Merry Christmas!

May this Christmas bring you more Freedom than last

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These links are provided to give you easy access to the original news story or other relevant information.

I admit it. I'm one of those "old-fashioned" people who call this holiday by it's actual name: ***Christmas***. I'm not a fan of "Happy Holidays" since the holiday has a name: ***Christmas***.

We would never dream of calling Valentine's Day by some other name. We wouldn't dare call Remembrance Day by some pathetic misnomer, yet for some reason it's okay to rename ***Christmas*** even as radio stations across the nation blanket us Christmas Carols. It's bizarre.

This year I've taken up a new plan for dealing with this issue. It's simple. I vote with my dollars. If a store cannot stand the name ***Christmas*** in their "holiday" advertising then I will not do business with them. There are quite a few stores suffering from this politically-correct disease and none of them will see any of my money this ***Christmas*** shopping season. Those who are unashamed to say ***Christmas*** will see more of my ***Christmas*** spending money.

A short list of those **companies who are ashamed** of ***Christmas*** include: Barnes & Noble, Office Depot, Staples, Pet Smart, Super Value and The Source. These companies made a choice to hide ***Christmas*** from their "holiday" advertising. That choice has financial consequences, if only from me.

Those companies who **embrace Christmas** will be rewarded with my money. Canadian Tire, Home Depot, WalMart, Toys R Us and Sears will receive my business this ***Christmas*** shopping season.

I hope you will join me this year and in the years to come in boycotting those businesses who are too ashamed to utter the name of the holiday: ***Christmas.***

Maybe then some common sense will return to the ***Christmas*** season.

Yours in Liberty,

Christopher

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Freedom of Speech

Duck Dynasty Patriarch Fired by A&E Network for Speaking Biblical Truth

"The press must grow day in and day out -- it is our Party's sharpest and most powerful weapon."

-- Josef Stalin

The past week was an enlightening one if you believe in Freedom of Speech, and not in a good way. The Arts and Entertainment Network's world-class display of hypocrisy made it clear that the Mainstream Media will dictate which opinions may be heard and which ones may not. In doing so they showed how utterly ignorant they are of the reasons for Duck Dynasty's success.

Duck Dynasty is a reality-TV show about a family of "rednecks" who also happen to be decent, God-fearing folk. The hit show averages over ***14 million viewers*** every week, which is over 2 million more viewers than the highly touted *Breaking Bad* finale.

The Robertsons also happen to be millionaires due to the innovation of their patriarch, Phil Robertson. Decades ago Phil created a duck call, Duck Commander. He founded a company that set himself and his family up financially for life.

He is a success story and for the mainstream media he is the worst kind of success story: a Christian one.

When A&E agreed to create a show based on the lives of the Robertson clan they knew Phil Robertson and his entire family were bible-believing Christians. Despite that, the network felt it could "control" them and "manage" the message the Robertsons delivered every week.

They were wrong.

A few months ago the network decided to edit "***Jesus***" out of the family prayer that ends every show. That caused a firestorm of protest against the network both from the Robertson family themselves and from millions of the show's faithful following.

A&E network executives completely missed the point of that protest.

Duck Dynasty isn't A&E's top rated show by accident. The show is a hit because millions of viewers relate to the family values espoused each and every week, their redneck antics notwithstanding.

This week the network declared Phil Robertson would no longer be permitted on the show because of his comments to **GQ magazine** where he spoke about sin. Not just any sin, however. Robertson spoke about the most politically-correct sin. His "crime"?

He called homosexuality a sin, just like adultery, theft, lying, drunkenness and murder. He equated sin with sin.

> **"It seems like, to me, a vagina,—as a man—would be more desirable than a man's anus. That's just me. I'm just thinking: There's more there! She's got more to offer. I mean, come on, dudes! You know what I'm saying? But hey, sin: It's not logical, my man. It's just not logical."**
>
> **"Everything is blurred on what's right and what's wrong," he says. "Sin becomes fine."**
>
> *What, in your mind, is sinful?*

> **"Start with homosexual behavior and just morph out from there. Bestiality, sleeping around with this woman and that woman and that woman and those men," he says. Then he paraphrases Corinthians: "Don't be deceived. Neither the adulterers, the idolaters, the male prostitutes, the homosexual offenders, the greedy, the drunkards, the slanderers, the swindlers—they won't inherit the kingdom of God. Don't deceive yourself. It's not right."**
>
> **"We never, ever judge someone on who's going to heaven, hell. That's the Almighty's job. We just love 'em, give 'em the good news about Jesus—whether they're homosexuals, drunks, terrorists. We let God sort 'em out later, you see what I'm saying?"**

Phil Robertson committed the ultimate crime against Liberalism: he stated Biblical truth and the network that airs his show **simply could not stand it**.

> ***"We are extremely disappointed to have read Phil Robertson's comments in GQ, which are based on his own personal beliefs and are not reflected in the series Duck Dynasty," A&E said in a statement. "His personal views in no way reflect those of A+E Networks, who have always been strong supporters and champions of the LGBT community. The network has placed Phil under hiatus from filming indefinitely."***

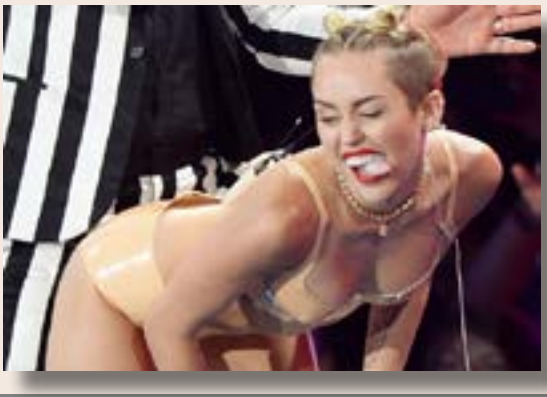
Duck Dynasty is the highest-rated cable show of all time.

Freedom of Speech issues aside, ***Duck Dynasty*** is reportedly worth a billion dollars annually to the network, which makes their firing of Phil Robertson all the more incomprehensible.

Killing their own cash-cow for the sake of political-correctness seems insane, even moronic, yet that is essentially what A&E did this week. While a new season of ***Duck Dynasty*** is already filmed and will air starting in January, it will likely be the last season of the show, at least on the A&E Network.

Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal said,

"*Phil Robertson and his family are great citizens of the State of Louisiana. The politically correct crowd is tolerant of all viewpoints, except those they disagree with. I don't agree with quite a bit of stuff I read in magazine interviews or see on TV. In fact, come to think of it, I find a good bit of it offensive. But I also acknowledge that this is a free country and everyone is entitled to express their views. In fact, I remember when TV networks believed in the First Amendment.* ***It is a messed up situation when Miley Cyrus gets a laugh, and Phil Robertson gets suspended.***"



Privacy Rights

Is an Encrypted Social Network Possible? Three Montreal Computer Students Say Yes

Syme brings privacy to your group conversations by **encrypting everything you share**.

Syme is a group sharing tool that puts your security and privacy first using end-to-end encryption. This ensures that only you and the people you communicate with can access what you share. Even we, as the service provider, can never access the content of your groups.

Encrypt what you share

Your posts are encrypted before they leave your computer. This is done with AES-256 symmetric and ECC-384 asymmetric encryption.

Share with confidence

Only your group members have the keys to decrypt your posts. No one else has access. Not even us.

Simple and easy to use

Anyone can use Syme. You can set up a groups for your friends, family and colleagues in less than a minute.

What is Syme?

Syme is an experimental project that puts forward a new way to share securely and privately with groups.

What makes Syme different from [insert group sharing application here]?

Everything you share on Syme is encrypted before it leaves your computer. Only your group members hold the key. This means that we never have access to the content that you share.

