

The Wisconsin Idea in the 21st Century

Progressive Politics

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When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them together, and then to assume that among the powers of the cosmos, which the laws of nature have delivered to them, a decent respect for the opinions of humanity requires that they should declare those causes and reasons which impel them to this separation.

We hold these truths to be self evident, that all lives are created equal, and that we are endowed by the cosmos with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these inalienable rights, governances may be instituted among citizens, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Whenever any form of governance becomes destructive of those ends, it is the right of the citizens to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new governances, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers into such a form, that to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governances long established should not be changed for light and transient causes, and accordingly, all experience has shown us that human beings are more disposed to suffer - evils are more sufferable than to right themselves by altering the forms to which they are accustomed.

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably with the same goal, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such governances, and to provide new safeguards for their future security.

Such has been the patient sufferance of this nation, and such now is the urgent necessity, which requires them to now alter their former systems of governance. The history of this present government is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having as the direct goal - the establishment of an absolute tyranny over its citizens.

To demonstrate, let these evidences herein be presented to a candid universal audience.

Two Term Limit For Any Single Public Office
A Constitutional Amendment

Habeas Corpus
A Constitutional Amendment

Separation of Church and State
A Constitutional Amendment

Science as Public Policy
Science as Public Education

Providing For Human Health and Welfare
Environment and Species Protection and Preservation

The Military as Humanitarian Assistance
Military Action By Declaration of War

Violation of Free Speech - Federal Hate Crimes
Violence Against Freedom of Speech - Fascism

Legalization of Marijuana
Decriminalization of Drugs

Two Term Limit For Any Single Public Office A Constitutional Amendment

Career politicians have corrupted our governing abilities through excessive lobbying by corporate interests. Limiting consecutive and cumulative terms of public office for any particular public service, will ensure that competent administrators, local and regional mayoral and district representatives, county, state and national leaders, congressional representatives and senators, anyone with aspirations for, proficiency in, and success with public service, will move through this system of governance passing that knowledge on, without sacrificing their commitment to the stated goal of securing the lives of citizens.

Habeas Corpus A Constitutional Amendment

The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended. Abuses of personal liberties, by denying representation to those whose liberties are suspended even briefly, is simply unacceptable, even in times of war. The unabridged privilege of the writ of habeas corpus is the only thing that separates nations that operate by the governance of the people and the laws that they establish, from those who wish to govern over people with the use of fear and tyranny. It is essential that no exceptions to representation exist.

Separation of Church and State A Constitutional Amendment

The Establishment Clause and the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America allows for intrusion of religion and religious doctrine into the process of governance, limiting the ability of self governing systems to provide for the security of all its citizens. Religious doctrine addresses neither the needs nor security of citizens of an intricately interrelated environmental and biological system, on a planet with a molten core, residing in a solar planetary system with asteroid threats, in a largely unknown universe, evolving through space and time, under the specific set of circumstances which our world has inherited from nature and the cosmos. The immediate establishment of an Exclusion Clause, as an amendment to the constitution, will enable rational discourse and governance to proceed unhindered and unaffected by religion.

Science as Public Policy Science as Public Education

Complementary to the exclusion of religion from governance, is the establishment of science as a fundamental basis of governance in the form of public policy and education. Open and unfettered access to information and knowledge by a well educated citizenry, unrestricted by government and the media, has demonstrably provided the understanding of problems resulting from our highly evolved and complex state of affairs and allows for solutions by rational and straightforward scientific methods, ensuring our future security. The acknowledgement of the power of scientific methods to provide solutions is implicit.

Providing For Human Health and Welfare Environment and Species Protection and Preservation

The goal of governance is to provide a measure of security for the lives of its citizens. From a biological perspective this includes clean air and water, adequate nutrition, basic shelter, and affordable health care, in addition to the protection and preservation of the ecological and environmental systems that provide the support for life on planet Earth.

These fundamental protections and provisions for security extend to all other species and the environmental and ecological systems which all species, including ourselves, depend. One cannot exempt or restrict the right to live to any species, without harming all species.

The Military as Humanitarian Assistance Military Action By Declaration of War

Large scale military action may proceed only by declaration of war on a specific nation, to prevent abuses for purposes unrelated to the primary mission of public security and safety. In peacetime the military shall be applied to humanitarian assistance for victims of natural and human disasters and to respond to tragedies of neglect by foreign governance.

Violation of Free Speech - Federal Hate Crimes Violence Against Freedom of Expression - Fascism

Violence is an unacceptable response to nonviolent verbiage and expressions of behavior. Nonviolence is a fundamental tenet of behavior that differentiates civilization from chaos. Any governance which does not confront these issues fearlessly and rationally, will fail.

Legalization of Marijuana Decriminalization of Drugs

Prisons have become political gulags and horror houses blatantly glamorized by media. Thriving black market growing operations are destroying natural parks and wildlife areas. The time to end the charade of government and corporate demonization of marijuana is long overdue, and the financial necessities of a nation in depression override all biases.

Education, therapy and rehabilitation must be the cornerstone of any rational drug policy, without restricting rights of intelligent and educated people to make their own informed choices, while also acknowledging the risks and regulations governing such behaviors

The immediate legalization of marijuana is dictated by the economic, social and political realities of the hour. From a scientific standpoint alone, an educated and aware populace has few concerns about the existence of natural and refined plant products and resources.