



ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN

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C-SPAN Provides Full Coverage for 1989 Libertarian National Convention

Choice in communications works. The presence of cable TV has done for the libertarian movement what no "Fairness Doctrine" ever did or ever could do—that was to give honest national exposure to the most conspicuous group of the libertarian movement, the National Libertarian Party. The Cable TV not-for-profit public affairs consortium, C-SPAN, covered the National Convention, showcased at the birthplace of American freedom, Philadelphia, live, from 9 o'clock to five o'clock, from Thursday through Saturday, and repeated the showing at night, ending up with a "best of the Libertarian Convention" on Labor Day, Monday.

Many individuals throughout the country learned for the first time, that there was indeed, a choice in political parties. The viewers discovered that they didn't have to vote for tweedle dum and

tweedle dummer—that being the only choice among the Republicrats. Over 1300 hundred interested individuals responded to the "800" number that rolled on the screen during the Convention showing. Viewers and delegates were treated to an array of interesting speakers, panel discussions and (real) debates.

Libertarians bared their philosophical souls while discussing proposed changes to the platform, especially on the abortion issue. While some might consider this impractical politics, many viewers thought that here was, at last, a rational, well-meaning, thoughtful and caring Party, and yes, a party of Principle.

This issue consists of highlights of the convention and is dedicated to all the newly found souls of the politically homeless, yearning to breathe free.

New National Officers

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- Our Regional rep.: Steve Givot

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A Libertarian Strategy for the 1990's

The Keynote address for the convention consisted of a panel discussion concerning strategy for the Libertarian Party in the future. The four panelists were: Dave Nolan, a founder of the Libertarian Party in 1971, author of the two dimensional politically defining *Nolan Chart*, and an advertising executive in Southern California; David Bergland, the Party's candidate for President in 1984, former National Chair of the Party, author of the libertarian primer, *Libertarianism in One Lesson*, and law professor; Dave Walter, co-founder of the nation's oldest libertarian organization, Society for Individual Liberty (SIL), current National Chair, and successful businessman; and Larry Dodge, environmental activist, candidate for state-wide offices in Montana, and coalition builder—he was instrumental in bringing Indian activist Russell Means to the Libertarian Party.

Dave Nolan stressed that the Party should go on the attack on politically popular issues where we can coalesce with single-issue groups. These issues include, among others, taxes, the "war on drugs," and gun-control. We should help with state-wide initiatives on these issues. These are battles that we can win.

Nolan doesn't believe we can win on the national campaign front unless we change tactics and adapt to the rules of the game by accepting federal matching funds. He justifies this position by stating that we are only retrieving money stolen from us through taxation. Accepting matching funds would recoup those losses, and empower us to play the Presidential campaign game on a more equal footing with the Republicrats.

David Bergland began his presentation by analyzing world trends. He pointed out that **throughout the world, socialism is dead.** There is a trend towards the free market in many "socialist countries" via privatization of government services and enterprises. Even the "Eastern bloc" countries are moving towards market economies through *perestroika*. People are voting with their feet and moving to freer countries. The "China Spring" is testament to the world-wide longing for freedom.

Mr. Bergland, directing his comments more towards the C-SPAN audience than the convention floor, proposed that the Libertarian message offers a person self-esteem. Libertarians believe that people are capable of making decisions that affect their lives for themselves. They are capable to choose their own means of earning a living

without government interference. They are intelligent enough to decide for themselves what is proper, moral, economic, good, safe, fun, or charitable. Those now in political power believe that they must force people as to how they should run their economic life, personal life, or both. They don't believe individuals can make these decisions for themselves. They have no respect for the individuals' abilities or morals to choose correctly. **We Libertarians, on the other hand, say, "You people are O.K. We will do everything we can so you can prove it."**

Dave Walter began by stating, "Dissatisfactions breed opportunities." The Communist world is learning that "**Liberty works and liberty is right,**" echoing the theme of the Philadelphia convention that Walter's colleague, Don Ernsberger, coined two years ago at the Seattle convention during his keynote address. Libertarians must lead the fight to alleviate dissatisfactions around the world.

Many people are dissatisfied by the never-ending role of world policeman by the United States. We should stop defending and paying for the defense of others. They are dissatisfied by the huge debt accumulated by the U.S.. Taxation is waste and we should educate the public on this. Americans still have a legacy of rugged individualism. We are the party of the entrepreneurial spirit. The other two are parties of the status quo.

Increasingly, the "**war on drugs is becoming our issue.** **This issue is developing into this era's "Viet Nam."** The enemy is not easily defined, it is everywhere. There is a media-induced hysteria just as their was during the early days of Viet Nam, a *Communist menace*. The decision to inflict *Zero Tolerance* is this era's *Gulf of Tonkin* resolution. The *drug war's* casualties are viewed on the evening news. The more that is spent, the worse the problem gets, the more government wants to fight the war. The government displays statistics daily showing how we are winning the war as the problem continues to get worse. *Drug czar*, William Bennett is this era's General William Westmoreland. Individual rights take a back seat to this war. "**It is time to raise the minimum rage,**" proclaims Walter.