Isn't web security really hard? How can anything in the browser environment ever be secure or private?

We admit it's really, really hard. Simply put, no web privacy or security measure can ever be 100% efficient. However, just because it's hard doesn't mean it's not worth working on. Cryptography is still one of the best ways to enhance our privacy when we share online.

There are people working on web privacy and security from many angles. Syme's main contribution [geeky jargon alert] lies in exploring the feasibility of a decentralized key infrastructure that uses end-to-end encryption to enable persistent multiparty communication and secure key exchanges on minimally trusted servers. Basically, we're trying to create a group sharing tool where the service provider never has access to what users share.

Where are your servers located?

Our servers are located in Canada, a recognized leader in privacy legislation. Canada is governed by the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA), a European Union approved privacy law.

Is Syme in active development?

Yes. We're currently in public beta and constantly working to make Syme more secure, easy to use, and beautiful.

Is it open source?

Soon. We've already started releasing our code on Github. You can follow us on Twitter and Facebook for news on the latest releases.

Will you release Syme on other platforms?

Syme will soon be available on Firefox and Safari in addition to Chrome. We will look into building mobile and desktop apps in the near future.

Why the name?

Syme is the name of a character from George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four. Syme was "vaporized" by the Party because he remained a freethinking intellectual.

Read more about Syme at **https://getsyme.com/faq**

Privacy Violations

CSIS Does "End-Run" Around Law to Spy on Canadians Abroad

It's as horrifying as it is becoming routine: Canadian police agencies lying to Judges in Court so they can keep violating the law they are supposed to uphold. This time is the Canadian spy agency CSIS that's **caught in the spotlight**.

Judge Richard Mosley wasn't pleased when he discovered CSIS and the Communication Security Establishment of Canada (CSEC) lied to him. Both agencies assured Judge Mosley the eavesdropping would be carried out from inside Canada when he granted special warrants for two Canadian citizens. Both agencies then requested help from foreign intelligence agencies but refrained from informing the judge.

"*It is clear that the exercise of the court's warrant issuing has been used as protective cover for activities that it has not authorized*," Mosley wrote in redacted reasons.

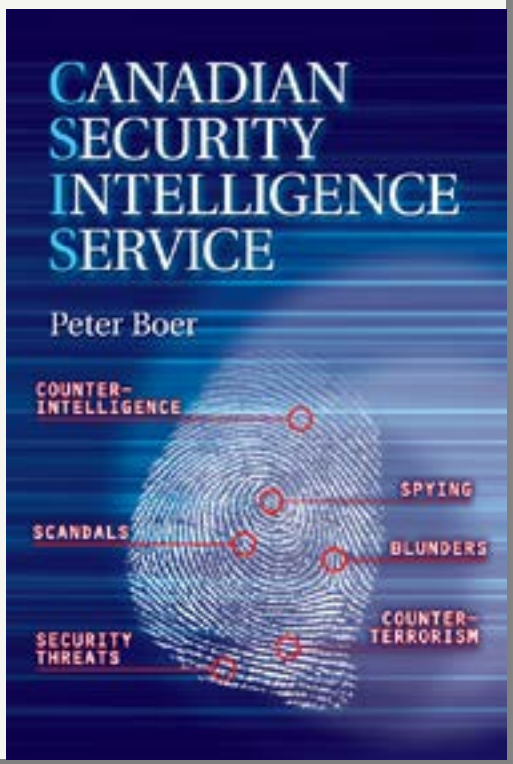
> Under current legislation, Federal Court has no authority to issue warrants that involve intercepts of Canadians carried out abroad by Canada's "Five Eyes" intelligence partners, Mosley noted.
>
> He said CSIS, which was granted several similar warrants on fresh or renewed applications in relation to other targets, knew the law but deliberately sought to get around the limitation by misinterpreting it.
>
> "CSIS and CSEC officials are relying on that interpretation at their peril and ... incurring the risk that targets may be detained or otherwise harmed as a result of the use of the intercepted communications by the foreign agencies," Mosley wrote.
>
> "[The law] does not authorize the service and CSEC to incur that risk or shield them from liability."
>
> "This was a breach of the duty of candour owed by the service and their legal advisers to the court," he said.
>
> "It has led to misstatements in the public record about the scope of the authority granted the service."
>
> Mosley made it clear the warrants do not authorize any foreign service to intercept communications of any Canadian on behalf of CSIS or CSEC.

Is it really a surprise that Canadian government agencies would lie to judges in a calculated effort to circumvent the law?

No, sadly it is not.

Author Peter Boer chronicles the good and the bad of CSIS in his book (pictured right), such as

- ✘ Operation Bricole was the illegal RCMP operation that prompted a royal commission and removed intelligence matters from the Mounties' hands, creating CSIS
- ✘ When CSIS permitted Mahmoud Mohammed Issa Mohammad, a known terrorist, to immigrate to Canada, an embarrassed federal government and the RCMP quietly tried to remove him but couldn't avoid a scandal
- ✘ The Communications Security Establishment collaborates with CSIS to protect Canada's communications networks; it has been accused of illegally monitoring conversations of Canadian citizens and visiting heads of state
- ✘ Canada's Anti-terrorism Act allows for citizens and permanent residents to be held without charge on suspicions of terrorism.
- ✘ And many more stories of CSIS in Canada...



Freedom of Religion

Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial: Religious Freedom for Everyone Except Christians?

A Southern California District Court has ruled that a **cross at the Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial** in San Diego is a government endorsement of a specific religion and must be removed within 90 days.

The judge in the case, Larry Alan Burns, appeared to be choked up as he read his decision, saying that precedent from the wildly liberal Ninth Circuit Court left him no options. Burns immediately issued a stay of his order to allow lawyers for the defense to appeal.

The memorial has been the subject of legal battles for nearly a quarter of a century. The most recent round of litigation from the ACLU came after Congress in 2004 declared the memorial to be a national monument. There has been a cross at the Mount Soledad memorial since 1913.

Burns' ruling yesterday hinged on the Ninth Circus' decision in 2011 that the memorial cross "projects a government endorsement of Christianity."

Congress noted in passing the 2004 law that the cross is surrounded by secular symbols and by symbols of other faiths, including 18 Stars of David. None of those symbols appears to have been subject of any lawsuits.

That's noteworthy because the ACLU lawsuit was filed on behalf of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, a group that should know better than to be promoting religious intolerance.

The ACLU called the ruling a victory, of course.

"We support the government paying tribute to those who served bravely in our country's armed forces," Daniel Mach, director of the ACLU Program on Freedom of Religion and Belief, said in a press release. "But we should honor all of our heroes under one flag, not just one particular religious symbol."

"A national war memorial should stand for all of those who served," added Norma Chavez-Peterson, executive director of the ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties, reported KNSD. "It is inappropriate and unconstitutional to declare a deeply religious symbol that excludes those outside of that faith as a monument to all veterans."

The ACLU's various representatives neglected to mention if they planned to sue over any other religious symbols at the memorial, but it's a safe bet that the answer is no.

Once again, it's the Christians who are being targeted and having their rights to freedom of religious expression suppressed.

The federal government had been defending the memorial until Barack Obama came into office. Since then, the Justice Department has shown only minimal effort in the case, prompting lawyers from Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, and the Religious Liberty Institute to step in.

The cross does not represent an establishment of religion as it is displayed in an area that is replete with other symbols as well. It merely represents an honor to our war veterans on behalf of the Christian segment of the community.

As is all too common with these types of cases, the court is tearing down the First Amendment while claiming to defend it. "Prohibiting the free exercise thereof" is part of the First Amendment's limitations on Congress, too.

