



# UPLP Newsletter #6 - October 2021

## Covid Camps and a Closed Society

**BY JOSHUA JONGEMA - SECRETARY**

Freedom of movement is a natural right that is written in our Constitution in Article 4, and it has been upheld by our courts for hundreds of years. During the coronavirus state of emergency, federal and state governments have shamefully and ironically declared that they need the power to protect their citizens, by taking their rights away from them. Government should be reminded that the only protection it should offer, is from manageable emergencies, and otherwise, its own overreach and abuse of power.

There is simply no way for a government to protect anyone, except through the use of force against them or someone else. To initiate force against people who have not first used force is a violation of the Non-Aggression Principle, which is adapted from Utilitarianism's Harm Principle.

Utilitarianism is the basis of law and justice. John Stuart Mill wrote in his essay Utilitarianism, that humans are ends in and of themselves, and that to use humans as a means to an end, is unethical.

1932 by Henry Bergson, who defined it as one which has respect for everyone's beliefs. A Closed Society then, is one with a closed system of law, morality, or religion. Today, society has become very closed through the state and federal governments' insistence that your beliefs are no longer important, and that the truth will be given to you on your television set; that all you have to do is accept it, to be free.

Smedley Butler was famous for his book and 1935 speech, "war is a racket." He spoke of a Protection Racket, which is defined as a way for gangs of powerful people to prey upon groups of vulnerable people. These gangs of criminals do this by manufacturing or spreading fear about a purported threat to the vulnerable population, or by promising not to harm them, but usually both. In the 80's and 90's crime was that threat. In the post 2001-era, ideological terrorism has been that threat, and as that threat is perceived to have died down or changed, a new threat has emerged- mouth breathing humans.

The term 'Open Society' was coined in

Early last year, governments initiated

## **Covid Camps and a Closed Society (cont...)**

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lockdowns on common citizens, with the exception of those who were deemed 'essential' to society. All humans are essential to society, and so this was a great threat and slap in the face to anyone suddenly shut out from every aspect of life they previously enjoyed. State governments eventually allowed people to leave their homes, but many began systems of Hotel Quarantines.

This involved turning private property into a state-controlled business, which is inherently communistic. The way that common citizens have been treated is immoral and unethical, and illegal it seems, but the way migrants have been treated is far worse. The way we treat those outside our borders, will become the way we treat those inside as well.

Migrants are not inherently a threat. Some individual migrants may be a threat, but they'd be easily dealt with by a vigilant and armed populace should they decide to commit a crime. Migrants are not covid-carriers anymore than the nice old lady at the grocery store. There has been a large increase in migration from Haiti this year, due to natural disasters, as well as governmental and gang oppression that has increased there. If you haven't heard, the leader of Haiti was assassinated recently. Yet when they and others risk their lives to come to the place that

promised them freedom, both the Trump and the Biden administration have been happy to use their emergency Title 42 powers to expel these people without allowing them to make a claim of asylum. Those who do get processed through the border are now being characterized as 'illegals', despite at least most of them having finally made it through the border legally. And it gets much worse.

Texas is now running quarantine facilities, and rounding up new immigrants to hold them there without due process. Simultaneously, the Afghan withdrawal has led to the federal government building these facilities to hold Afghani people. Some of them are on military bases. So just like that, without most people so much as noticing, our government has rapidly shifted to using military bases to keep humans in camps, that have barbed wire around them, in the name of fighting a virus.

Governments cannot control a virus through the initiation of force against humans. The fact that they claim to be able to do so, is an indicator of their deception. The only way to solve this government-cause crisis is to allow people to make their own choices. To echo the words of Jacob Hornberger, the only way to solve the crisis at our borders is to enact an open borders policy.

## **The Legislation Station**

**BY JOSHUA JONGEMA - SECRETARY**

The Michigan Libertarian Party recently created a new Legislative Committee, and elected Steve Fox as its Chair. The UPLP Chair, Ryan Roberts, was elected to become a member. This has given the UPLP a rare opportunity for Direct Democracy, as we have gained the ability to draft legislation, which could be pushed through our network to the floor of the House of Michigan.

In this new legislative section, we will highlight various bills which have or will affect the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. We may also make suggestions for lobbying Congress, and print articles on specific bills that represent a Libertarian position.

Go to [house.mi.gov](http://house.mi.gov) to find your House district and your Representative's name. The UP has two State Senate Districts. #37 is led by Wayne Schmidt. #38 is led by Ed McBroom.

The UP makes up most of US (federal House) Congressional District #1, led by Jack Bergman.

Michigan is led by two federal Senators, Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow.

Gov. Whitmer will run for re-election on Nov. 8th, 2022. At this time there is no candidate endorsed by the UPLP.

### **Legislation for Review:**

Jack Bergman voted against H.R.3755 - the Woman's Health Protection Act of 2021.