Larry Dodge's approach to a Libertarian strategy for the 90's is a nuts-and-bolts approach. The first thing we must do, he says is to bring more people into the organization. This increases the pool of talent available and has a ripple effect which should greatly increase membership while again increasing the pool of talent. At some point we will reach a

critical mass, and will have a more direct effect on public policy.

We should capitalize on a very prevalent anti-political attitude in this country by ending politics as a career. The United States Congress has a return rate that is greater than the Supreme Soviet, 99 % versus 97%. Organize and support initiatives that limit a politician to two terms in a particular office. Eliminate pensions. This will have great support amongst the general population.

We need to run Libertarian candidates for every local and state office. We will have shown a presence in the community and will be taken more seriously.

Coalition building is of paramount importance for a successful libertarian strategy in the 1990's. Form coalitions with single-issue groups such as tax resisters, gun owners, home educators, and Indians. We should form political action committees and stress lobbying and voter initiatives while coalescing with various single issue groups.

A voter initiative that Larry Dodge is currently working on in Montana maybe the most important single endeavor the Libertarian Party has ever undertaken. It is the Fully Informed Jury Amendment or FIJA. This Amendment if approved, would require all courts to fully inform juries on their already existing right of *jury nullification*, that is to nullify unjust laws on an individual case basis because of general unfairness of the law, inapplicability of the law, unjustness of the law, or if the law merely conflicts with an individual jurors sense of right and wrong—even if the facts of the case point to a guilty verdict. Juries have had this right dating back to the Magna Carta. In this country, juries have been informed of this right as a matter of course up until the turn of the century. The right of jury nullification is a part of three state constitutions. Dodge is currently working to put this amendment in front of the voters in his home state of Montana. But the FIJA committee's intention is to make this a nationwide movement, supporting initiatives in every state possible all in the same time frame. This would thus become a national movement. All single issue groups should be able to coalesce on such an amendment because it would greatly enhance each others cause. **And the real beauty of this endeavor is that it can't lose. Even if every initiative fails, juries already have this right. But by putting FIJA on the national agenda, more prospective jurors will have learned of this right.** Draft resisters, tax resisters, home schoolers, alternative medical therapists, gun owners, oppressed individuals of the world, unite!

Individual Achievement and Individual Liberty— Dick Boddie

The most important book to any libertarian who wants to succeed, according to inspirational motivator, Dick Boddie is, *Think and Grow Rich*, by Napoleon Hill, a disciple of Andrew Carnegie.

Hill argues that in order to be successful, one must prioritize goals and then visualize them. If one's goal is to make a million dollars next year, he should visualize the money in one's hand. Visualize spending the money.

One must have the right attitude in order to be successful. A positive mental attitude is everything (but timing is close, adds Boddie).

Boddie disperses his inspirational talk with his favorite proverbs. From H. L. Mencken, "A lawyer is a person who protects us from theft by taking away the temptation." Definition of a liberal: A libertarian who has yet to read a book on economics.

One should talk to oneself, says Boddie, but in the right way. There are three levels of self-talk. From the most negative to the most positive, they are: Level one—I can't, I wish I could, I am not able, I can't remember names; level 2—I want to, but... ; and level 3—I am wealthy. Another aphorism, If it is to be, it is up to me.

And another, today is not a dress rehearsal.

Being a success doesn't necessarily coincide with making a lot of money. Success has to do with ethics. If one does not follow one's own ethics in making money, he will not be happy with himself. In order to succeed, one must establish successful habits, so that doing the right thing to become successful becomes second nature.

Develop a plan for success. Crystalize your thinking. Determine which goal to pursue. Pursue that goal with a singleness of purpose. **It took Thomas Edison 10,000 tries to get the incandescent light bulb to work. Persistence, persistence, persistence.** Set a timetable to achieve your goal. Develop a supreme confidence. Follow through regardless of whatever obstacles or criticism befall you.

The three H's of Dick Boddie to persevere towards a goal (good advice for the Libertarian Party): Humor, hope and harmony.

Boddie finishes with a definition of democracy: Two wolves and one sheep voting on what to have for breakfast.

Why Drugs Should be Re-Legalized

Libertarians were treated to probably the most lucid, reasoned drug panel ever assembled. The panel consisted of James Ostrowski of the CATO Institute; Jarrett Wollstein, co-founder of Society for Individual Liberty, and a representative of the ACLU; Gary Greenberg, a former prosecutor in New York City; and Robert Goodman, a Phd. in Chemistry.

Ostrowski began stating that drug prohibition is worse than the drugs that it tries to prohibit. With prohibition, all people suffer whether or not one uses drugs. Drug prohibition has resulted in 70% of the crime. Over 40% of the *criminals* in jail are in for drug related offenses. This is a huge social cost. Many innocent people are victims of crimes caught in the crossfire of prohibition. The war on drugs has taken a huge toll on individual freedom.