All these court decisions to remove crosses, the Ten Commandments and other Christian symbols will have one end effect: establishment of atheism as the state religion.

It's particularly depressing that a Jewish veterans group would volunteer to be a pawn in this.

Firearm Politics

Federal US Judge Declares Waiting Periods a "Burden" to Second Amendment Right

A federal judge in California has ruled in a Second Amendment case that a **state-imposed waiting period to take possession of a firearm is a burden on the constitutional right to keep and bear arms**. The ruling came in a challenge brought by the **Second Amendment Foundation** to the state's mandatory 10-day waiting period to obtain firearms. The case, Silvester v. Harris, continues.

It was Senior Judge Anthony Ishii of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California who said in an 11-page decision that California Attorney General Kamala Harris "argues that the WPL (Waiting Period Law) is a minor burden on the Second Amendment, [but] plaintiffs are correct that this is a tacit acknowledgement that a protected Second Amendment right is burdened. The court concludes that the WPL burdens the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms."

Alan Gottlieb, SAF executive vice president, said the statement is important.

"Judge Ishii's comparison of the waiting period to a prior restraint is significant. He further stated that Harris, in her motion to dismiss the case, had not shown that the waiting period law is effective in reducing gun-related violent crime, or in keeping guns out of the wrong hands where the government has already issued that purchaser a License To Carry or a Certificate Of Eligibility."

Also in the argument was Calguns, the state firearms advocacy organization. Chairman Gene Hoffman said it is "refreshing to see lower federal courts taking the burden of intermediate scrutiny or strict scrutiny seriously."

"California has such a byzantine scheme of gun control that it can't justify making people who already own firearms registered with the state of California wait 10 days to buy a new gun after they complete a background check," Hoffman said. "We look forward to bringing some common sense back to how the law-abiding buy and sell registered guns in California."

The judge also noted that there "has been no showing that the Second Amendment, as historically understood, did not apply for a period of time between the purchase/attempted purchase of a firearm and possession of the firearm."

Gottlieb said the judge wisely concluded, as did Martin Luther King Jr., "that a right delayed is a right denied."

The organization has taken on numerous gun-rights cases since the U.S. Supreme Court in two decisions, the Heller and McDonald cases, ruled that the Second Amendment applies to individuals, not just "militias" such as a national guard, and also is extended to states.

For example, the organization recently wrote to a judge in Washington, D.C., challenging him to decide a case that has been pending since 2009. That case, before the U.S. District Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, is over the right to carry a handgun for protection.

The Second Amendment states: "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

SAF also has worked to publicize the details behind former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's "Mayors Against Illegal Guns" organization, which was revealed to include a long list of mayors who, because of their convictions, were no longer eligible to own weapons themselves.

Another embarrassment surfaced for the organization.

According to a **report from the Second Amendment Foundation**, Mayor James Schiliro of Marcus Hook, Pa., faced a long list of charges for allegedly trying to force an underage boy to perform sex acts and then firing a handgun at a wall when the boy refused.

"Mayor Schiliro is one more example of why we started the 'Gun Owners Against Illegal Mayors' campaign," said Gottlieb. "He joins recently convicted former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, and recently indicted former New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin, both of whom were MAIG members."

Court Decisions

Please! Treat me Like a Prostitute! by Ed Hudson

In a landmark decision, the Supreme Court of Canada overturned Canada's laws against prostitution. In deciding in favour of three prostitutes (**Canada (Attorney General) v. Bedford, 2013 SCC 72**) the Supreme Court ruled:

> **"Parliament has the power to regulate against nuisances, but not against the health, safety and lives of prostitutes."**

Like the laws against prostitution, Canada's restrictive gun laws violate my life and safety and the lives and safety of my family.

I would love to be treated like a prostitute.

God, Guns, and the Rule of Law: Why I Refuse to Obtain a Licence to Own my Firearms

In the not too distant future I may be arrested and sent to prison. If I am, it will not be unexpected. I want you to know why.

In the summer of 1977 my wife, two kids, and I moved from California to Canada. In our 'household goods' I shipped an old, inexpensive Uruguayan military-surplus Mauser rifle and a Sear & Roebuck (i.e., cheap) double-barreled shotgun that I had purchased when I was eighteen. That fall, a veterinary colleague introduced me to duck hunting.

Armed with a Saskatchewan hunting licence and my faithful shotgun that I had used so successfully hunting rabbits in my home state of Georgia, I slowly began to knock down ducks. But I soon realized I needed a better, stronger, more powerful shotgun to hunt mallards successfully.

Therefore, in the spring of 1978 I went to one of the many gun shops in Saskatoon to purchase a new shotgun. After selecting a nice 12-guage Browning side-by-side, I place the gun on the sales counter with my credit card. The proprietor looked at me askance and politely requested to see my FAC. Puzzled, I asked, "What is an FAC?".

He replied, "It is a new federal government regulation. Before I can sell you this shotgun I need to see your Firearms Acquisition Certificate."

Since I did not have an FAC, he then explained that I would need to go to the local "cop shop", fill out a one-quarter-page application and pay the local police ten dollars for a "criminal records check". I applied for my FAC, a week later picked-up the small wallet-sized paper that "certified" that I did not have a violent criminal record, and I purchased the shotgun.

That was my introduction to "gun control" in Canada. "Easy Peasy" as my grand-daughter would say. With my FAC I could purchase all the shotguns and rifles I desired (rather, had the money to purchase).

Fifteen years later in 1993 this unintrusive, practical, safe, and effective FAC system was slated to change - and radically so. On a trip to Hanna, Alberta in July my gun-collecting buddy told me that the Liberals were planning to introduce a law that would require us to have a licence merely to possess our firearms. I told him no government would be that crazy. Sadly I was wrong - very wrong.

That year Justice Cory of the Supreme Court of Canada, by obiter dictum, **declared Canadians "do not have a constitutional right to bear arms**."

While the justice's statement was merely a "by the way" remark or personal opinion, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's newly elected Liberals began transforming that idea into law.

In April 1994 Mr. Chrétien's Minister of Justice, Allan Rock, publically announced the Liberals' manifesto against the personal ownership of firearms in Canada by declaring:

> **"I came to Ottawa in November with the firm belief that the only people in this country who should have guns are police officers and soldiers."**

Ignoring logic, history, and our Canadian culture Mr. Rock then tabled Bill C-68, the Firearms Act and the attendant changes to the Criminal Code that make the mere possession of a firearm illegal.

Using a **fraudulently altered RCMP document** that completely overstated the harm that firearms caused in Canada, the Liberals used their majority to ram their legislation though Parliament. The Canadian Government now **blatantly claims the authority to decide**:

> **"the circumstances in which an individual does or does not need a firearm to protect the life of that individual."**

Simply stated, the federal government now presumes the authority to tell you how you may defend yourself.

When eight provinces challenged the law, the Supreme Court with full pomp and circumstance merely followed the Government's lead. The Court **totally ignored data** from the Alberta Court of Appeal that:

> **"confirms that firearm ownership is not dangerous, per se, and that many Canadians possess firearms for legitimate reasons and use them in a safe and responsible manner."**

So much for data. The Supreme Court also **ignored the legal submission of constitutional expert Ted Morton**. Dr. Morton's legal brief shows:

> **"Bill C-68 contains as many as twenty-eight distinct Charter violations. If the Supreme Court applies the same Charter rules to law-abiding firearm owners as it has to drunk-drivers, drug dealers, prostitutes, pimps, single parent welfare recipients, abortion providers, murderers, refugee claimants and owners of child pornography, that is—if it applies the law of the land with an even hand—then it will be forced by its own precedents to declare Bill-68 unconstitutional and thus of no force or effect."**

The Supreme Court decided otherwise.

