
National Sovereignty, Immigration and Defense - We believe America must have the strongest national defense necessary to defend our borders, homes and national interests.

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)

have been scooping up agriculture for years. And for what? Food market control? Pocket lining from the climate change guilt trip? Reasons

galore, none of which benefit individual citizens of America. Instead, we are being pressured into selling our freedoms.



Property rights are broad in scope because they are often immeasurable. 1856 Wynehamer

vs. People, New York Court of Appeals “declared that alcoholic beverages had long been considered as property and represented an important article of commerce”, addressing the value of property rights within the framework of livelihood and service to the public. Disavowed by teetotalers but significant to a free society, it was important to the sustainability of our inalienable rights: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. While pure in intent, the 18th Amendment contrasted case law by highlighting a response to alcoholism – repealed by the 21st Amendment -. Nine years later, another property issue came before the States. Republicans answered it with Abolition.

President Lincoln and many other white Republicans came to believe the practice and tradition of slavery was evil. They were cognizant to the social landscape but without emotion, revered our framers, respecting States’ duty to independently legislate the matter. Conversely, debate in Congress did not go without a fight from the Southern Democrats who sought to keep their [human] “property”. They demanded reparations for emancipated slaves if they did not prevail in keeping them as slaves. Fortunately, they lost on both accounts. Not much has changed. Democrats still dehumanize and control blacks as if to say, “I’m not racist, I have a black friend!” Laughable. They coin themselves the party of diversity when it was by unanimous consent that Republicans passed the 13th

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/scrcc/pages/30/attachments/original/1544655338/Spokane-GOP-2014-Platform-FINAL.pdf?1544655338>

(Continued from page 2)

Amendment, reiterating inalienable rights for ALL people. The law swiftly, but certainly not without transition, wiped out all notion of [forcible] human property as commerce. It was not universal or without strife, but success stories exist surrounding freed slaves and their perseverance in land ownership.

Property can be a complex subject to articulate. One thing we know; land, animals and inanimate objects have proven to be instruments of independence and/or profit. The possibilities sprout beyond your family unit; it enriches communities and fills individuals with self-worth. It should never be taken for granted and never be sold for the control you keep over your own life.

CONSTITUTIONAL CORNER

By Lori Burns

The Founding Fathers, as British citizens, lived under the understanding, established by philosopher John Locke, that they had the "inalienable rights" to "life, liberty and property". "By "property," Locke meant more than land and goods that could be sold, given away, or even confiscated by the government under certain circumstances. Property also referred to ownership of one's self, which included a right to personal wellbeing. Jefferson, however, substituted the phrase, "pursuit of happiness," which Locke and others had used to describe freedom of opportunity..." (<https://www.crf-usa.org/foundations-of-our-constitution/natural-rights.html>).

Jefferson broadened the definition, it seems, to "pursuit of happiness" to be more encompassing. There can be no doubt however that Jefferson and others were very aware of the benefits of owning property. In the original Constitution, the only people who could vote, were male citizens over the age of 21 who were property owners. Clearly, that needed to be changed, so that all adult citizens could vote (thus the 14th Amendment). Have we ever considered why property ownership was so important to the Founders?

HOW ARE YOUR REPRESENTATIVES VOTING?

<https://www.washingtonvotes.org/Legislation.aspx?ID=182994>

2022 House Bill 2057: Strengthening diversity, equity, and inclusion in the state patrol workforce

HOUSE REPUBLICANS

Voted yes:

[Abbarno \(R\)](#)
[Barkis \(R\)](#)
[Boehnke \(R\)](#)
[Caldier \(R\)](#)
[Chambers \(R\)](#)
[Dent \(R\)](#)
[Dye \(R\)](#)
[Eslick \(R\)](#)
[Gilday \(R\)](#)
[Goehner \(R\)](#)
[Griffey \(R\)](#)
[Harris \(R\)](#)
[Hoff \(R\)](#)
[MacEwen \(R\)](#)
[Maycumber \(R\)](#)
[Mosbrucker \(R\)](#)
[Robertson \(R\)](#)
[Schmick \(R\)](#)
[Steele \(R\)](#)
[Stokesbary \(R\)](#)
[Vick \(R\)](#)
[Volz \(R\)](#)
[Wilcox \(R\)](#)
[Ybarra \(R\)](#)
[Young \(R\)](#)

(Continued from page 3)

