



It Starts With You!



It Ends With Us!

Quote of the Month

"When they came for me, there was no one left to speak up."

~ Pastor Martin Niemöller, 1945

Video of the Month

History will record with the greatest astonishment that those who have the most to lose did the least to prevent its happening.

youtu.be/P3hY1eagq88

- ✓ Greatest Speech Ever Made Page 1
- ✓ The Right Minimum Wage Should Be \$0.00 Page 3
- ✓ There Will Be No One Left To Speak Page 5
- ✓ Did you know? Page 9

The Greatest Speech Ever Made

The speech itself is from a comedy directed by and starring Charlie Chaplin. First released in October 1940, Chaplin plays two characters who look strikingly similar- a Jewish barber and a dictator who looks like Adolf Hitler. Near the end of the film, after a series of bizarre incidents, the dictator gets replaced by his look-alike, the barber, and is taken to the capital where he is asked to give a speech.

It's worth reading because the speech is as relevant today as it was 71 years ago.

I'm sorry, but I do not want to be an Emperor, that's not my business. I don't want to rule or conquer anyone. I should like to help everyone if possible; Jew, Gentile, black man, white.



Protect and Create Wealth by buying Gold and Silver!

The whole world has been fooled into using a currency, a deceitful imposter that is silently stealing your most valuable assets... your time, & your freedom. Learn how gold and silver can preserve your wealth and even make you rich! View these videos on the secrets of money. Start saving in Silver & Gold. www.GoldSilverRush.com

We all want to help another, human beings are like that. We want to live by each other's happiness, not by each other's misery. We don't want to hate and despise one another and this world has room for everyone and the good Earth is rich and can provide for everyone. The way of life can be free and beautiful but we have lost the way. Greed has poisoned men's souls, has barricaded the word with hate, has goose stepped us into misery, bloodshed. We have developed speed but we have shut ourselves in machinery that gives abundance that has left us in want.

Our knowledge has made us cynical, our cleverness hard and unkind. *We think too much and we feel too little. More than machinery, we need humanity. More than cleverness, we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities, life would be violent and all will be lost.*

The airplane and the radio have brought us closer together. The very nature of these inventions cries out for the goodness in men, cries out for universal brotherhood and the unity of us all. Even now my voice is reaching millions throughout the world, millions of despairing men and women and little children, victims of a 16 a system that makes men torture and imprison innocent people. For those who can hear me I say, do not despair.

The misery that is now upon us is but the passing of greed, the bitterness of men that fear the way of human progress. The heat of men who will pass and dictators die and the power they took from the people will return to the people and so long as men die, liberty will never perish. Soldiers, don't give yourself to brutes, men who despise you and slave you, Regiment your lives, tell you what to do, what to think and what to feel, who drill you, diet you, treat you like cattle, use you as cannon fodder.

Don't give yourselves to these unnatural men! Machine men with machine minds and machine hearts! You are not machines! You are not cattle! You are men! You have the life of humanity in your hearts. You don't hate, only the unloved hate, the unloved and the unnatural. Soldiers, don't fight for slavery, fight for liberty. In the 17th chapter of Luke it is written, "The kingdom of God is within man." Not one man nor a group of men but in all men, in you, you the people have the power! The power to create machines, the power to create

happiness, you the people have the power to make this life free and beautiful, to make this like a wonderful adventure! Then in the name of democracy, let us use that power, let us all unite!

Let us fight for a New World, a decent world that will give men a chance to work, that will give you the future and old age of security. By the promise of these things brutes have risen to power but they like, they do not fulfill their promise, they never will. Dictators free themselves but they enslave the people. Now let us fight to fulfill that promise, let us fight to free the world, to do away with national barriers, to do away with greed, with hate and intolerance!

Let us fight for a world of reason, a world where science and progress will lead to all men's happiness. Soldiers, in the name of democracy, let us all unite! ~

Every now and then, it is good to refresh knowledge of what is truly important in life. That is why we included "The Greatest Speech Ever" in this newsletter. We can still learn some lessons from our past only if we choose to do so.

And it's noted how Charlie Chaplin was best known as the greatest silent actor ever and that this spoken speech turned out to be one of the best ever.

Are You Awake Yet?

.....



The Right Minimum Wage Should Be \$0.00

I realize this headline may draw some criticism but before you send in your hate mail just hear me out.