With the Supreme Court's foolish pronouncement that the Firearms Act "*constitutes a valid exercise of Parliament's jurisdiction*" we entered the Orwellian Age. As Saskatchewan Member of Parliament Garry Breitkreuz has ably demonstrated, **this law**:

> **"gives the government such sweeping power that they could ban any or all firearms in Canada and not even the Supreme Court of Canada could overturn it."**

Simon Fraser University Professor Gary Mauser describes our situation as appalling. He **compares Canadians to frogs being slowly boiled alive**:

> **"we're in hot water and our traditional culture is being slowly killed by the gradual tightening up of the firearms laws."**

Dr. Mauser points out that the Government:

> **"wants to reduce the numbers of gun owners, and eventually eliminate all private ownership of firearms by citizens."**

I am not willing to sit idly by while our Rights are trampled and our proud Canadian culture of responsible firearms ownership is slowly destroyed.

I believe that armed self-defense is a basic right of all people. I believe that our Government has severely overstepped its authority. Therefore I have refused to apply for a government licence to possess the means to protect my life, my family, and my property in my own home.

I do not claim the Right guaranteed in the American constitution "to keep and bear arms". I claim a much more circumscribed Right, but none-the-less an extremely important Right - the Right "**to have arms for their Defence**"as acknowledged by the English Declaration of Rights, 1689.

I do not claim the Right "to have arms" anywhere I like, but I sure do claim the Right "to have arms for Defense" in my own home.

As former Minister of Justice **Pierre Elliott Trudeau said**:

> "*There's no place for the state in the bedrooms of the nation.*"

Likewise I sincerely believe there is no place for the state to presume the authority to look under my bed for my means of self-protection.

Once I leave the threshold of my home, I can understand why my neighbors might like for me to have a licence to take my firearm out into the public sphere. Thus when I am using my firearms outside my home, I have never objected to having a provincial game bird licence in the field. But in my home I follow Edward Coke's English common law dictum that "**an Englishman's home is his castle**."

I will defend my home in the manner that I decide.

My associates and I worked for over ten years to help elect a Conservative Government that promised to respect "**the rights of law-abiding Canadians to own and use firearms responsibly**." Inexplicably, Prime Minister Harper's Conservative Government has now **endorsed the Liberals' firearm owner licencing scheme**. Therefore, I **publicly notified Mr. Harper** that I possess firearms for self-protection without a licence.

For this "offense", the Government claims the authority to send me to prison for 10 years merely for possessing a firearm in my own home. I consider that coercive threat a flagrant usurpation of my Right of self-ownership.

My decision is firm. I will NOT seek the Government's permission to be armed while in my home.

My very serious action obviously raises some very serious questions.

I was born in and grew up in Georgia. I was a teenager during the centennial of what is properly - in the South - called The War Between the States. My hero - my namesake - is Robert Edward Lee, General, CSA, who, even in defeat, spoke of:

> "the glory of duty done — the honor of the integrity of principle."

But how does a person know where one's duty lies?

Do we not have a duty to obey "the law of the land", a duty to obey our Government?

Do we not likewise have a duty to protect ourselves, our family?

Faced with conflicting obligations, how does one maintain integrity?

When I was a young lad Walt Disney had his TV character Davy Crockett say:

> "Be sure you are right, then go ahead."

But how does a person ever know what is right?

When does a government "cross the line" between passing a legitimate law and passing an evil law?

Did we not learn that "just following orders" is not an excuse for blind obedience?

Does not the law to which we owe the duty of obedience need to be just?

Can the Government demand that I have licence merely to possess my firearm in my home? Am I bound by duty to obey this law, a law I consider unjust? More importantly, if I cannot obey, how do I disobey?

Peaceful, public civil disobedience to an unjust law

In 1970 before moving to Canada I served in a US Army Special Forces (Airborne) unit. At the height of the Viet Nam War protests, I trained with "fixed bayonets" to subdue the 'peaceniks' and draft protestors. At the time I regarded these law-breaking, marijuana-smoking hippies with utter disdain. I now understand and admire their resolve.

In 1846 Henry David Thoreau was arrested and jailed for refusing to pay his taxes; taxes he opposed because they supported slavery and what he considered an unjust war in Mexico. Thoreau's "**Resistance to Civil Government**" set the standard that Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., the US draft protestors, Aung San Suu Kyi of Burma, and Nelson Mandela used in their campaigns of peaceful disobedience to unjust laws in their countries.

I have decided to follow their lead.

In support of my peaceful civil disobedience to what I consider an unjust law, I offer six reasons for my actions:

Our British Heritage, Natural Law, the Rule of Law, Philosophy, Research Data, and Protection from Tyranny.

I. Our British and Canadian Heritage and History: "Armes for their Defense"

Canadians unfortunately acquiesce far too readily to Justice Cory's mere verbal opinion that we do not have the same Right to armed self-defence as Americans. Far too many Canadians mistakenly believe that the Second Amendment of the Bill of Rights in the US Constitution created the 'Right to Keep and Bear Arms'. This is a serious error. The United States Supreme Court has taken pains to emphasize that the Right to armed self-defense **existed BEFORE the Bill of Rights was conceived**.

As historian Joyce Lee Malcolm has demonstrated in To Keep and Bear Arms; The Origins of an Anglo-American Right, all North Americans "inherited" the Right of armed self-defense from Great Britain.

As the **Royal Charters** make clear, when British settlers arrived in North America they and:

> **"all and every persons which shall happen to be born within the said province, and every of their children and posterity, shall have and enjoy all liberties ... of free denizens and natural born subjects, within any of our dominions ... as if abiding and born within this our kingdom of Great Britain."**

William Blackstone in his 1765 **Commentaries on the Laws of England**, declares that the English Declaration of Rights, 1689 contains:

> **"the true, ancient, and indubitable rights of the people of this kingdom."**

In June 1780, at the height of the American Revolutionary War, the **Gordon Riot** broke out in London. The army was sent to suppress the rioting whereupon "about 285 people were shot dead, another 200 wounded, and around 450 of the rioters were arrested." In the aftermath of this violent, deadly turmoil, the Recorder of London (the city's legal counsel) was asked whether the citizens should be allowed to retain their firearms. His reply:

> "The right of his majesty's subjects, to have arms for their own defense, and to use them for lawful purposes, is most clear and undeniable. It seems, indeed, to be considered, by the ancient laws of this kingdom, not only as a right, but as a duty;"

Thus at the end of the American Revolutionary War in 1781 when the United Empire Loyalist began leaving the new American states for Canada, they carried with them the same Right as all British citizens to have arms for personal defense.

Some Canadians like to advance the myth that Americans are the only people in North America who use firearms for self-defense. But ever since the arrival of the first European explorers, firearms have been an integral part of Canada. French explorer and colonizer Samuel de Champlain perhaps gets 'credit' for the first 'gun fight' in North America. As Champlain records in his **journal of his 1609 venture against the Iroquois**:

> **"I rested my musket against my cheek, and aimed directly at one of the three chiefs. With the same shot, two fell to the ground."**

However, Dutch traders were present and provided firearms to the Iroquois. The slaughter of the resulting **Beaver Wars** was terrific as vast territories "were virtually emptied of Native people." Thus from the earliest arrival of Europeans, armed self-defense has been a necessary part of Canadian history.

Beginning with the War of 1812 and through the Great War and World War II our Canadian culture of responsible firearms training and use in our daily lives has served us well in national defense.

Based upon a realistic understanding of our British and Canadian history, I take great exception to Justice Cory saying that we Canadians have never had the Right to have Arms for our personal protection.