Mr. Ostrowski points out that the addiction rate for cocaine is 10%, the same as alcohol. Yet, we have learned that prohibiting alcohol was not the answer to the alcohol problem. Prohibiting alcohol created social disorder and chaos. To restore order, we repealed prohibition. The crime rate in this country plummeted after repealing prohibition. Likewise, to restore order in the present time, we must end the war on drugs and re-legalize them.

The easiest place to find illegal drugs is in prison. They are more viable and there is more variety. Turning this country into one big prison will not stop the flow of drugs; it will make it into a police state.

Ostrowski addressed the argument that, "We can not legalize drugs because we are uncertain what will happen." Drug use may increase, or it may decrease. But that is true under prohibition, too. No one knows what the future may bring. We do know the prohibition has been a dismal failure up to this point. With re-legalization, at least there is a chance that usage will decline in the long run. We'll never know, unless we try. "Let's find out!"

Finally, Mr. Ostrowski addressed the subject of role models. Prohibition has made profits from drug sales astronomical. **The easiest ticket out of the ghetto is to become a drug dealer.** The drug dealer sports fancy cars and diamond rings. What does the part-time student and minimum wage earner at McDonald's sport? That person is perceived in the ghetto as a chump. Prohibition has reversed a proper value system there. The only way to restore this system is to repeal prohibition.

Gary Greenberg focused on his experiences as a prosecutor in New York City. One doesn't have to have any drugs for sale to be convicted for sale of a controlled substance. The way the drug laws are now written and interpreted betrays all sense of justice. One can make off-hand remarks, and boast about drugs for sale, putting himself in jeopardy. For example, a young man may try to impress his date, and suggest that they go back to his place and smoke a few joints. This is an offer according to law, and he can be convicted for selling, even though he may not have any marijuana in his possession. The government can set up a sting operation and arrest with the same above incident, no substance need change hands. **So just the evil thoughts about drugs by someone can result in seizure, forfeiture of assets and jail. Who says that "1984 style" thoughtcrime doesn't exist?**

If a person meets a certain character description—long hair, ragged clothes, unshaven, sunglasses, etc., this person is setting himself up for a bust. He is presumed to be guilty and must prove his innocence. This incredible statement from Greenberg was backed up recently. An individual possessed \$2,000 while at a race track. He was holding the money to bet on the horses for his friends. He met the description of a "drug dealer", was searched, arrested, and his money was confiscated for dealing in drugs. He had no drugs on him; he wasn't a *renowned drug dealer*, he had no previous record on this score, yet his money was confiscated because **he couldn't prove the money wasn't to buy or sell drugs.** This in the United States of America. Land of the free.

Mr. Greenberg points out that the procedures used by the police and the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) make corruption virtually inevitable. It is very easy to lie about a drug arrest, plant drugs on victims, confiscate, keep some of the proceeds, and get on the take. Since there are no checks on the police, the reward system set up by *zero tolerance* and confiscation encourages corruption. The Fourth and Fifth Amendment were designed in part to put checks on the police power to discourage corruption. But the force of these amendments is non-existent.

The United States government is now shooting down planes that enter our air space if they don't respond to calls. What if a plane shot down has no drugs on board? A drug agent would look pretty bad in this situation if he didn't plant drugs on board. **All the incentives point toward corruption.**

Once a person is arrested, he is faced with these choices. If he doesn't plea bargain or plead guilty, he is faced with the fact that he can't make bail because his possessions have been confiscated. He can't hire an attorney of his choice for the same reason. If convicted, he faces years of imprisonment, if he pleads guilty, maybe 8 months in jail if not probation. Or he can plea bargain, implicating others who may be innocent so he can "get off the hook." **This is justice, American style. Some might consider it 20th century inquisition. The difference is the RICO Act versus the rack.**

Dr. Robert Goodman began with an analogy. "Justice is to the Justice Department as fire is to the Fire Department." Fire departments extinguish fires; the Justice Department...

Goodman proposes that there is no logic to the government definition of drugs in relation to either their danger or type. **Alcohol and tobacco kill many more people than illegal drugs, approximately 250,000 people per year from tobacco, 100,000 a year from alcohol, and about 6000 people a year from illegal drugs.** Is that an argument for prohibiting alcohol and tobacco? Of course not, we found that the cure was worse than the disease during prohibition. Fewer people use tobacco today than in the past. We haven't prohibited its use. By educating the public, tobacco addiction has decreased.

The major defining line of illegal drugs versus legal drugs has nothing to do with logic or scientific evidence. It has to do with the puritanical nature of the American culture. If one enjoys drugs, it's abuse. The puritan can not tolerate anyone to actually enjoy oneself. Life is to suffer. It is God's will.