This was not a headline I made up. In fact, that was the headline of an editorial in one of America's most prestigious newspapers. Can you guess which one? - The Wall Street journal perhaps - right city, wrong paper.

This editorial appeared in the New York Times in 1987.

"There is a virtual consensus among economists..." the Times wrote, "That minimum wage is an idea whose time has passed."

Have you ever asked yourself is the minimum wage a good thing? Sure, in a world without scarcity, a minimum wage law would be ideal. Unfortunately, we do live in a world with scarcity and that will not change. A minimum wage law still sounds good but looking into the economics of it, says otherwise. When most hear the phrase "minimum wage", a floor which supports wages comes to mind. That is true for those laborers skilled enough to work for minimum wage but what about the lowest skilled labor? After all, this law was enacted to help low skilled labor yet it acts a hurdle one has to jump over in the case of the lowest skilled laborers. In other words, it has the exact opposite effect the majority thinks it has.

If this is not clear you, imagine a small economy of 100 individuals who are seeking employment. 20 make up

the highest skilled laborers, 60 make up higher, average and highest of low skilled laborers and the last 20 make up low skilled laborers. Now because this is a small economy, the businesses in operation can only afford to payout a total of \$120/hr. The minimum wage law requires every laborer hired receives a minimum of \$10/hr. Therefore, businesses can only hire 12 ($\$120/\$10 = 12$) of the 20 which fall into the category low skilled labor. Everything is fine and well for 92 of the 100 people in that economy, but what about the other 8 or 8% of the laborers. These individuals are necessarily kept out of being employed. As is always the case, because governments debase (inflate) its currencies, every few years, there is a call for an increase in the minimum wage. But at the same time, inflation causes the cost of production for businesses to rise. Next, the minimum wage is increased from \$10/hr. to \$12/hr. What happens as a result? Only 10 of the 20 low skilled laborers can find employment. The minimum wage law has now gone from holding 8 (8%) of the laborers from being employed to 10 (10%). Once again, isn't this the exact opposite of what this law was aimed at doing?

What if there was no minimum wage law? The 20 low skilled laborers can negotiate their pay with employers. Because there are varying degrees of skill amongst the low skilled laborers, there will be a few that make \$10 or more per hour, with the majority making less. Only transient unemployment can exist in a free market as the self-organizing system which is the free market, will ensure everyone in society is employed (granted some which would be considered below the poverty level). For example, 2 of the 20 makes \$10/hr., 5 make \$8/hr., 8 make \$5/hr. and 5 make \$4/hr. Compared to the minimum wage law, this allows all laborers to seek and find employment, whereas with the minimum wage law, only 12 of the 20 are able to seek and find employment.

Furthermore, the minimum wage law implicitly denies the basic natural law, ownership of self! If a potential employee and employer can agree on a wage the employee will receive in exchange for their labor, why should the state (government) have any say whatsoever in whether or not it is "legal"? This is one of the most obvious violation of our civil liberties and natural rights, yet this is never discussed in the mainstream.

But why is a minimum wage no good? Because you have to understand that a minimum wage does not guarantee jobs. It guarantees only that those who get jobs will be paid at least that minimum. And that leads to 2 bad outcomes; unemployment and higher prices. I can best explain this by asking a simple question; what is a wage? A wage is the price of labor. And what happens if the price of labor rises not because workers have become more productive, not because a business must pay higher wages to hold on to valuable employees, but only because the government requires it?

When the minimum wage rises, employers will adjust. They will use less labor, they will fire current employees or cut back on their hours. They will also raise prices for their goods and services; these are undesirable consequences. Think about it? Higher minimum wages have to come from somewhere.

But let's also consider another effect. Businesses will hire less workers especially those with little or no job experience. Suppose you are young and haven't worked before? You have never had a job and are trying to land your first one. The work you can offer an employer may only be worth \$7 an hour, you agree, he agrees and you have your first job.

But what if the minimum wage is set by the government is higher than \$7? What if it's \$10 or more? Well you won't get the job. Now you may be willing to work for \$7 an hour but under minimum wage laws it would be illegal for you to do so. This very point was hit home by Paul Samuelson, one of the leading economists of the 20th century. "What good does it do a black youth to know that an employer must pay him a minimum wage if the fact that he must be paid in that wage keeps him from getting a job?"