II. Natural Law versus Legal Positivism

In defining Canada's operational legal theory of law, **Leslie Green of Queen's University says**,

> **"Legal positivism is the thesis that the existence and content of law depends on social facts and not on its merits."**

Since the time of John Austin the proponents of the philosophy of legal positivism do not give credence to "Natural Law", so much so that "the [legal] positivists have effectively swept the field of their natural law foes" accepting **Austin's dictum**:

> **'The existence of a law is one thing; its merit or demerit another."**

Unfortunately the Supreme Court of Canada seems to follow in this benighted tradition. As a glaring example of hubris, in **Authorson v. Canada (Attorney General), 2003 SCC 39, [2003] 2 S.C.R. 40** the Court declared that taking property from a combat-disabled veteran was acceptable, quoting with approval:

> **"In short, the Legislature within its jurisdiction can do everything that is not naturally impossible, and is restrained by no rule human or divine."**

We need to note well that this blatant arrogance of legal positivism does cause some problems for a legal theory that allegedly promotes "justice". One of the greatest legal positivist, H.L.A. Hart, struggled mightily in a vain attempt to address the immoral laws of Nazi Germany.

Therefore as A.P. d'Entreves appropriately states, "The undying spirit of Natural Law can never be extinguished" and quotes German historian and lawyer Otto von Gierke:

> "If [Natural Law] is denied entry into the body of positive law, it flutters around the room like a ghost and threatens to turn into a vampire which sucks the blood from the body of the law."

Our Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin offered her interesting insight about Natural Law in her 2005 paper, "**Unwritten Constitutional Principles: What is Going On?**" Justice McLachlin notes that,

> "Lord (Robin) Cooke ... identified an inherent limit in the capacity of Parliament to enact enforceable laws: he wrote,
>
> 'Some common law rights presumably lie so deep that even Parliament could not override them.'"

Justice McLachlin states the government "exists as an expression of its citizens" and that "its legitimacy and power must be based on the citizens' consent." Recognizing "an inherent limit" on Parliament, the Chief Justice concludes:

> "Thus the legitimacy of the modern democratic state arguably depends on its adhesion to fundamental norms that transcend the law and executive action."

As David B. Kopel demonstrates in **The Natural Right to Self-defense** for over two thousand five hundred years philosophers have been writing about the value of armed self-defense. Therefore in considering whether or not we should obey a law of our Parliament, I believe we need to remember a few of these "fundamental norms", or historic, Natural Law legal principles.

For a very few samples:

Dutch scholar **Hugo Grotius**, who in his 1625 classic The Rights of War and Peace, demonstrated that the Right of nations to national self-defense is based upon our individual Right of self-defense declares:

> "when our lives are threatened with immediate danger, it is lawful to kill the aggressor, ... as it has been shewn, on which the justice of private war rests.
>
> "We must observe that this kind of defence derives its origin from the principle of self- preservation, which nature has given to every living creature."

Five years before the Glorious Revolution produced the English Declaration of Rights, King Charles II executed Algernon Sydney in 1683. Sydney declared in **Discourses Concerning Government**:

> "That which is not just, is not Law; and that which is not Law, ought not to be obeyed.
>
> "The Liberty of a people is the gift of God and nature."

At the time of the Glorious Revolution in 1688 Gilbert Burnet, writing **Measures of Submission to the Supreme Authority** avowed:

> "In all disputes between power and liberty, power must always be proved, but liberty proves itself; the one founded upon positive law, and the other upon the law of nature. The chief design of our whole law, and the several rules of our constitution, is to secure and maintain our liberty."

John Locke writing immediately after the Glorious Revolution of 1688 declared:

> "Any single man must judge for himself whether circumstances warrant obedience or resistance to the commands of the civil magistrate;
>
> "We are all qualified, entitled, and morally obliged to evaluate the conduct of our rulers. This political judgment, moreover, is not simply or primarily a right, but like self-preservation, a duty to God.
>
> "As such it is a judgment that men cannot part with according to the God of Nature."

Italian jurist and philosopher Cesare Beccaria wrote **Of Crimes and Punishments** in 1764. His critique of the false idea of utility addresses the topic of personal arms:

> "Who would sacrifice a thousand real advantages to the fear of an imaginary or trifling inconvenience; who would deprive men of the use of fire for fear of their being burnt, and of water for fear of their being drowned?
>
> "The laws of this nature are those which forbid to wear arms, disarming those only who are not disposed to commit the crime which the laws mean to prevent.
>
> "Can it be supposed, that those who have the courage to violate the most sacred laws of humanity ... will respect the less considerable and arbitrary injunctions, the violation of which is so easy?
>
> "Does not the execution of this law deprive the subject of that personal liberty and does it not subject the innocent to all the disagreeable circumstances that should only fall on the guilty?
>
> "It certainly makes the situation of the assaulted worse, and of the assailants better, and rather encourages than prevents murder, as it requires less courage to attack unarmed than armed persons."

Therefore our duty is not to obey every proclamation from Ottawa.

Rather our duty demands that, individually, each one of us must evaluate the laws of Parliament.

III. God and the Rule of Law

Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law.

My now-deceased and long-time, faithful hunting buddy Gene Seneshen once advised me,

> "Ed, whatever you do, NEVER mention God in the same discussion as guns."

I respected Gene enough to have taken his admonition to heart. By quoting - approvingly - Algernon Sydney and John Locke above, I have obviously violated his sound advice. So I need to explain.

I do not claim a "God given Right" to own firearms, but as I mentioned above, I do claim that Natural Law is an extremely important part of our system of justice. And as I have stated, most legally trained persons, that is, the legal positivists reading this paper would dismiss my claim with "a judicial wave of the hand."

But that curt dismissal is neither fair nor just. So what I cannot argue in court, I may do here and argue the reasons not to dismiss Natural Law.

The Rule of Law is one of the most treasured principles of Canadian Law. The Rule of Law is "enshrined" as a founding principle of our constitutional law in the Preamble to the 1982 Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

In Re Manitoba Language Rights - a 1985 case in which the Supreme Court declared that the Province of Manitoba must produce all their laws in both English as well as French - our justices bent over backwards to make sure everyone understands that:

> "The principle of rule of law, recognized in the Constitution Acts of 1867 and 1982, has always been a fundamental principle of the Canadian constitutional order."

These esteemed justices even when so far as to cite the Constitution of the Confederate States of America as an example of **the value of the Rule of Law** even:

> **"During a period of insurrection, (the) territory (was) under the control and dominance of an unlawful, hostile government."**

My point in this seeming digression is that I cannot find anywhere an exposition of the principle of the "Supremacy of God" even though God is mentioned before the Rule of Law. I understand that not everyone believes in God, or in any deity, but the constitutional declaration of the "Supremacy of God" is clear. Logic would dictate that the phrase must, as an important foundational principle, have some meaning, comparable in force to the Rule of Law.

In the absence of any guidance by the Court, I believe, as a minimum, we can understand "God" to be found in the written wisdom recorded during those twenty-five centuries that preceded our personal arrival on earth. I believe we have a duty to make our own personal assessment of the validity of the laws passed by our Parliament.

Before I surrender my Natural Right of armed self-defense to the demands of Parliament and the Courts, I will evaluate the wisdom of that law. On the issue of armed self-defense I believe the "Supremacy of God" trumps the "Supremacy of Parliament".

IV. Philosophy and Law

During my struggle to understand my relationship to my government when I first began to doubt the wisdom, justice, and sanity of the laws of Parliament, I read a stack of books on law, constitutions, and philosophy, e.g., Hart, Dworkin, Benthan, Hayek, etc.

Somewhat like my attempt at understanding acid-base balance in physiology, quite a bit of that information bounced directly off my skull. But I did discern one major difference between veterinary medicine and law. In physiology the ideas of how something works can be tested under a microscope, in a test tube, or at its most crude form, by trial and error. If the guinea pig dies after the injection, something in the solution can be called lethal - at least to guinea pigs.