Dr. Goodman cited many instances including his own experience in the drug laboratory, where the government has prohibited drugs becoming legal, even if they have tremendous medicinal use, until the euphoric nature of the drug was taken out. Denatured alcohol was developed during prohibition. Denatured alcohol is alcohol that has been made poisonous so that people would use it for medicinal use only, not for enjoyment.

The United States government made sure marijuana was dangerous to consume by spraying fields with paraquat. The success of making marijuana unsafe spawned the cocaine epidemic. Cocaine can be smuggled much easier than marijuana and for a much greater profit. As government prohibits and poisons less potent drugs, the market place always provides more potent and dangerous ones. Now we see the advent of crack cocaine and crank, synthetic versions of cocaine and speed both much more potent and dangerous, both being produced in the United States. Good intentions and puritanism breed bad drug policy.

Heroin and marijuana are tremendous pain killers for such diseases as glaucoma and cancer, yet the federal government makes it extremely difficult for any one to use these drugs if afflicted. Of course the puritan only permits the use of euphoric drugs under these extreme conditions—such as a person dying of cancer.

Drug prohibition assures drug impurity. If drugs were made legal, they would be much safer to use. A consumer would have recourse in a court of law against an offending drug manufacturer. Today, one's only recourse is the justice of the streets, the reaction of a thug, the judgment of the gun.

Correction

On pg. 4 of the previous Illinois Libertarian, it is written: "On the weekend of August 12th, the IVLA was busy handing out 'Nolan Chart quizzes' to the State fair attendees. In the first two hours they handed out over a thousand brochures. They are now making plans to have a booth at the State Fair for next year..." Mr. Greg Brinner, a member of the Libertarian Club of Springfield, organized this political activity at the Illinois Sate Fair. He was assisted in handing out 1,000 Libertarian Party of Illinois pamphlets by Mr. Chris Barker and Mrs. Dottie Anderson, two other members of the Libertarian Club of Springfield, and Mr. Mike Anderson, Dottie's husband.

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Bits and Pieces while in and around the National Convention

by *Kenneth Prazak*

When traveling through Lancaster County, home of the Amish and Mennonites, coming from Philly, one drives west, enjoys the experience of Intercourse, goes beyond Paradise, and finishes up with Bird-In-The-Hand. Peculiar names of towns for religious communities—I suppose there is nothing more to do there.

Lancaster County was so much as one expects, I was sure it was just a Disneyland representation. The lovely gently-rolling hills pastoral scene. Amish regularly travelling down the road in horse and buggy—one buggy had to be travelling over 30 m.p.h. Smiling friendly faces as the Amish take the tourist money (They are very entrepreneurial, and can even be seen in downtown Philly selling hot pretzels, barbecue chicken, fresh milk and eggs—sorry, no cigarettes).

Philly in comparison to Chicago:

Great cheese steaks and hot pretzels

More hills, humidity, pot holes, architecture, history, and homeless

Less congestion, restaurants, and road signs— If you don't know where you are going, it is impossible to get there. Pennsylvania simply does not believe in signs.

New Jersey, just across the Delaware River, from Philly, is not a complete industrial wasteland! Driving on a humid night to Atlantic City, New Jersey, only an hour away from Philly, I was reminded of the fragrance of Minnesota. Really. Many pine trees and fully-grown cedars. Much of the southern half of New Jersey consists of the National Pineland Reserve, part of the National Forest System, yet is two-thirds private. This area has the largest fresh water reserve on the entire east coast.

First glance driving towards Atlantic City at night—brilliantly lit hotels protruding the flat landscape, reminiscent of the Emerald City in *The Wizard of Oz*.

As far as I can tell, the Illinois delegation came out of Atlantic City over seven hundred dollars richer.

Another hour drive south down the coast is the southern tip of New Jersey, Cape May—a resort town with many old victorian homes and a friendly atmosphere—bars that you can walk into barefoot, and a nice beach on the warm Atlantic Ocean. I spent Labor Day body surfing at Cape May.

Philly's City Hall has been undergoing refurbishing for the last five years at great cost to the taxpayers. Rumor has it that the city's Historical Preservation Commission is considering protecting the scaffolding that has become part

of the city hall's facade. This information from Pennsylvania's Linda Morrison who delivered the welcoming address. Ms. Morrison also informed us of the vast urban renewal projects going up— using the **eminent domain power** to declare areas condemned because of urban blight, and then building upscale apartments and condominium centers. **One developer used this procedure and then had the temerity to name his newbuilding, One Liberty Place.**

Libertarian International and the *Society for Individual Liberty* announced its merger at *SIL's* Karl Hess Roast, to form *ISIL*.

The Libertarian Party Program was approved at the Natcom meeting following the Convention.

Libertarian and Shakespearean actor Bruce Evoy made two appearances for the delegates, one as Thomas Paine at the Karl Hess Roast, and one as Thomas Jefferson, at Independence Hall, reciting the Declaration of Independence with much help from his libertarian friends cheering and booing as the long train of abuses were recited.

