

Dan Reale for Congress
Principles of Government



I believe that only individuals have rights, not governments, corporations, or any collective group; that these rights are intrinsic to each individual, not granted by the state.

If the state has the power to grant them, it also has the power to deny them, and that is incompatible with personal liberty.

I believe that a just government derives its power solely from the governed. Therefore, the state must never do anything beyond what individuals have the inherent and intrinsic right to do. Otherwise, the state becomes a power unto itself, overbearing and tyrannical, both despite its best intentions. The state becomes the master otherwise, not the servant we call just government, subject to the liberty of individuals.

I believe that one of the greatest threats of government is its favoritism to any one group, no matter its popularity, or numeric superiority. The function of just government is to protect individuals from the greed and passion of the many.

I believe that social justice is better achieved by voluntary action than by coercion or encouragement of law. I believe that tolerance, brotherhood, and civic duty are better achieved by individual example rather than government sanction.

I believe that the needy are best served by charity, the giving of one's own money, as opposed to charity, or the giving of someone else's money through coercion of law.

I believe that all citizens should be equal under law, regardless of color, nationality, sex, origin or inherent ability. No class should be given preferential treatment over another. This includes any government recognition of any class, regardless of the merit or popularity of any and all causes, for that is not equality under law, and never can be.

I believe that the proper role of government is negative, not positive; defensive, not aggressive. The role of government is to protect, not to provide. If the state is to provide for some, it is to take from others. Upon granting the power to government in order provide, special interests would, and have, sought to use it for their own advantage. That advantage is no better than legalized piracy and oppression.

The state cannot, will not, never has, and can never represent the greater good of society. It is not its right or capacity.

If government is powerful enough to give us everything we want, it is powerful enough to take from us everything we have. Therefore, the proper and just function of government is to protect the lives, liberty and property of citizens – nothing more. That government which is best governs least. Just governments have no rights. Individuals living as citizens of just governments are the only ones who have rights. Those rights are granted to them upon entry to this world.

Questions? Email danreale@realedealforcongress.com
Check us out on the web at www.realedealforcongress.com