If you're an advocate of a higher minimum wage you may argue that while some young people might be priced out of the job market, this is outweighed by the fact that those who have minimum wage jobs will get a wage increase but that doesn't mean that they would be better off. It's true that the government can force business owners to pay its minimum wage workers more per hour but it can't force these business owners to pay them more per week.

Connecticut raised its minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour, a 20 year old woman who works at the donut shop in Hartford was soon disappointed when her hours were cut from 35 per week to 27. Employers will look for other ways to cut costs.

So raising the minimum wage makes it harder for young and inexperienced workers to get jobs, to get that experience in the work force. And many of those who do benefit from a wage increase will likely find those benefits undone; they will work fewer hours, they will work harder per hour and will get less training.

Plus, having a minimum wage may not be constitutional. The Supreme Court, in its opinion in the 1923 case *Adkins v. Children's Hospital of District of Columbia*, made a strong argument that a minimum wage was a violation of the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of contract embedded in the Fifth Amendment's language about due process and the deprivation of liberty and property: "To the extent that the sum fixed exceeds the fair value of the services rendered, it amounts to a compulsory exaction from the employer for the support of a partially indigent person, for whose condition there rests upon him no peculiar responsibility, and therefore, in effect, arbitrarily shifts to his shoulders a burden which, if it belongs to anybody, belongs to society as a whole."

So what is a good minimum wage? Should it be what our government sets or should it be what the people contract it to be?

Are You Awake Yet?

.....

There Will Be No One Left To Speak Unless We Wake Up Now

"In Germany they came first for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up."
—Pastor Martin Niemöller, 1945

This month's quote is the first topic of our newsletter. The quote above requires a bit more thinking. We pick our quotes carefully and the intent is to get the reader engaged and thinking. Read the quote above again and then answer the following questions for yourself.

1. Who are "they" that Niemöller writes about, as in, "first they came for..."?
2. What does it mean when he says, "came for"?
3. Why does he repeat the phrase, "Then they came for..." several times?
4. What effect does the repetition of this phrase have on you?
5. What does he mean by, "I didn't speak up"?
6. Do you think that everyone in Germany was partly responsible for the Nazi's rise to power, or that only those active in the Nazi Party were responsible?
7. How much responsibility do you feel for what takes place around you: in your family, in your school, in your city, in your country, and in the world?

Did any of the questions get you thinking? How do you feel? Confused? Overwhelmed? Maybe that's how "they" want you to feel so you won't speak up.

Whether you believe it or not, America is in trouble. You know it because you can feel it. Most of us just ignore it. We all know we have a wayward government hell bent

on doing whatever it wants, even if it's not in the best interest of the people.

Since governments inception, no matter which political party has been in power the government has continued to become a larger part of our lives. These days many people are speaking of the "police state" that we have created, but the reality is far worse than that. The truth is that the government has become a massive out of control behemoth that is gobbling up everything in sight and that is attempting to exert full spectrum dominance over our lives. These days they have the power to watch us, track us and control us.

No matter what politicians we send to Washington D.C., it just seems to get worse and worse. Anyone who still believes that we live in "the land of the free" is completely and totally delusional.



It's not just in one particular area that all of this government intrusion into our lives is so offensive. What we are witnessing is the government slowly digging its claws even deeper into our lives. We now live in a world where most Americans see the government as the one who is supposed to take care of them from the cradle to the grave, as the one who is supposed to fix all of the problems in society and as the one who is their ultimate authority.

Do you remember that government was formed to protect and maintain rights? That is not the case today. Government runs EVERY aspect of your lives. This is in direct contradiction to the concept of a "limited government" that our Founding Fathers tried so desperately to enshrine in our founding documents. We, The American people, need a big-time wake up call.

In case you've been living under a rock, here are a few things our government controls.

#1 They Control Our Food

"The Food Safety Modernization Act", is a huge power grab by the FDA and the federal government over our food supply. The bill is written so broadly and so

vaguely that nobody really knows what it means. The potential for abuse of these vague new powers are staggering.