—“Kansas: Where it takes 27 taxpayers to feed 1 farmer,” exclaimed one Kansan during a roll-call vote.

The National Park tour guide who did an excellent job informing us of the history surrounding Independence Hall had to keep his wits sharp as he informed the well-informed libertarian and anti-statist audience of the Hall's history.

Our own Eric Banfield represented the Heartland Institute on an interview show for C-SPAN, which covered the convention Thursday through Saturday.

During a seminar on *Religion and Liberty*, by Marshall Fritz' Advocates for Self-Government, I discovered that there are at least two “Objectivist” Catholic priests in the U.S. One of them, Father Robert Sirico, spoke at the seminar.

The price for cable TV has been cut in half in Huntsville, Alabama. The town has competing cable companies.

Remarking to Don Ernsberger that there was a striking similarity between his Seattle Convention Keynote speech, “Liberty works, and liberty is right,” and George Bush's inaugural address, “Freedom works, and freedom is right,” I learned from Mr. Ernsberger that there may very well be a direct connection. He knows a person who used to be a speech writer in the Reagan White House and had sent his keynote speech to that person after the Seattle convention. It appears that his speech made its way into George's inaugural. **Republican rhetoric sometimes sounds very libertarian**, we both agreed. **“Too bad they don't know what the words mean,”** lamented Ernsberger.

Commentary

“Libertarians Believe Mothers Have Right to Eat their Young”

by *Kenneth Prazak*

Well, no, not really. Not yet, anyway. Yet the Platform Committee at Libertarian National Conventions perennially hovers precariously close to enacting planks which the news media could easily twist around and imply such nonsense. Some members of the Libertarian Platform Committee insist on intellectually masturbating in public by adding minute applications of principle, in which, if not properly explained, can easily be lampooned by the uninitiated.

For example, a plank proposed at the recent convention Platform Committee in Philadelphia, by Bill Evers and Kathleen Richman, tried to establish proprietorial rights for “lines of cells.” What are “lines of cells?” I didn’t know either, yet I figure that I am more up to date on current affairs than 99 % of the general populace. According to Evers, “lines of cells” are a result of biotechnology produced from a host cell. They are tissues of organs or blood plasma— not really cloning, but the concept is similar. As Mr. Evers argued, “lines of cells” belong to the person from which the host cell is taken just as a fetus is a collection of cells owned by the mother. It was this statement that roused Willie Marshall of Utah to comment, “I can see the headline now, ‘Libertarians believe mothers have right to eat their young.’” An unfair assessment to be sure, but has any Libertarian not experienced this kind of treatment from the establishment press?

It seems to me that being a libertarian has more to do with how one approaches fundamental principles of living, than as to how these principles are applied in every specific case. Reasonable libertarians may differ on application of principle.

Fortunately, this time, the Platform Committee and the Convention as a whole rejected most additions of minutiae. Yet the Platform, for a prospective libertarian, still consists of a thousand and one excuses to refrain from joining the Party. In my opinion, the Platform needs to be pared down substantially.

There is a way to do this, although it will take a change in the By-laws. What is needed is the expulsion of the non-libertarian pariah of majority rule from the By-laws.

As it now stands, the Platform Committee recommends a plank to the convention floor via majority rule. The convention floor approves a plank with a two-thirds majority

vote. This process is collective in nature, and in principle, I believe, contradicts libertarian philosophy.

Libertarians should only define themselves on issues or principles of consensus belief. Otherwise the rights of as many as one third of Libertarians to communicate to the public a philosophical difference from the “party line” are reduced. The abortion issue is only one case of many in which this applies. There is no libertarian position on abortion if 30% or more libertarians are pro-life. For this reason, there is no justification for having an abortion plank on the platform—either way.

If a consensus were required on the Platform Committee and the convention floor instead of requiring a tyranny of the majority, Libertarians would more accurately be represented to the public at large. Minutiae from the Platform would be eliminated.

It is possible that no consensus may be obtained on specific issues. If so, so be it. Maybe, the Platform should only include principles of consensus. If that is tantamount to a Statement of Principles, perhaps the Platform as we know it should be eliminated.

I know it is very difficult, but can’t we Libertarians try to refrain from ascending to the Libertarian altar and indulging in the flogging of each other with litmus-test penance and receiving communion by defining libertarianism ad-infinitum to purify our souls.

By exercising this restraint, we may be able to achieve rapid growth as a party while still remaining “the Party of Principle.” Who knows, maybe we will even be able to start winning some elections. Anybody afraid of success?

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The Welfare State and the Poor

Saturday was Outreach Day at the Convention. A packed convention floor saw two of the better protagonists for welfare reform, Dr. Walter Williams, and Dr. Charles Murray.

Dr. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., and a syndicated columnist. He is black and author of *The State Against Blacks*.