Jack Bergman voted for H.R.4350 - the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022.

Jack Bergman voted to suspend the rules and pass H.R.5323 - the Iron Dome Appropriations Act, 2022.

Ed McBroom approved of Senate Bill 82. His website explains the contents of the bill, which include several million dollars to fix trails damaged by flooding, in District #38.

Ed McBroom approved the Unlock Michigan petition in July, leading to the limiting of the Governor's abusive powers. Ed McBroom approved a bill in June to require that the state's Wolf Advisory Council have only members that reside in the UP, unless it is found that wolves become present in the Lower Peninsula.

Wayne Schmidt voted for 2021 House Bill 4061 - to Restrict "Integrated Public Alert Warning System" use by governor

Wayne Schmidt voted for the 2021 Legislative Initiative Petition 1 - to Repeal one of two state emergency powers laws.

### **Events Corner**

2022 - The UPLP will host its 3rd annual Convention at a place in time to be determined.

## **Liberty and the American Majority**

**BY DAVE CROCKETT - NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE CHAIR**

In the Fascista Review, Gerarchia 1923, Benito Mussolini wrote, "The truth is evident to all who are unblinded by dogmatism that men nowadays are tired of liberty." Now Mussolini was a dictator. But then again dictators come to power from a complicit public that take liberties for granted.

But what does liberty mean? There is the fundamental definition regarding freedom for one's way of life. And then there are the liberties defined within the self-governance of a society, such as economic liberties. Rather than getting into a deep discussion on this topic, I thought, for this article, I would simply present a few questions on where our readers stand in regards to some of the liberties in today's political spotlight. I welcome and encourage your feedback.

Let's begin:

1. Would you be willing to give up your right to self-protection from criminals or tyrants if the majority of Americans say you cannot own a gun?
2. Would you surrender your children to an education system where the majority of Americans have decided to rewrite history to comply with political correctness or ethnic sensitivities? What if the majority of Americans require it taught that man was created by God and that evolution is a myth?

3. Would you submit to a vaccination, regardless of effectiveness, side effects, or lack of knowledge on long term effects, if the majority of Americans require you to?

4. Would you follow an order to stay home from work for an indefinite period of time because the majority of Americans believe you might transmit a virus? Would you do it even if it was your only means of income?

5. Would you support the majority of Americans in continued deficit spending, rising national debt, and a growing burden on economic liberties of future generations for more social-welfare services today knowing that approximately 75% of total federal income currently goes to social-welfare programs?

6. For women: Would you willingly submit to a law, created by the majority of Americans, that prevent you from having an abortion, even if the fetus is endangering your health, not viable, or is a product of rape?

And lastly:

7. Would you classify yourself as the American majority?

This newsletter welcomes all responses and thoughts in regards to the above. Please send them to the newsletter's email address below. All names and email addresses will remain confidential.

## **The UPLP in 2021 - A Year in Review**

**BY JOSHUA JONGEMA - SECRETARY**

Thanks to the support of volunteers and donations, the UPLP has had a very successful second year. Our regional affiliate of the state LP, covering the 15 counties of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, has grown and has taken every good opportunity to get out and advocate for the sake of liberty and justice for all.

In April we held our yearly Convention in L'Anse, where officers were elected and delegates were selected by a vote, to attend the Michigan LP Convention on June 26th and 27th in Mt. Pleasant. Our Guest Speaker was Prosecutor Joseph O'Leary, who spoke about the Baraga Manifesto and his county's commitment to protecting the lives and liberties of its citizens.

UPLP delegates attended the state LP Convention, where they heard speeches from Spike Cohen, Justin Amash and Larry Sharpe. They voted on state-level policies and participated in candidacy training and other seminars.

We attended four county fairs to spread the word of liberty, in Schoolcraft, Gogebic, Baraga and Dickinson counties. We distributed books, newsletters, policy cards, and bumper stickers among other things. We had a lot of great conversations with people who had great questions, and made connections with new contacts.

We have had a presence at several protests and rallies, from Marquette to Iron Mountain, and beyond. While there, we were able to bear witness to the movements for freedom that have grown in the Upper Peninsula over the last couple of years.

Last week we met as an open society, at our 2nd Annual Cookout which was open to the public, and made possible by the kind donations of members. Overall the cost of the event was about one-hundred and fifty dollars.

For the first time, members and officers were able to come together, some with family present, and cease the toiling of business in trade for the leisure of food and good conversation.

In looking back at our last fiscal year, I am filled with hope for, not our nation necessarily, but for humanity overall, that a group of people might come together for liberty. Wherever such a group exists, liberty will spread.

There are many small groups that work for their own lives and liberty in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Everyone has their own interests, and diversity is the strength of human society. I hope more people work together in the next year to help bring liberty and justice to all in the UP!