

Freedom Means Choices

How much freedom (Constitutional rights) will Americans give up in order to be “safe and protected”? How “dependent” are we becoming on our government to save us? What are we willing to give in exchange? The Covid-19 is real, and it is killing people, but is our government using this to implement more control above what would be considered appropriate for the situation at hand? Is it fair to put the same restrictions on rural areas, as in the densely populated cities where the cultural and social interaction is different? We need guidelines on how to stay safe, but most definitely not “**one size fits all.**” Our government was never created to “take care and provide for” the people. Our government was created to protect our freedoms as we take care and provide for one another. At what point does our government become a **draconian institution**?

Draconian is an adjective meaning great severity, that derives from Draco, an Athenian law scribe under whom small offenses had heavy punishments – Wikipedia **synonyms:** harsh, severe, strict, extreme, drastic, stringent, tough, cruel

These words are engraved on the Jefferson Memorial: “God who gave us life gave us **liberty.**” Liberty means being free. Our Declaration of Independence states: “We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are **empowered by their Creator** with certain **unalienable Rights**, that among these are **Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.**” We are to be independent, not dependent upon our government.

“We have staked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for **self-government** upon the capacity of each and all of us to **govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves** according to the **Ten Commandments.**” – James Madison 4th President of the USA. America has the greatest religious liberties of any nation on earth because of our Christian faith.

“Give me liberty or give me death,” – Patrick Henry. Liberty means freedom and freedom means choices. A selfish, lazy, weak people will never be able to maintain liberty. Only **self-sacrificing** people who are **willing to die** for what they believe. **Freedom means choices.** Your choice and my choice are not always going to line up. We will disagree on our choices, but we **must agree on our right to choose** as long as those choices are in line with the Constitution.

Our choices affect all of us, and that is why freedom is difficult, and for the brave, for the ones who are willing to sacrifice your own opinion for people’s **right to choose, even if they disagree.** As soon as we take a group of people who we disagree with, and not allow them their “right to choose” we have become an enemy of the Constitution of the United States of America. **Alcohol** directly kills an estimated 88,000 people every year, but the collateral damage affects almost everyone in the USA, either directly or indirectly costing our nation billions of dollars. All issues related to alcohol are 100% preventable. Even though I do not agree with the choice of alcohol, **I agree with a person’s right to make that choice.** Most choices of this nature have a “**risk as to reward**” element factored in. The majority of people who drink, do so responsibly and are willing to face the **risks** associated with alcohol for the **reward** of a nice glass of wine, a cold beer, a shot of whiskey or whatever a person enjoys.

To most Christians, **our faith and what we do to help people is priceless.** Gathering together to sing praises to our Lord, putting our hand on someone’s shoulder to pray for them, giving them a hug of encouragement, having communion together, being in the midst a loving family that loves everyone regardless of their situation, enjoying a meal together and sharing life, and most importantly **one on one** leading someone to Jesus Christ. Yes, there is a **risk** of spreading viruses, sickness and even someone dying. But the **reward** is eternal and priceless. Freedom means choices...