Unlike medical physiology, legal philosophy depends quite heavily upon what a person believes. I offer but one example of this phenomenon; **A Theory of Justice by John Rawls** of whom a British philosopher observed:

> **"there could be no dispute about the most important political philosopher of the 20th century: John Rawls."**

For me Rawls is a masterful writer; he presents the most comprehensive defense of peaceful civil disobedience to be found in literature. Yet other philosophers use mere words to show where Rawls is "wrong" and cut his "theory" to ribbons. No tests, no trials, no mice, no volunteers, no double blind studies, nothing more that words with which one discards an author's life-time of work and constructs an alternate theory.

With that heavy bit of skepticism, I would like to introduce two philosophical theories that demonstrate the right to have arms for self-protection; a Social Contract Theory by Canadian Jan Narveson and a Common Sense Theory by an American, Michael Huemer.

Narveson, professor of philosophy emeritus at the University of Waterloo, combines and modifies ideas of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke into a modern Social Contract Theory. Narveson contends that when we advance out of the "state of nature"' we would have nikieagreed to a contract whereby we kept our Right to have arms to defend ourselves.

Huemer, professor of philosophy at the university of Colorado, offers a theory based solely on "common sense principles". His common sense principles also show that **armed self-defense is a Right** we should guard and cherish.

Neither Narveson nor Huemer use the word "God" or appeal to Natural Law.

I find the libertarianism of Narveson and Huemer much more logical than the so-called positivist theories of Austin, et al, that somehow "prove" I should live "in a state of subjection" to the "commands" of "the sovereign."

V. Tangible, Empirical Research Data

Australian legal scholar John Finnis has stated:

> **"There is no human right that will not be overridden if feelings… are allowed to govern change."**

Obviously laws **should not be based upon emotion**. However that is exactly what Prime Minister Chrétien did with the Firearms Act. In the lingering aftermath of the École Polytechnique shooting in Montréal Mr. Chrétien's Liberals passed the Firearms Act to try to prove that they were tough on gun crime.

Fortunately, good, solid research data on the positive effects of firearms ownership is available. For example,

- Don B. Kates and Gary Mauser, **Would Banning Firearms Reduce Murder and Suicide?**
- Gary Kleck Guns and Violence: **A Summary of the Field**.
- Gary Kleck and Marc Gertz, **Armed Resistance to Crime - Self Defence with a Gun**
- John Lott, **More Guns, Less Crime, Understanding Crime and Gun Control Laws**.
- Gary A. Mauser, **Hubris in the North: The Canadian Firearms Registry**.
- Gary A. Mauser: **Why the long-gun registry doesn't work - and never did**.

These researchers clearly demonstrate that restrictive gun laws do not improve public safety. As Dr. Mauser stated:

> **"No international study of firearm laws by criminologists or economists has found support for the claim that restricting access to firearms by civilians reduces criminal violence."**

Our neighbors in the United States very obviously have social problems that need to be addressed. However, when proper 'apples to apples' comparisons are made between the USA and Canada, a revealing fact becomes apparent: restrictive gun laws make us less safe.

For example, Saskatchewan with a restrictive licencing law, compared to Montana with their Right "to Keep and Bear Arms", our provincial murder rate is **almost 50% higher** than Montana.

The benefits of individual firearm ownership far outweigh any public danger.

VI. Protection from Tyranny and State Sponsored Murder

Abuse of government power - tyranny- is not a popular subject. But as philosopher George Santayana has advised:

> "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Regrettably, history teaches that individuals more often need protection from their government than by their government. Government-sponsored murder is not a once-in-a-millennium aberration that disappeared with the defeat of Nazi German in 1945. Consider these facts:

> "The number of crime victims over the past one hundred years is only a **fraction of the number of victims of government-sponsored violence**."
>
> "The total number of people killed by their own governments in the twentieth century has been estimated at 123 million."

Canadian General Roméo Dallaire witnessed first-hand the grotesque horror that the government of Rwanda perpetrated upon its own defenseless, unarmed people. As the continuing daily human slaughter in Syria clearly shows, government-sponsored murder of its citizens continues unabated well into the 21st century.

In light of these international outrages against humanity should citizens be forced to ask their government for permission to own a firearm?

Is Canada somehow immune to what is happening in the rest of the world?

Who other than a criminal or a tyrant would seek to disarm responsible citizens?

David B. Kopel, et al, in **The Human Right of Self Defense** declares:

> **"No government has the legitimate authority to forbid a person from exercising her human right to defend herself against a violent attack, or to forbid her from taking the steps and acquiring the tools necessary to exercise that right."**

Canadian historian, writer, and poet George Woodcock has written:

> **"When the duty to obey without question is accepted, that is the moment of freedom's death."**

The Firearms Act demands obedience to rules and regulations that make the mere possession of a firearm illegal. Obedience to the Firearms Act would indeed be the moment of Freedom's death.

When I argued these points in Saskatchewan Provincial Court, **Judge Orr ruled**:

> **"in some hypothetical future Canada where a tyranny has arisen ... [licencing] would so hinder Canadians in their right of self-defense that the section might be ruled by courts (if there still were any) to be an infringement of [your Rights]."**

Unfortunately, Judge Orr missed the very point the English made in 1689.

> **"In a world where children's hands are hacked off with machetes and bombs are detonated in marketplaces, where young women are burned alive as punishment for affairs of the heart, civilization clearly remains a work in progress."**

We cannot sit by and wait for tyranny to arise to prove that our rights have been violated. Once a tyrant has arisen, we will have lost any hope that the courts would be able to protect our Rights.

Summary

A federal licence merely to possess a firearm serves very limited valid societal purpose. The firearms possession licence certainly is not an improvement on the FAC it replaced. The facts are that we are less safe than we were before the law was passed.

Gun safety is not rocket science. As a twelve-year-old kid my elder daughter took and passed the Saskatchewan Hunter Safety Course - a course taught by dedicated, volunteer sportsmen and women. She does not have a federal licence to possess firearms although my son-in-law does.

They routinely travel together with dogs, rifles, shotguns, and ammunition in their truck. Their mutual safety does not depend upon an Act of Parliament since his federal firearms licence does not protect him from her. My son-in-law and my daughter are both safe together because they both use common sense around firearms.

Saskatoon police sergeant Murray Grismer has made presentations before parliamentary committees studying the Firearms Act. Sgt. Grismer has said that police need the federal licencing system to "jam up the gang-bangers".

Surely the police do not need a national list of every hunter, sports shooter, and gun collector in Canada to do their job. Long before the mandatory licencing of all gun owners, the police had an effective tool for dealing with drug dealers, the 1934 handgun registry.

Criminals use firearms for illegal activity; criminals do NOT apply for a firearms licence.

Criminals and their violence and misdeeds with firearms are the problem; responsible gun owners are NOT the problem;

The police need a **registry of violent criminals**; the police do NOT need a registry of duck hunters. A federal registry of gun owners is only useful for confiscation of firearms.

Conclusions

My disagreement with our Government over the Firearms Act is not simply about whether or nor I need the Government's permission to own a gun.

This unjust law strikes at the very heart of our Liberty. This law attacks everyone's Rights and Freedoms.

With this law Parliament denies our self-ownership; Parliament presumes the authority to manage the most important, innermost aspect of our existence.

The Firearms Act represents the worst of Parliamentary malfeasance:

- using false information to pass legislation
- basing policy on incorrect data
- ignoring our history
- denying our culture
- making Canadians less safe.

What You Believe Matters

This law determines the very manner in which we will be governed.

We cannot allow Parliament and the Courts to ignore our history and culture.

We cannot allow Parliament and the Courts to dismiss true, accurate data.