In many states today, Americans are required to get a permit to grow vegetables in your own back yard. We are told what seeds we are allowed to save and what can and cannot be sold at farmer's markets. In case you think this is paranoid propaganda, just consider what is already happening. In one case the feds raided an Amish farmer at 5 AM in the morning because they claimed that he was engaged in the interstate sale of raw milk in violation of federal law. If the feds are willing to stoop so low as to raid Amish farmers, do you think they will have any hesitation when the time comes to raid your home?

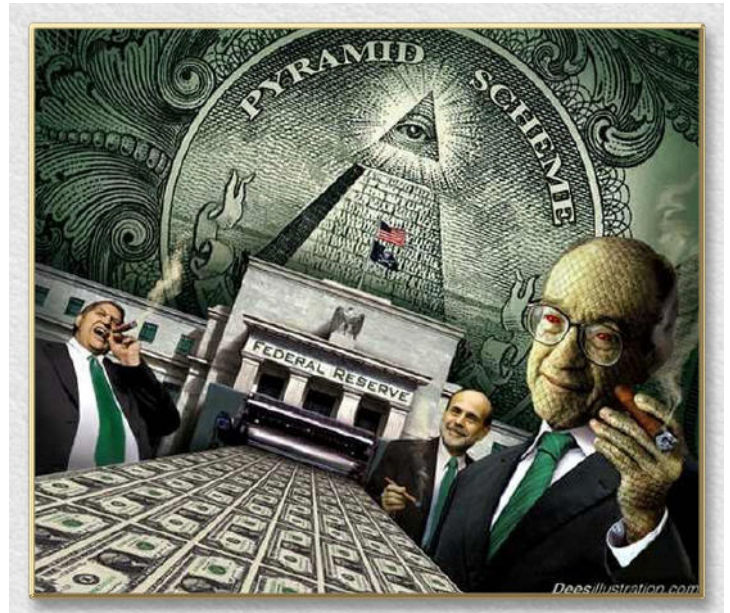
#2 They Control Your Air Travel

The Dehumanizing Full Body Scanners And "Enhanced Pat-Downs". Totalitarian governments throughout history have always sought to dehumanize their subjects. Sadly, that is exactly what is happening in America today. If you want to get on an airplane in the United States, you will now be forced to either let TSA agents gawk at your naked body or let TSA agents grope your entire body including your genitals. So is this what America has become? A place that is so "dangerous" that we all must be treated like prison inmates? What happens when these "enhanced pat-downs" start showing up at our schools, our shopping centers and our sporting events someday? Are you going to speak up then?

#3 They Control Of Our Money

If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks...will deprive the people of all property until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.... The issuing power should be taken from the banks and restored to the people, to whom it properly belongs. – Thomas Jefferson in the debate over the Re-charter of the Bank Bill (1809)

"I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies." – Thomas Jefferson



We think Mr. Jefferson knew something back then. Too bad for us we don't learn from history.

Money is the lifeblood of commerce. In order to permit the market to operate, we need to ensure a stable, non-inflationary currency. Inflation invariably distorts the market. There are always different groups in the population being affected by inflation. Inflation leads to a misdirection of production and employment resulting in a misallocation of resources. Money which loses its value through inflation circumvents the mind by destroying the means of economic calculation and planning.

Inflation is caused by printing more money. The government's monetary policies are responsible for this. Spending policies and ideology and the abolishment of the gold standard have permitted the government to depreciate our currency.

The answer is to eradicate state control of the money supply. We need to divest government of its power to arbitrarily increase or decrease the money supply. In addition, we must build in pressures toward fiscal responsibility by the government with respect to the production of balanced budgets and reduction of debt. The federal government must learn to live within its means – government deficits must be prevented. The establishment of the gold standard will stifle the hidden and deceptive tax of inflation. Inflation could be controlled if government were not able to monetize debt or manipulate reserve requirements.

#4 They Control Our Businesses

Why would anyone in America even attempt to be an entrepreneur today? Most small businesses are literally being strangled by hordes of red tape.

Just consider how things have changed in America. The Federal Register is the main source of regulations for U.S. government agencies. In 1936, the number of pages in the Federal Register was about 2,600. Today, the Federal Register is over 80,000 pages long. How on earth can you comply?

#5 They Control Our Environment

The green police are here. The government is using the "green movement" as an excuse to take an unprecedented amount of control over our lives. From coast to coast, communities have been given government grants to track our trash with RFID microchips. Some cities are now starting to fine citizens for not recycling properly.

