

A Response to Bruce the Anti-Libertarian

I ran across a letter to the editor written in response to a libertarian's letter. (I have a screenshot in case this letter goes away.)

This raving statist's letter was a treat to behold. Rarely have I witnessed this much dishonesty in such a small space. Kudos to him!

Now I'll address just a few of the lies promulgated therein.

[R]egulations (and taxes) exist for the public good, and protect the public from bad actors...

That's simply not true. You can't rob the "public" for its own good. It's not possible.

There are only two kinds of regulations- the useless and the harmful. You don't need regulations (or "laws") against things such as murder, robbery, kidnapping, etc. to make it OK for people to defend themselves and others from those acts. And "laws" against victimless acts are harmful to society because they harm individuals. You can't harm all your body's useful cells and claim it's beneficial to your body. Well, you can, but you'd be lying.

The worst of the bad actors are those who seek positions of political power, from which they can rob and molest people (mostly) without consequence- because it is "legal", and people like the author seem to believe that's good enough.

Libertarians believe there is no such thing as 'the public interest' and deny that altruism exists.

More lies.

It can not be in the "public interest" to systematically enslave the individuals who make up the public. This is the reality government extremists such as the author seek to sweep under the statist rug.

Altruism exists. No libertarian denies that it does. I have performed altruistic acts of my own free will, and I have benefitted from the altruistic acts of others- just very recently in fact. It would have cheapened the act if someone such as the author (or his hired thugs- government employees) had stuck a gun in the face of those he felt should "help" to

convince them to be “altruistic”. If you have no choice, due to “laws”, it’s NOT generosity. It is not altruistic to rob people and claim it isn’t robbery because you call it “taxation”. It’s not altruistic to give “the less fortunate” money or other property which is not yours to give away. That is the opposite of altruistic.

Everything is seen through a lens of naked self-interest.

Nope. He’s lying again! How many lies can he squeeze into this one screed? LOL!

...they believe all politicians and all bureaucrats are simply out for themselves, and have no other motive than grasping self-interest.

I don’t care about their motives, I care about what they actually do. Their acts harm innocent people, and even when they see the harm they do, they “do it harder”. That’s wrong.

Therefore, every regulation, and every tax, is a coercive measure of oppression intended to deny libertarians their “freedom.”

I care about your “freedom” as much as I care about my own. Otherwise I wouldn’t be a libertarian. All those acts of statism the author supports deny him his own freedom (and liberty), too. And I care even if he doesn’t. I don’t want to see someone robbed and raped, even if they’re OK with it. But even more than that, I don’t want people like him making the decision that others have to be OK with it just because he sees nothing wrong with it. That’s just evil.

Of course, the same daily “coercion” experienced by most people in the corporate world goes unremarked, because employment is voluntary, and you can always quit.

Another lie. This guy’s going for a new world record!

Corporations are an instrument of government, which only exist by crawling in bed with government, and which get government favors out of the deal. They are just as wrong when they initiate force or violate property rights as government.

It’s not about government, after all; it is about not having the right to attack others or take

their stuff, no matter who you are or what your excuse. Yes, you can usually quit a job without being forced to move away like you're forced to do if you want to quit a particular government. That doesn't excuse the aggression or property violations committed by government's bosom buddies, the corporations.

Libertarians believe that the nastiest of men, for the nastiest of motives, will somehow work for the benefit of us all.

Haha!! No, you've just stated your own side and blamed it on libertarians. That may be the most dishonest thing you've said here, but it's a close contest.

Bruce, I hope for your sake no one ever characterizes you and your position half as dishonestly as you've just characterized the libertarian position. If they do, you'll probably fang yourself in frustration. You should really get a bit more informed about a topic before you dive in and put your foot so deeply into your mouth.