Many phrases are used commonly today that emphasize the importance of "property" in the Locke sense of the word:

"taking ownership", "you need to own your mistakes", "you break it, you buy it", etc. If you do an internet search for ownership phrases, you'll find dozens. In the broadest sense of the word, ownership means that you have a vested stake in something. Very few of us would own property and let it become a waste or lose value through our carelessness. No-one has a greater stake in the success of a business than the owner. A revolutionary invention or idea can be patented, giving the "owner" the opportunity to bring some great new advancement to a free marketplace, benefitting the creator and improving the lives of the buyers. Ownership most often represents a multi-layered investment of time, capital and often years of emotion and effort. That level of investment will be much more likely to produce positive and profitable outcomes than "renting".

Back to the question, why was property ownership so important to the Founders? It represents one of the highest forms of freedom. In a world where that majority of property was owned by the aristocracy, the opportunity to own your own land has drawn millions of people here to pursue the American Dream. The right to own your own four walls, regardless of size is often the focal point of our "pursuit of happiness", not just in the U.S., but world-wide. It is a human desire--a God-given right. And it provides great benefit to society. Property owners are much more likely to be invested in the care and upkeep of their property. They are more likely to vote and be involved in the governance of society. They are more likely to be financially stable. This is not a criticism of renters--we've all been there at some point. There are great, responsible renters just like there are lousy renters and lazy owners. But we all know how ownership changes our perspective greatly about taxes, property rights, the cost of living, the cost of maintenance and repairs, etc. Property owners are much more likely to understand the true cost of government spending. As our government generates not a single penny to pay for all of their spending, the bulk of that burden falls on property

__ GET INVOLVED __

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/>

(Continued from page 4)

owners and small business owners. Large corporations don't pay taxes; they pass that cost onto their customers. Renters do pay property taxes indirectly and are often unaware of how voting to raise property taxes affects the cost of living, the cost of renting and hurts their ability to pursue home ownership of their own.

As a philosophical exercise, I have always wondered why government entities feel it is necessary to enforce permitting for citizens to build a home on land that they own, for example. Would it benefit the home owner to build a home that would fall down around his ears? Whose problem would it be? What restaurant owner would be benefitted by serving food that would make her customers sick? How long would her business stay open? How many doctors would practice for long if their patients had horrible outcomes, including death? Water rights have always been one of the most vicious and volatile issues in the world, for obvious reasons.

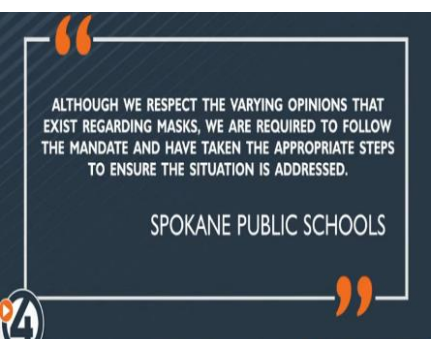
We as a nation seem to have succumbed to the idea that the government has the right to interfere in all of these issues. But do they really? Has it benefitted us as a society or has it made things more difficult for owners? Has it removed the accountability that ownership would require of us by nature and replaced it with red tape and interference? There are no easy answers to these questions, but our job as adults is to ask the hard questions. Most people will tell you that you should never buy a used rental car. We all know why. Have we become a nation with a renter's mentality or are we owners? It is our fundamental right to "pursue happiness" (i.e. own property) that has created the American Dream. We set that aside at our own peril. Private ownership on every level benefits our society. Every law, tax, regulation enacted should be contemplated within that framework, but it rarely is. It's time we change that.

CURRENT EVENTS: MASKS
IN SCHOOL MOOT? Wait
for it...

Natalie Poulson has served as a special education specialist in the Spokane area for eighteen years. Last November she joined the Finch Elementary Principal in a peaceful protest against the state's mask mandate. She was put on administrative leave for failing to "wear her mask correctly". Subsequently, she was afforded only one meeting but on three separate occasions attempted to introduce refutable evidence to Spokane School District 81. Ms. Poulson cited forty-seven different studies done by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) which stated that masks are not effective in preventing the transmission of Covid-19; aligning with Fauci's 2019 preliminary report. She presented additional supporting evidence as to the emotional and medical impairment masks are having on our youth. *By the way; Q: How much in Covid-19 relief funds is there to improve circulation in the schools? A: \$145 million.*

The school board never responded.