We cannot allow Parliament and the Courts to deface our Natural Rights.

I refuse to accept the Court's pronouncement that our Government "can do everything that is not naturally impossible".

I refuse to accept that Parliament "is restrained by no rule human or divine."

As part of an open, public, honest campaign of peaceful civil disobedience, I have proudly proclaimed that I own a firearm without a federal licence.

I ask you, my family, my friends, my neighbors, my associates, and my fellow citizens to join me; together we can bring sanity back to our laws.

We who have enjoyed our Liberty for so long owe this to our children and grandchildren.

Sincerely,

Edward B. Hudson DVM, MS

22 December 2013

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Human Rights

O Come Let Us Stop Adoring Mandela by Joseph Farah

Reaction to my column earlier this week in which I presented **11 shocking quotations from Nelson Mandela** was strong. Americans, who have been drowning in a steady stream of Mandela media adulation, got a dose of stark reality when they read a few of Mandela's carefully chosen words.

Most were thankful.

Some were skeptical.

None could refute that Mandela's own words betrayed the legacy of sainthood the elite media beatified him with.

Many, however, asked for citations on the quotes.

Columns don't usually lend themselves to footnotes, but in the interest of satisfying many requests for some context behind Mandela's statements, I am revisiting "The real Mandela in his own words."

1) "If there is a country that has committed unspeakable atrocities in the world, it is the United States of America. They don't care for human beings." Mandela made this remark in a speech Jan. 30, 2003. It was reported by **CBS News**. Mandela was furious about the U.S. invasion of Iraq and directed much of his fury toward President Bush: "Why is the United States behaving so arrogantly?" he asked. "All that (expletive deleted) wants is Iraqi oil." I guess it was Mandela's way of thanking Bush for bestowing upon him two years earlier the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest honor, and for dubbing him "perhaps the most revered statesman of our time."

2) "Long live the Cuban revolution. Long live comrade Fidel Castro. … Cuban internationalists have done so much for African independence, freedom and justice. We admire the sacrifices of the Cuban people in maintaining their independence and sovereignty in the face of a vicious imperialist campaign designed to destroy the advances of the Cuban revolution. We, too, want to control our destiny. … There can be no surrender. It is a case of freedom or death. The Cuban revolution has been a source of inspiration to all freedom-loving people." Mandela made this remark commemorating the 38th anniversary of the start of the Cuban revolution, Friday, July 26, 1991. You can see it **documented on his official website**.

3) "[T]he people of Asia and Africa have seen through the slanderous campaign conducted by the USA against the socialist countries. They know that their independence is threatened not by any of the countries in the socialist camp but by the USA, who has surrounded their continent with military bases. The communist bogey is an

American stunt to distract the attention of the people of Africa from the real issue facing them, namely, American imperialism." Mandela said this in an **inflammatory speech in March 1958**.

4) "Under a Communist Party government, South Africa will become a land of milk and honey. Political, economic and social rights will cease to be enjoyed by whites only. They will be shared equally by whites and non-whites. There will be enough land and houses for all. There will be no unemployment, starvation and disease. Workers will earn decent wages; transport will be cheap and education free." This was just part of a paper Mandela wrote in his early activist years. It was called "How to Be a Good Communist." Keep in mind, he steadfastly denied he was a Communist through most of his prominent years, though the historical record is breathtakingly clear he was. If you care for more insight into the mind of Mandela, **I suggest you read the entire paper for yourself**.

5) "Yasser Arafat was one of the outstanding freedom fighters of this generation, one who gave his entire life to the cause of the Palestinian people." **Mandela issued this official statement** after the death of Arafat, Nov. 11, 2004.

6) "The cause of communism is the greatest cause in the history of mankind!" This one comes from Mandela's own pen, again – his infamous "**How to Be a Good Communist**" manuscript.

7) "Those who feel irritated by our friendship with President Gadhafi can go jump in the pool." This quote was actually proceeded by an even more stunning one: "Those who feel we should have no relations with Gadhafi, have no morals." **Mandela said it when facing criticism for accepting support from the Libyan dictator and terrorist supporter**.

8) "There's one place where (Fidel Castro's) Cuba stands out head and shoulders above the rest – that is in its love for human rights and liberty!" He said this in May 1990, as reported in the *New Republic*. Unfortunately, it is not available online.

9) "The victory of socialism in the U.S.S.R., in the People's Republic of China, in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Rumania, where the living conditions of the people were in many respects similar and even worse than ours, proves that we too can achieve this important goal." Again, back to his manifesto – "**How to Be a Good Communist**."

10) "Communists everywhere fight to destroy capitalist society and to replace it with socialism, where the masses of the common people, irrespective of race or color, will live in complete equality, freedom and happiness. They seek to revolutionize society and are thus called revolutionaries. Those who support capitalism with its class divisions and other evils and who oppose our just struggles to end oppression are called counter revolutionaries." Ibid: "**How to Be a Good Communist**"

11) "In our own country, the struggles of the oppressed people are guided by the South African Communist Party and inspired by its policies. The aim of the S.A.C.P. is to defeat the Nationalist government and to free the people of South Africa from the evils of racial discrimination and exploitation." Ibid: "**How to Be a Good Communist**"

In the spirit of the season, I implore my colleagues in the media, at least those who claim to believe in balance, fairness and the pursuit of the truth: "O come let us stop adoring Mandela."

Police Misconduct

Toronto Constable Vincent Wong Convicted of Misconduct in G20 Arrest

A police officer who arrested a man wearing a bandana around his neck at the tumultuous G20 summit in Toronto three years ago has been found **guilty of misconduct** — the first such finding arising out of that weekend.

A police services tribunal convicted Const. Vincent Wong of unlawfully arresting Jay Wall for being disguised with intent to commit an offence.

The charge had alleged Wong, who was on patrol with his co-accused, Const. Blair Begbie, had arrested Wall illegally.

In convicting the officer, adjudicator Walter Gonet, a retired judge, found "clear and convincing" evidence that Wong had no reasonable grounds to arrest Wall on Sunday June 27, 2010.

Gonet said the circumstances of Wall's arrest "offend common sense."

Begbie, who faced the same accusation, was acquitted.

Jason Wall Settles $25,000 Lawsuit Against Toronto Police Service

A Toronto man who was arrested on his way to church has **settled a financial claim** against the police.

Jason Wall, 25, was walking along Yonge Street by himself on the morning of June 27, 2010, when he was swarmed by as many as 20 Toronto police officers and taken into custody.

The police were part of the detail that was providing security for the G20 summit taking place that weekend in the city.

Wall says he was arrested because he was wearing a bandana around his neck.

According to statement from his lawyer Wall "spent approximately 28 hours in custody ... He was forced to wear handcuffs for more than 20 hours, slept on the floor, and had to submit to a degrading strip search after which he was released without charge."

The Toronto man filed a complaint with the Ontario Independent Police Review Director.

The OIPRD investigation discovered that Wall has been unlawfully arrested.

The final final report said that an unnamed officer with the Toronto Police Service wrote:

"*…we were given specific direction in regards to people that were wearing banners [sic], gasmask, goggles and that they were going to be arrestable or that they were to be arrested for Disguise with Intent, which is a Criminal Code Offense and as well anyone with a backpack was to be searched and if they refused to be search [sic] then they would be arrestable for obstruct police which is a Criminal Offence and as well as people, weapons including bottles and canisters of liquid were to be investigated and arrested for Possession of Weapons.*"

Police Misconduct

Edmonton Police Service Constable Adam Kube Refused Appeal In His Termination

Edmonton Police Service Constable Adam Kube was found guilty of corrupt practices and fired. He appealed his dismissal to the Law Enforcement Review Board and that **decision went against him** too. Just as it should.

