

Advancing the Cause of Liberty

I believe that all of us are concerned about our country's future. Some of us are dissatisfied with our political parties.

There are two differences that could divide us. One is Strategy and one is Tactics.

Strategy:

1. One strategy is to build up a third party, like the Libertarian party by attracting Independents, disaffected Republicans and disaffected Democrats. That would allow the Libertarian party to field a candidate and win elections. Gary Johnson is following this strategy.
2. The second strategy is to operate within the Republican party and gain influence and change the culture to advocate a smaller government. Jim DeMint, Tom Coburn, Ron Paul, Rand Paul and Justin Amash are following this strategy.

I have elected to follow Jim DeMint, Tom Coburn and Rand Paul's lead on following the Republican Party strategy. Hopefully we will not engage in judging each other's decision on which strategy to follow.

Tactics:

This is where it gets dicey. Being small government minded does not mean we all advocate the same tactics. I am going to list the tactics that I believe help or hurt our goal.

I believe:

1. I believe that educating people that have been brainwashed over their lifetime requires time.
 - a. Sharing "unintended consequences" helps them understand. Think:
 - i. Patriot Act
 - ii. NDAA 2012
 - iii. 1953 Iran overthrow
 - iv. Cutting the Fuse
 - v. etc
 - b. Sharing the principles as documented in books like "The Law" is helpful.
 - c. Calling them names does not make them inclined to listen to the small government message.
2. I believe that attacking people is counterproductive:
 - a. Calling their favorite "Tea Party endorsed" politicians "Traitors" does not make them inclined to listen to the message.
 - b. Calling them names like "ignorant", "uneducated", etc gives them an excuse to reject your message.
 - c. Calling "Republicans" bad, evil, etc does not make them want to listen to the message. Of course, it does help brand Ron, Rand and Justin as 'bad, evil, etc'.
3. I believe that attacking other Patriot Groups is counterproductive:
 - a. It is irrelevant who started what or when.

- b. It only matters as to who is “perceived” as the leaders. That usually has to do with who has the email list and who sends out the emails.
 - c. You can elect to join and try to influence or
 - d. Start your own group or both.
 - e. Attacking the other group has the additional effect of isolating you and the Liberty message from their members.
4. I believe that advocating for total “Free Speech” in a group that has voluntarily joined together is inappropriate:
- a. When people say “Free Speech” they rarely mean “Free Speech”.
 - b. Would it be appropriate for Ron Paul haters to flood into every Ron Paul event and shout him down? I would say not.
 - c. Thus each group should be able to set parameters to control “Speech” such that it met the guidelines of that group.
 - d. If you did not approve of the guidelines, you could not join or leave the group.
5. I believe that one example of “controlled” Free Speech is “Civil Discourse”. Read the Wikipedia article [here](#). The key parameters of Civil Discourse are:
- a. "the language of dispassionate objectivity"
 - b. requires respect of the other participants
 - c. neither diminishes the other's moral worth, nor questions their good judgment;
 - d. it avoids hostility, direct antagonism, or excessive persuasion;
 - e. it requires modesty and an appreciation for the other participant's experiences
6. I believe that writing long diatribes on facebook advocating your point of view is counterproductive:
- a. Without a cohesive point to make, I believe that people are turned off by the length and attitude of superiority.
7. I believe that “Dog Piling” is counterproductive:
- a. “Dog Piling” is a term I created to describe what happens when someone posts a point on facebook and someone else posts a counter point.
 - b. Before the original poster can respond, multiple people post other counter points, some not even consistent with the original subject.
 - c. That allows the original poster to escape dealing with the first counterpoint. We have given him an excuse to not answer.
 - d. Opportunity lost.

These are the Tactics that, I believe, I have available to move people into a “Liberty” way of thinking. You may have your own opinion that differs from mine.

A few of us intend to start the “Collier Liberty Alliance” soon and hope that others join as long as they are comfortable with the Tactics I described above. If they are not comfortable with these tactics, I encourage them to follow their conscience and do the best they can for the cause. If we get three members, I will be satisfied that all three are working toward the same goal, using the same tactics.