Reports state that as of March 21st 2022 our children will no longer be forced to wear masks in school. Does this render Ms. Poulson's concerns moot? Well, don't get too excited. Democrats exploit Covid and there is a bit more fear left to be squeezed from the virus. Are we to believe they suddenly follow the science? The timing is auspicious. Pending elections?



We are approaching the two-year anniversary of Governor Inslee's emergency proclamation 20-05. Yes, you read that correctly, two years. Two years of rule by executive fiat. Two years of covering faces, limiting capacities at events, and keeping six feet of distance between each other. Two years of treating other people as dangerous pathogenic vectors of disease.

Washington law is clear that a state of emergency should not be an indefinite means of circumventing democratic processes: the chapter concerning gubernatorial power provides "[t]hat the governor *must* terminate said state of emergency proclamation when order has been restored in the area affected." *RCW 43.06.210* [emphasis added].

If "order" has not been restored in Washington already, then I do not know when it ever will be. This last NFL season, we had an average of 68,408 screaming Seahawk fans in Lumen field for eight home games. We have had more than 17,000 fans in each of the Kraken's 27 home games so far this season. The last three games of the Mariners season each had more than 44,000 fans at Safeco Field. If activities as superfluous as professional sports are back in full swing, then surely order has been restored.

The arbitrariness of the mask mandates plaguing Washington over the past two years have culminated with the announcement that they will end in a little more than a month from now. Why? Because the science says so. With little regulation on type of mask you must wear (cloth, gaiter, surgical mask, shields, N95), will make it impossible to know if mask mandates actually worked in the first place yet, we can dispense with them ALL in one month. Never mind we have been subjected to the control and dictates of the Secretary of Health for two years with no scientific or legal basis; do as you're told; the science says so.

Perhaps the most egregious overreach of this emergency has been the vaccine mandates. Not only have people lost

IN THE NEWS: The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) narrowly voted not to recommend vaccine mandates as a prerequisite for in-person school for our children. Narrowly? REALLY? A note to our politicians: Hey, you! We've already lost our children! Who cares right? WE DO! State Board of Health (SBOH) may reject the recommendation, voting FOR vaccine mandates. Don't let them. Stay on this!

We suffer heartbreak with these mandates. We don't need more lectures from Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal who threatens us with, '*you may lose state funding if you do not comply*'! Jawohl! Our children have suffered adverse reactions and even death from the vaccine. Masking has caused breathing and communication issues, psychological and social setbacks, learning and physical delays. They have fallen behind socially, academically, medically. Most staggering; we have lost our children to suicide due to isolation and depression. Enough is enough. STOP!

livelihoods due to their refusal to inject a vaccine into their bodies, our society has been bifurcated into those willing to take a vaccine that does not prevent contraction or transmission of a virus, and those who are not. The erosion of trust in public health will last longer than this emergency order. The endemic nature of coronavirus will forever be a reminder that you cannot control your own health decisions. Health care workers being fired in the midst of a pandemic so dangerous it requires forcibly vaccinating the population is an optic from which public health may never recover.

One is left to wonder, if the vaccines are truly “remarkable [and] life-saving” as described in Governor Inslee’s vaccination requirement order, and 72.7% of the population aged 5 and up is vaccinated, why are we still operating under the draconian rule of the past two years? Remember, Gov. Inslee originally stated that 70% vaccination uptake *among the population aged 16 and older* was the threshold for reopening. Maybe it’s as simple as looking north of the border to understand why we will never be able to comply enough to satisfy our liberal betters.

<https://doh.wa.gov/emergencies/covid-19/data-dashboard>

The ever-moving goalposts should make our path clear: make your own choices, and fight like hell to win back control of our state legislature and executive office.

~Austin Hatcher

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position by signing up on the GOP website:

https://www.spokanegop.com/new_volunteer

If interested in helping with the Communications Committee, you may also contact Terri at

terrizalevits@gmail.com.

Spokane GOP

2021/22 SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/srcce/pages/488/attachments/original/1611537441/2021_Sustaining_Membership_Application.pdf?1611537441

https://www.spokanegop.com/2021_sustaining_membership

CONTACT US

www.SpokaneGOP.com

FIND US

[Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneGOP) [YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.youtube.com/SpokaneGOP)
[Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.instagram.com/SpokaneGOP)