For example: In Cleveland, Ohio if an RFID tracking chip signals that a recycle bin has not been brought out to the curb within a certain period of time, a "trash supervisor" will actually sort through the trash produced by that home for recyclables. Trash bins that contain over 10 percent recyclable material will be subject to a \$100 fine.

Does that sound like America to you? Are you ready to speak up yet?

#6 They Are Taking Away Our Independence

It's the exploding Welfare State. You don't have much freedom if you can't take care of yourself. But in America today, over 55 million of Americans have literally become completely dependent on the government for survival. Over 42 million Americans are now on food stamps. Approximately one out of every six Americans is enrolled in a federal anti-poverty program.

The more Americans that are destitute and totally dependent on the government the easier it will be for the government to control them. Today a rapidly growing percentage of Americans fully expect the government to take care of them. But this is not what

our founders intended. What ever happened to personal responsibility?

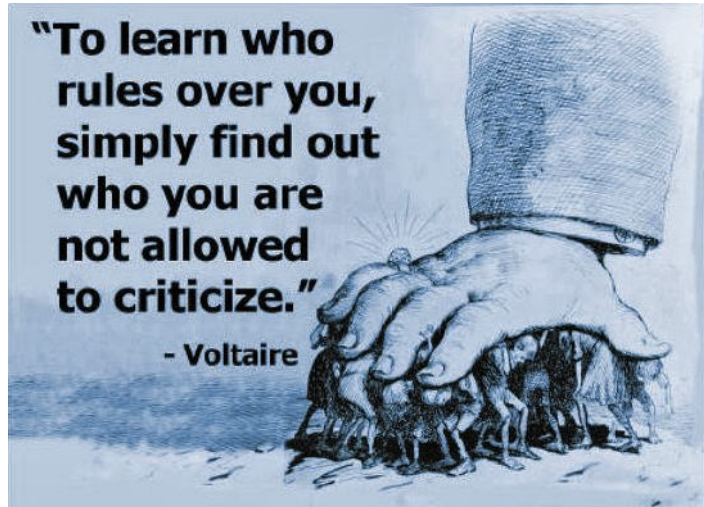
#7 They Now Control Our Health Care

Now this new Affordable Health Care Act (a.k.a Obama Care) has tightened the noose even more on Americans. We are now required to buy a federally approved health plan or pay federal fines or tax penalties. They can define and redefine, at their pleasure, the content of your health benefits package, meaning the medical treatments and procedures you must have; the kind and level of preventive health care services you must have; the level of coverage that you must have; the level of cost sharing, deductibles and co-payments that are acceptable — to them, not you.

Once upon a time, Americans had control over their own health care decisions. That is no longer true today. Thanks to major changes in our health care laws, the health care landscape in America has been dramatically changed. Americans are now forced to participate in the officially-sanctioned health care system by purchasing health insurance. But Americans cannot just get any kind of health insurance policy that they want. Our health insurance choices are now tightly constrained by thousands of regulations.

Not only that, but doctors in America no longer have the freedom to treat patients however they see fit. Only "approved" treatments are permissible, and now the federal government is going to be telling doctors which of those "approved" treatments are "cost-effective"





enough. As the new health care laws are fully implemented over the next decade, the American people are going to become truly horrified not only about how much their health insurance premiums are going up, but also about how much health freedom they have actually lost.

#8 They Are Taking Away Our Patriotism

Do you ever think things will get so repressive in America that a group of high school students will be forbidden from singing the national anthem at the Lincoln Memorial? Well, that has already happened. Do you think that areas of our nation will ever become so anti-American that they will forbid students from riding to school with an American flag on their bikes? Well, that has already happened.

Fortunately, there was such an uproar over what happened to 13-year-old Cody Alicea that it made national headlines and he ended up being escorted to school by hundreds of other motorcycles and bicycles – most of them displaying American flags as well. The school reversed its policy and now Cody can ride his bike to school every day proudly displaying the American flag.

But what if nobody had decided to stand up? What if we never speak up?

We could keep going but you get the picture. Our liberties and our freedoms are under attack from a thousand different directions and they are being stripped away from us at a blinding pace.

It has gotten to the point where most of us just sit in our homes and enjoy the "freedom" of digesting the "programming" that is constantly being hurled at us through our televisions and through the Internet.

