

I Hate Litter

I *hate* litter. Always have. There's just no excuse for it that holds up for me. I have *never* intentionally or knowingly littered. And I have picked up hundreds (maybe *thousands*) of pounds of litter over the course of my life—just because, if *I* won't do it, who *will*? As an anarchist, I accept the responsibility willingly.

When I see someone litter, I think the worst of them immediately. Sometimes bordering on hatred. I see them as lazy, irresponsible, self-centered cretins. I have even muttered rather nasty things about them, possibly where they could hear. It may not be reasonable, but that's how it is. I never claimed to be perfect.

However...

I don't support "laws" against littering, nor "fines" imposed on those caught littering. I suspect *some* amount of littering is actually just to thumb a nose at those attempts to manipulate people by making it "illegal." Is it less than the littering that is prevented by those "laws" and "fines"? I have no way to know, and it doesn't matter.

If someone's litter isn't trespassing on your private property, it is not within your rights to do anything to the litterer. If someone's litter keeps ending up on your property, due to the wind, then you may have to work that out with the litterer. They may owe you restitution; they owe government nothing.

It is possible to oppose something—even *hate* it—and not want government to intervene.

Statists ought to try it sometime.