A Philadelphian native, Dr. Williams began by explaining to his home-town audience that he grew up in an area which was an extremely safe community. That community is now considered one of the worst ghettos in the city. It has a high crime rate, poor education quality, and an unproductive economic base, a result of a paternalistic government directing peoples' lives. "People left to their own devices would never allow such situations to occur."

He remembers the many nights he slept outdoors to beat the heat, having no fear of crime. If one tried that today, it might be evidence of a mentally deficient condition. Williams suggests that increased police budgets will not solve the crime problem. He proposes that defendants be tried by a jury of their peers—within one block of where the crime was committed.

Dr. Williams provides his position with some telling statistics. In 1948, black teenage unemployment was lower than white teenage unemployment, 9.4% versus 10.5%. Today, black teenage unemployment runs 50 to 70% in some areas.

In 1918, the black illegitimate birth rate was lower than that of white people. In 1925, 80% of black children lived in two parent households. Today, 80% of black children live with a single parent.

Dr. Williams childhood community was alive with thriving small business owned by black people who lived in the community. Now building codes and regulations have decimated this economic base.

The extremely structured public school system which gives poor blacks no educational choice at all is a dismal failure. "The grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan couldn't have done a better job in assuring that black children receive a poor education," according to Williams. His solution is to foster choice in education through tuition tax credits or a voucher system. He adds that higher salaries for teachers is

not the answer. Teachers' salaries in the Washington D.C. private schools are lower than in the D.C. public schools, yet the education is much better. The better teachers will work for less pay in the private schools because they are allowed to teach, not being encumbered by bureaucratic rules and regulations.

Most of the problems of the poor center on the fact that the State doesn't permit them to learn the consequences of bad behavior, or provide them with incentives to reap the rewards of good behavior. Today's paternalistic system shields them from the consequences, so they never have a chance to learn good behavior that would result in an educated, peaceful, and productive culture. "**Don't treat poor people differently. Treat them with the same respect as we treat ourselves,**" advises Williams.

Dr. Charles Murray followed Williams continuing where Williams left off. A social scientist and senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, he is the author of the seminal account of the failures of the welfare state in, *Losing Ground*. His most recent book, *In Pursuit: Of Happiness and Good Government*, outlined his topic of discussion on the poor.

Dr. Murray points out that the ultimate result of any welfare policy should be to foster the greatest amount of happiness for people. The simple accumulation of money does not make a person happy. Happiness is highly correlated with self-esteem. One achieves self esteem by establishing goals based on a value system, and achieving these goals. Self-responsibility, achievement, making a difference in one's spheres of influence—in one's community and family, cultivates self-esteem. A paternalistic system which shuns individual responsibility, individual initiative, and individual choice enervates these sources of satisfaction. Therefore, a welfare program that focuses on the granting of money will do little to help the poor pursue happiness, that being the proper goal of any welfare program.

Communities are viable when they have functions to fill. Government usurps this function. It does the job poorer, and leaves the communities with little to do. Thus the fabric of function that binds a community together unravels. The result is poor education, a high crime rate, a poor economic base, and a community in name only.

A question and answer period followed the two presentations. Dr. Murray was asked how serious policy

A Constitution for Liberty

Nobel Peace Prize nominee Frances Kendall spoke to a full convention on her solution for South Africa. She is co-author with her husband Leon Louw, of *After Apartheid: The Solution for South Africa*, and its sequel which goes into more nuts-and bolts detail, *Let the People Govern: The Solution* is the number one, non-fiction best-seller in South Africa.

Frances Kendall began her speech by stating that it is generally agreed in South Africa that they must have a new constitution. Kendall proposes one that is based on the Swiss Canton model. This model has two main aspects to it, devolution of power and direct democracy.

The Swiss chose this model in the 19th century when many autonomous city states were on the verge of civil war. They decided to unify for defense purposes, but otherwise, remain autonomous states (or cantons). The Swiss used the United States Constitution as a starting point for their governing document. But since they wished to give the cantons more power and the central authority less, they developed a system of direct democracy via the referendum.

The Swiss vote on virtually everything, especially any spending that requires tax money. There are three kinds of referenda in Switzerland. The first is the obligatory referendum. Any change in the federal constitution must be put to a vote by the people via this referendum. The second is the optional referendum. Any law that is introduced by the federal legislature must be put to a vote by the citizens when 50,000 signatures have approved the introduction and six months have passed so that the citizenry has had time to study the issue. The effect of this is that instead of the citizens having to lobby the legislators to pass a bill, the legislators have to lobby the citizens. Kendall adds that there are no registered lobby groups in Switzerland. The third type of referenda is the popular initiative. This requires 100,000 signatures for people to introduce a new law that is put up to a vote. This type of referenda is usually put up by a special interest group and since it doesn't have widespread following, it usually loses.

The result of this diffusion of power and direct democracy is telling. When the constitution was first implemented the federal power was stronger than it is today. **Switzerland must be the only example where a federal government actually grew weaker in time.** It's only real function is to provide national defense (and it is a purely

defensive concept of defense), and foreign trade. To this day, Switzerland refrains from joining the United Nations. When the question comes up, it is voted down.

