

LOYAL IX

Loyal9.org

Join with us

If you are concerned that our legislators seem to care less and less about the constitution as the standard of this great country's laws

and

If you ever feel you don't have time to take action or are afraid that your voice alone can't make a difference.

We

-track those bills that undermine our individual liberties, states' rights, and national sovereignty.

-provide correspondence to let your elected officials know in seconds that you will not stand for it - combining your voice with thousands.

-notify you how they really voted so we are no longer at the mercy of relying on their silence, excuses, or public relations machines.

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I've been thinking a lot about how the rights to assemble/to protest/to speak are perhaps THE issues that are the umbrella over all other freedoms and what makes a country free, and civilized, and hopefully safe.

I've also been thinking about the encroachments of the past year:

-For example, recent legislation bans protesting "near" federal buildings or officials, or where ever the Secret Service says to vacate, making it a FELONY (HR 347). This blatant disregard of the 1st Amendment is made more disturbing by its broad vagueness. There is no established time; there is no set distance. It's just whatever is off limits per the word of the Secret Service. The vote on this was unanimous in the senate and had only three dissenting votes in the house.

Perhaps some can ignore this – rationalize that it doesn't matter. Maybe they're not "troublemakers" themselves, and don't relate when some shouting person yells across a barricade, and they wonder what others are upset at.

-But then we all see video of police clubbing and macing passive protestors, and then it strikes home that that really isn't the world we want, that it effects ALL of us; that that's not how we understand the constitution; and it's not the government that we want. Then we appreciate that the troublemakers may be heroes – we realize the right to protest is the right to prevent tyranny.

I don't think I am overstating things when I say that tyranny is exactly what is creeping forward. In fact it's storming forward:



-There are so many reports of police confiscating cameras of those filming their actions.
-Then state and community laws are passed to justify this.

This squelching of our freedoms of speech, assembly, and redress is now tracking us into our own homes, our lives. The 3rd Amendment declares that the government can't house soldiers in our homes. But isn't that what is being done as all of our electronic communication is gathered, filtered, sorted? Isn't that what is being done in our cars as each new car has a tracker measuring where we go and how fast? How is this different than the soldiers sitting in our kitchen or riding shotgun in our cars watching our every move for the "public safety."

Even if the car trackers provide emergency safety and if the surveillance catches some bad guys, they just seem to me to be the modern, technological version of quartering the authority in the citizen's homes as the 18th century British did. And now, as then, Ben Franklin had it right. "Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

In light of these very real and scary encroachments, our only safety comes in numbers, our only hope comes in standing up now, before it is too late, before jackboots reenact so many scenes from history and first come for the "troublemakers," and then our neighbors, and then for us -- all in the name of security. Please join us at Loyal9.org to be vigilant at the watch tower, to stand up, to speak out, to combine into a coalition that will effect real change.