
Subject: Re: Get your ass tracked

Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Fri, 15 Feb 2013 05:59:17 GMT

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Aircraftkiller wrote on Thu, 14 February 2013 21:23cheesesoda wrote on Thu, 14 February 2013 00:12I take a progressive stance... I wouldn't see federal involvement as big of an issue if we had smarter taxation, like a flat tax on what Americans spend.

A flat tax is better known as a poor tax. It disproportionately affects those with less money, whose earnings go toward necessities in a larger share than those in higher income brackets. If I'm making \$100k/year and I pay 10% of that, I'm left with \$90,000. If I'm making \$15,000 and I pay 10% of that, I'm left with \$13,500, which makes my life a lot more difficult. There is nothing progressive about a flat tax.

I have yet to see how "libertarianism" is a viable alternative to a strong Federal government. What I usually hear is "HURRDURR GOVERNMENT BAD PRIVATIZE GOOD!"

What part of a flat tax means we can't have necessities tax exempt or taxed at a greatly reduced rate? I already get my medical benefits from work tax exempt, and necessities, like food, are sales tax exempt in Michigan (though, I don't see why I shouldn't pay tax on a bottle of Coke or a Snickers bar).

I think the states should be responsible to run themselves more than they are, including healthcare, minimum wage, social programming, marriage, public education, and so forth. I think the federal government should be limited closer to its original scope and focus more on national infrastructure (communication, transportation, etc...), military, and science (e.g., NASA). I feel like this allows an individual's voice to be heard a lot better. Sure, the People are somewhat represented in Congress, but certainly not as well as within state legislature. For instance, we have 537 elected officials in the federal government for 312 million people (1:581,000). The State of Michigan Legislature has 150 elected officials for 10 million people (1:67,000). Even then, I still don't feel I have much of a voice in competing with lobbies and the politics within politics (politinception). If more teachers are available to fewer students allows for teachers to better focus on the needs of their students, shouldn't that be much of the same for representation in government?

I don't see how it's absurd to think that privatization wouldn't work as well as government, especially if they're done by community. Funding may not be as great, but I would bet what money they would receive would be spent more effectively. Anything has to be better than what we have now... for every time I've heard a story of the government actually helping someone that needs it, I've heard several more stories of people that need it being denied while others successfully cheat/abuse the system.