Since power is centered mostly on the local level, that is where the action is. The cantons in effect are in competition with one another as governing bodies. If one canton doesn't govern well, its people will vote with their feet. So the cantons are always in competition for workers, taxpayers, industry, etc. Therefore, "good laws drive out bad," states Kendall.

There are no professional politicians in Switzerland. They all have other jobs. The legislatures only meet a couple of months per year. They have no staff to speak of. The pay is minuscule. And there is no pension plan for politicians.

Ms. Kendall believes that this system of diffusion of power and direct democracy is the only way to preserve freedom. Constitutions are fine, but judges will always find a way of interpreting it to fit their needs regardless of its true meaning. On the other hand, "**People seldom vote to increase taxes.**"

Kendall believes that the Swiss system can be replicated in South Africa with a few exceptions. Since there have been so many abuses of rights by the present government, she thinks South Africa implementing an explicit detailed *bill of rights* extremely important. She is not in favor of land reform which is being widely discussed there presently, asserting that there will be too much damage in the long run by the resentment felt by those whose land or wealth is confiscated. Devolution of power is actively being discussed in South Africa at this time. Some white people fear direct democracy believing that the blacks will vote away all their rights and wealth. Ms. Kendall is confident that won't happen because as she says, "Blacks are not one amorphous mass. They are individuals just like any one else. There are many different factions all with different agenda. They will not unite under one leader."

Kendall concludes that she is very optimistic that the canton system will eventually take hold in South Africa, quoting Victor Hugo, "*All armies in the world aren't as powerful as an idea whose time has come.*"

Tax Fight

The Roselle Library Board is trying again --another tax referendum. To help fight this, contact Helen Heyden, 529-1551, or Gerry Walsh, 894-8232.

Platform Committee and By-Law Committee Report

The convention floor approved only minor changes to the Platform. These changes included grammatical ones and also some updating of the platform. A foreign policy plank was passed which more minutely defined our view on foreign policy in Central and South America.

The By-laws major change is one of reducing the National Committee size—at large reps. from 7 to 5, and regional reps. from 1 person for every 5% representation to 1 person for every 10%, effectively 31 members to 19. The delegate size for future national conventions is also reduced unless there is a dramatic increase in national membership.

Platform additions can be made only during Presidential convention years. Planks may be deleted at either conventions. By-law changes must take place on non-election convention years.

Welfare, con't

makers are taking the proposals for educational choice. He believes that a policy change towards choice is much closer to the tilting point than one might think. In an unrelated remark, we discovered that Murray is more comfortable with the label classic liberal than libertarian for himself. Dr. Williams was asked if he would run for President of the U.S. as a Libertarian. He answered that he would not rule out the possibility. But he added that he would only become a candidate if he felt that Libertarians would run a serious campaign, a campaign that recognizes the practicalities of politics. This would include avoiding some *esoteric* issues such as the legalization of drugs. He grudgingly believes in drug legalization but thinks it would be disastrous to emphasize it in a Presidential campaign. He maintains that Libertarians have the ability to run a serious campaign; he is not sure they have the will—yet, but they are getting closer. He added that you can't campaign on an "all or nothing" principle. Those that do usually "wind up with nothing."

Parties!

October 14, Saturday, 4:00 P.M. —?, at Steve Nelson's house, 969-1088, celebrate the saving of Steve's neighbor's home from condemnation.

October 28, Saturday, 8:00 P.M., Chicago Objectivist Principles Organization (COPO) Halloween party, call Carol, 858-7184.

Vote Early and Often Fundraising Raffle Winners Announced

The Libertarian Education Institute, LTD. is pleased to announce the winners of its 1989 Fundraising Raffle. The raffle was conducted during the 1989 National Libertarian Party Convention, August 30th-September 2nd, 1989 in Philadelphia.

The prize winners are:

- 1st prize: a Deluxe convention Package; Eric Harris, of Missouri, who will use his prize as a tool to build membership in his home state party.
- 2nd prize: a Standard Convention Package; Wisconsin LP State Chair, Mary Roffers.
- 3rd prize: a Basic Convention Package; Advocate for Self-Government member, Steve Silver, of Michigan.
- 4th prize: a Weekend for Two at the Chicago Marriott; Nadine Dillion of Indianapolis, Indiana, wife of NORML activist, Steve Dillion.
- 5th prize: "The Lost Tapes of Ayn Rand", Platform Committee member, Laura Stewart of New Jersey.

LEI would like to thank all those who purchased tickets. LEI would also like to thank the following LPI members for their help in making this fundraiser a GREAT SUCCESS: Bill Judson, convention symbol artwork; Steve Nelson and Chris Barker, convention theme; Fran Holt, photography; Steve Reed, graphics; Sue DeBusk and Howard McConnell, donation of the "Rand Tapes" prize; and Mary Alice Strzalka, Robert Coolidge, Tim Griffin, Maggie Kohls, Scott Walton and Eric Banfield—selling, selling, selling tickets.