> "It has been said that, for a police officer, the penalty of dismissal is the ultimate penalty, but, even with this in mind, we conclude that the Presiding Officer's decision to impose that penalty is within the bounds of acceptable, reasonable, outcomes on the facts and law before him," the board stated in a written decision.

In 2011 Constable Adam Kube sold a motorcycle to a woman, then he cancelled his insurance policy for the motorcycle. The woman was pulled over for a traffic violation shortly thereafter and she called Kube to help her. He did.

He shouldn't have.

It seems Kube wanted a personal relationship with the woman and was willing to put his career on the line to make it happen. That was a very poor decision.

> The internal police hearing found that in August 2011 Kube sold his motorcycle to a woman and then cancelled his insurance policy. He received a confirmation of the cancellation and put it away with the original insurance card.
>
> When the woman who bought the motorcycle was pulled over in a traffic stop on Oct. 22, 2011, she called Kube, who soon arrived at the scene. He provided the cancelled insurance card to one of the police officers at the scene and identified himself as a police officer in an effort to prevent the woman from receiving a ticket for riding without insurance, Mark Logar, the hearing's presiding officer, found.

This is not the kind of conduct we want in our police men and women. We rightfully expect them to act with integrity, not lies and deceit.

In attempting to pass off a cancelled insurance card as valid he proved he does not have the requisite moral fibre to be a cop. Crying that he loves being a cop and all this is so unfair only adds to the list of reasons why Adam Kube should no longer be an Edmonton Police Service member.

"He loves being a police officer and he was good at it," his mother, **Janice Kube, said**. "We're very upset that this happened, and upset at the process."

Upset at the process? Give me a break. As for being "*upset that this happened*", perhaps Janice Kube ought to place the blame squarely where it belongs: on her son and his disgraceful conduct. Instead she insists on playing into her son's sense of victimhood instead of demanding he be held responsible for his actions.

"This is our taxpayer dollars that are going down the drain instead of being used in other ways," she said.

Really? Where's my barf bag?

Using our tax dollars to get rid of corrupt cops seems like a darned good way, not one we should be ashamed of.

That Edmonton has fired 4 bad cops in the past few months is a good thing. It lends much-needed credibility to the Edmonton Police Service's claim they are cleaning up their act.

Political Accountability

Taxpayers Federation Calls on BC Premier Christy Clark for Free Vote to Abolish Senate

Yesterday in Vancouver, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation raised our iconic, 30-foot-tall balloon, which may or may not be styled after a certain independent Senator, to bring attention to our call for Premier Christy Clark to allow a free vote on Senate abolition.

Similar motions have been passed by the Saskatchewan and Manitoba legislatures, and the B.C.

NDP have announced they will introduce a motion supporting abolishing the Senate in B.C.'s spring legislative session.

We want Premier Clark to allow MLAs to vote their conscience on this motion.

Please send a short note to Premier Clark to support our call for a free vote on abolishing the Senate.

It's vital she knows that this is an issue that's important to B.C. E-mail the Premier at **premier@gov.bc.ca** (and please copy your email to us at **jbateman@taxpayer.com**).

Thanks for the help!

Jordan, Troy, Shannon and the entire CTF team

P.S. If you haven't signed our petition calling for a national referendum to abolish the Senate, please click this link **https://www.taxpayer.com/resource-centre/petitions/petition?tpContentId=76**

To the Prime Minister and the Parliament of Canada

The Canadian Senate is neither elected nor accountable to Canadians. For nearly 20 years, politicians have dragged their feet on Senate reform. Only Alberta has held Senate elections.Canadian taxpayers pay $93 million each year to cover six-figure salaries, expense accounts, personal staff, lavish offices and expensive foreign travel for unelected Senators. The unelected Senate has refused to enact legislation approved by a majority in the elected House of Commons and is an undemocratic relic from the 1860s.

Canadians should decide once and for all if they want the current unelected Senate. It's time for a national referendum on abolishing the Senate. We, the undersigned are calling for a national vote on getting rid of the Senate, on the same date as Canada's next federal election.

Action Alert

The Following Issue Requires Immediate Action

Wendy Cukier's Coalition for Gun Control is desperately attempting to salvage the Quebec long gun registry. She's asked the Supreme Court for permission to intervene on the Province of Quebec's behalf in support of keeping the grossly incorrect database, even though it is unknown if the Supreme Court will hear the case.

Horrified that her annual parade of the dead women from 1989's L'Ecole Polytechnique shooting rampage by **Gamil Gharbi** hasn't garnered her more support, she's also teamed up with a Quebec anti-gun group to pressure Steven Blaney, our new Minister of Public Safety.

Complaining that the loss of Quebec's gun registry will endanger the lives of Quebecers as it has already done in the rest of the country, she is demanding Minister Blaney support her request to transfer the database to Quebec to "*maintain security and safety of your fellow citizens*." The lack of shooting deaths since the database was destroyed for the rest of Canada simply proves Cukier is a fraud with an agenda; that the truth doesn't matter.

Despite Windy Wendy's protestations otherwise, the rest of the nation has not suffered a spike in shooting deaths with the loss of Canada's useless long gun registry, and it is critical that Public Safety Minister Blaney hear something other than the bleating cries and pathetic mewling of Wendy and her ilk.

Please take a few minutes to write a letter to Minister Blaney supporting the Harper government's decision to scrap the long gun registry and to encourage him to continue fighting Quebec's quest to keep that database.

We've already won this legal battle at the Quebec Superior Court level. The Quebec Government now wants to bring the issue before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Minister Blaney needs to hear from Canadians who support the scrapping of this database, as it has absolutely nothing to do with protecting Canadians from so-called "*gun violence*."

There is no such thing as "*gun violence*." It's one in a long line of misnomers used by those who despise guns to tug on the heartstrings of those who haven't educated themselves on this issue.

Do we call it "*car violence*" when drunk drivers kill people? Or "*knife violence*" when someone stabs another human being? No, of course not.

We hold the individual accountable for their criminal actions, not the piece of private property they used to commit their crime. That's precisely as it should be.

Tracking law-abiding citizens does not promote safety or prevent murderers from committing crimes.

Canada's law-abiding firearm owners are NOT the problem. Canada's law-abiding firearm owners didn't kill anyone yesterday. Canada's law-abiding firearm owners didn't kill anyone today. Canada's law-abiding firearm owners are not going to kill anyone tomorrow either. Not even when the law no longer requires us to register our rifles and shotguns.

Contact to Minister Blaney using the following information:

The Honourable Steven Blaney
Minister of Public Safety
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

You can also contact him by phone or fax at:

Phone: (613) 992-7434
Fax: (613) 995-6856

His email addresses are:

blanes1b@parl.gc.ca, **blanes@parl.gc.ca** and **ministerpublicsafety@ps-sp.gc.ca**

Political Action

The Political Action Wizard Free Senate Edition - Download and Use it Today

On June 23, 2013 I announced that the **political action software program** I had created for contacting every Senator in Canada was ready for you to **download and use**. While the reason I created the software is no longer relevant (The Senate repeal Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act on June 28) the Canadian Senate still has a lot of power over the lives of ordinary Canadians.

While they did a great thing by finally passing Bill C-304 to repeal Section 13, the very same day they absolutely gutted Bill C-377, a bill that would have forced Canadian labour unions to become more transparent. They did this and got away with it because nobody was watching them and they knew it.

The Political Action Wizard Free Senate Edition is a tool for every Canadian to use to write to our Senators and express our views on the legislation before them. As their actions on Bill C-377 proved, we must let our Senators know we're watching otherwise all kinds of silliness takes place.

http://download.politicalactionsoftware.org/senate-free-edition/