Power and money have become more highly concentrated in America today than ever before, and yet most Americans don't even realize it.

Most Americans are so busy just trying to survive from month to month that they don't even have time to think about the deeper issues. At the end of the night most of them are so exhausted from serving the system that all they can do is collapse on the sofa and turn on some programming. Most won't even read this newsletter.

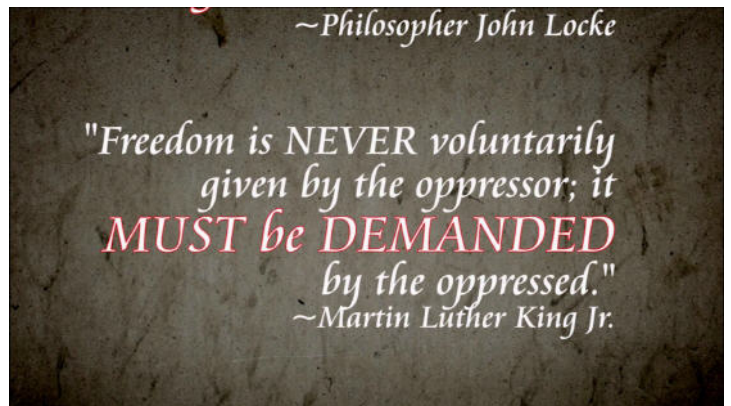
But the American people desperately need to wake up. Without liberty and freedom our country cannot work. But our freedoms and liberties are being stripped away a little bit more each and every day.

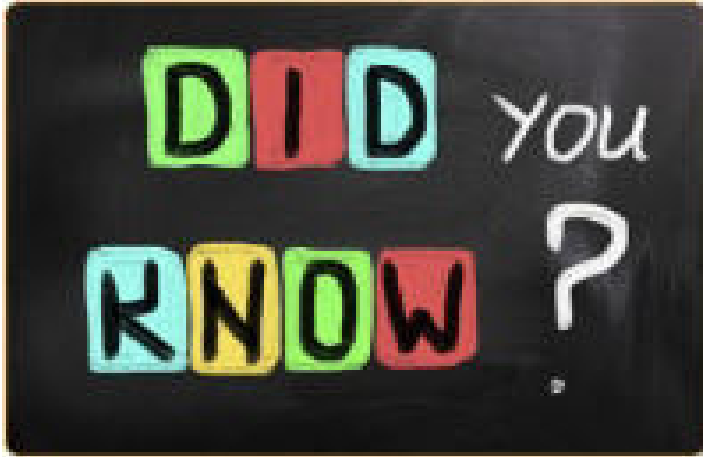
The America that so many of us grew up adoring is dying right in front of our eyes. If you plan on saying something about it, you better do so before it is too late.

Let's stop asking for permission to be free.

Are You Awake Yet?

.....





Did You Know?

Did you know that government Spends More on Corporate Welfare Subsidies than Social Welfare Programs? About \$59 billion is spent on traditional social welfare programs. \$92 billion is spent on corporate subsidies. So, the government spent 50% more on corporate welfare than it did on food stamps and housing assistance.

There's so much suffering in the world that the tax payers have to bail out corporations. It can all get pretty overwhelming sometimes. Consider, for a moment the sorrow of a CEO who's just found out that his end-of-year bonus is only going to be a paltry \$2.3 million. Or imagine what it would feel like just before Christmas to find out that you're going to be forced to scrape by on your standard \$8.4 million compensation package alone.

Well thanks to federal subsidies from taxpayers like you, businesses and CEO take home billions of your hard earned money. In return they pay themselves millions in bonuses.

For just \$93 billion a year the federal government is able to provide a better life for these CEO's and their families. That's less than the cost of 240 million cups of coffee a day. Aren't you glad you help a needy corporation every year?

So now let's look at the big picture. The final totals are \$59 billion, 3 percent of the total federal budget, for regular welfare and \$92 billion, 5 percent of the total

federal budget, for corporations. So, the government spends roughly 50% more on corporate welfare than it does on any particular public assistance programs.

Should we spend less on corporate welfare and/or social welfare programs? Or should we spend even more? It's up to you. A bunch of people died horrible deaths to make sure this country remained a democracy. Maybe you should call your senators and give them a piece of your mind.

Are You Awake Yet?

.....