LEI is conducting an evaluation of the 1989 National Convention. So far, 117 responses have been received out of approximately 350 Delegates/Alternates attending the Convention for a 33.4% response rate. Attendees were amazed that LEI would ask for comments and so 79 filled out the questionnaire at the convention with another 38 mailing in their comments.

If you'd like to help on the '91, please contact LEI Board Members, Robert Coolidge—312-667-2771 or Scott Walton—312-475-0391. Please remember that LEI is a separate organization from the LPI.

SCC meeting at Steve Reed's, Sunday, December 3, at 1:00 P.M., more info.: call Steve, 765-5828.

Sincerely,

Steve Walton
State Chair

Directory

National

Libertarian Party Headquarters202-543-1988
 National New-Member Information
 (toll-free) 1-800-682-1776

State

Libertarian Party of Illinois312-299-7564
 P.O. Box 313, Chicago, Il. 60690

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 North Cook: Greg Bezdek312-251-2870
 Northwest Cook: Dan Coit312-803-8855
 Springfield: Chris Barker 1-217-523-1235
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Illinois Libertarian Calendar

October 12

- **North Cook County Libertarian Club, and North Shore Individualist** meeting Thursday, 7:00 P.M., Wilber Applebam, former Group 50 Coordinator of Amnesty International will speak, at the Henry George School, 4536 N. Ravenswood, Chicago. Location: just south of Wilson on Ravenswood on the west side of the tracks. One and a half blocks north of the CTA Ravenswood line Montrose Station, one and a half blocks south of the CNW north line, Ravenswood station. More info: Greg Bezdek, 251-2870 or Sue Walton, 475-0391.

October 20

- Friday, **Northwest Libertarian Club** 6:45 Dutch treat dinner, 8:00 program. Banquet room, Silver Stallion Restaurant, 1275 Lee St., Mannheim Road (1/4 block south of Algonquin Road), Des Plaines. Call Dan Coit (803-8855) to reserve a place for dinner.

October 23

- **NCCLP Supper Club** resumes at a new location: Monday, Angelo's Restaurant & Lounge, 1418 West Morse, Chicago, one-half block west of the Morse EL. Angelo's serves alcohol; it's the Rogers Park equivalent to LCD's Minuette. 6:45 PM.

October 31

- **Heartland Institute**, Tuesday, 5:30 P.M. dinner and economist Dr. Walter Williams at the Union League Club, rm. 710, more info.: 427-3060.

November 1

- **Heartland Institute**, 12:00, lunch and Dr. Williams, Executive House, 71 E. Wacker Dr.

November 6

- **DuPage Libertarian Club**, Monday, 6:30 P.M. at the Minuette Restaurant, Ogden and Main St., Lisle, Il. Meets first Monday of every month (different this month), same place and time. For more info: Steve Nelson, 969-1088.

November 8

- **By-law committee meeting**, 7:30 P.M., Wednesday, at Steve Nelson's house, call for directions, 969-1088.

November 9

- **North Cook County Libertarian Club, and North Shore Individualist** meeting Thursday, 7:00 P.M., a Marshall Fritz tape will be shown, at the Henry George School, 4536 N. Ravenswood, Chicago. More info: Greg Bezdek, 251-2870 or Sue Walton, 475-0391.

Committees and Chairmen

This is the up-to-date listing of committee chairmen for the purpose of reaching goals set at the State Convention.

Campaign Committee: Anne McCracken, and Mike Burns

Awards Committee: Scott Walton

Neighborhood Fairs, etc.: Glenn Olofsen

Prairie Fire: Ken Prazak

Membership: Helen Heyden

100% publication of letters to the editor: Ted Semon

Develop follow-up letters to letters to the editor: Robert Coolidge

Develop telephone tree: Tim Griffin

Student education outreach: Lyn Tinsley

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INCLUDE ME!

<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p>Phone: Day _____ Evening _____</p> <p>To assist in the LPI's organizing efforts, please provide as much of the following information as you can (most items are listed on your voter's registration card).</p> <p>Congressional District No. _____ County _____</p> <p>State Senator District No. _____ State Representative District No. _____</p> <p>Local: Ward No. _____ Precinct No. _____</p> <p>(For members only:) "I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."</p> <p>Signature _____ Date _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Regular member of LPI \$20.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Same-household membership (two or more sharing a residence—all membership privileges, one newsletter) \$20 first membership, \$10 each additional</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Student member of LPI \$10.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Life member of LPI \$200.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> National Libertarian Party member \$15.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> National, Illinois, and local member \$40.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Supporter (has all membership privileges except voting, doesn't sign membership pledge) \$20.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Libertarian subscriber \$15.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Well-wishing contributor \$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please send me a copy of David Bergland's book <i>Libertarianism in One Lesson</i> (paperbound) \$5.00</p>
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