

Hawai`i Libertarian

Monthly Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Hawaii Vol. 20, No. 1, January 2002



From the Chair By Roger Taylor

We are moving to a new meeting place for the year of 2002. [First Sunday of each month –Jan 6th is the first]. It signifies a new beginning. We intend to create a politically attractive vortex that freedom-loving individuals wouldn't mind donating some of their discretionary time to. Politics consists of reaction and forward visioning. I believe you create more of what you think about. Therefore I am solidly in the forward visioning camp. Creating video shows is an expression of this position. Our "Sex and the Law" panel discussion this January with moderator Tracy Ryan should prove to be a winner. (See Polyamory in Hawaii, Historical Perspectives Page 4) Reverend Pam Vessels and an attorney from the prosecutor's office will be part of the panel. Taping this one will be Jeff Garland, who did an excellent job videotaping and editing Unitarian Minister Mike Young's critique of the drug war.

We are back to a dinner meeting, which worked so well at the Columbia Inn. Food and socializing starts between 5:45-6:30 pm and the business meeting starts promptly at 6:30 pm. Our February 3rd meeting will deal with legislative matters. On March 3rd we will center on lining up our candidates. We need at least one Libertarian in a statewide race to maintain our ballot status. Depending on what occurs, we have until mid July to recruit libertarian leaning individuals currently outside the party. Membership expansion is important, as is getting a larger core of people to do libertarian related political work. Since 2002 is an election year, my energy is beginning to rise. My new year's resolution is Self-Discipline. Some of my forward motion will include activities with the Libertarian Party, which I am proud to be a member of. ✍

Resistance By Roger Taylor

One reason to be involved in Libertarian Activism is the opportunities for personal growth. Most people just like to live with liberty. However when our freedoms are taken away, interest in how the political system works becomes more imperative. A lot of my energy has gone into resisting how government takes away our liberties. However, my resistance seems to ebb and flow. As we enter into an election year my energy is beginning to flow, coming off a pretty long ebb. For the last several months, my resistance has manifested in the form of disliking asking for ballot access signatures. Instead of resisting the state, I have been resisting doing important political work for the Libertarian Party. I am glad to say a shift is occurring. In January I have commitments from Michael Powell, Cindy Powell, and Jerry Murphy to go with me to Safeway Manoa on Saturdays or go to bus stops in the afternoon to finish up our signature drive. I have begun to produce more Libertarian videos. I have begun to think about the upcoming elections. I invite you to join us and overcome your resistance to doing nothing. ✍

Signature Drive to Climax By Roger Taylor

If there were only one thing you would do as a Libertarian in 2002, I would want it to be for you to join us on Wednesday, January 16th at the opening of the legislature to help us lay our ballot access process to rest. In the morning is the pomp and circumstance; the afternoon is concerned with food and socializing as well as informal politicking. We will run shifts like 8-11 am, 11-2 pm and 2-5 pm. We can get upward of 200 signatures if we get enough help. More importantly we will continue to make a presence in the legislative arena where we can give guidance to errant bill writers and downright block blatant attempts to curtail our freedoms even more. Join Volunteers Noreen Chun, John Virgilio and myself for this auspicious occasion. Email me Roger-Taylor@hawaii.rr.com or call my cell at 352-5683 to RSVP. We need to get this done. It will be fun as a group. And I hope you are willing to do more than one thing this year for the Libertarian Party of Hawaii ✍

Turn in your Petitions By Roger Taylor

Bring your partially finished ballot access petitions to our January 6th meeting or mail them to me so that I get them by the 7th. We plan to finish by January 31st and want to get a current count. Send them in even if you only have 5 signatures: Roger Taylor, PO Box 1542, Aiea, HI 96701.

Volunteer Corner

Mike Rosell is the promoter for a trade show on Friday and Saturday January 11 and 12. He has donated table space to the Libertarian Party. We will be needing volunteers to cover this booth at which we will collect Ballot Access signatures. We also need roving signature collectors. It is always fun when we do things in a group. RSVP to Tracy Ryan 534-1846.

What If Drugs Were Legal?

America's Bloody War on Drugs – Part 2

America would become one giant throbbing rave party from sea to shining sea, with loads of garbage to clean up three days later.

The gangs would run rampant in our neighborhoods, along with roving packs of junkies robbing innocent victims to support their habits.

Your airline pilot to Japan would be on Ecstasy, your heart surgeon on crack, the ride operators at Disneyland would be on magic mushrooms, and your auto mechanic would be hooked on crystal meth.

Christianity would abruptly come to an end.

Parents would no longer be able to control their kids.

Cops could not fight crime, so they'd do drugs, too.

The economy would collapse because everybody else would be on drugs collecting welfare.

There would be a national healthcare crisis.

America's children would be handed out condoms *and* a Quaalude by their public school teachers, along with a handbook on black magic.

America would start to resemble the movie "Caligula" produced by Bob Guccione.

Not only is each of these blimp-like myths in need of exploding, but each is already being caused by the Drug War itself and would be eradicated if drugs—all drugs—were legalized. That is what is so frustrating about the Drug War. People observe nasty things happening because of the Drug War and think, because they have to with drugs, that legalizing drugs would make them worse.

Let's examine what government has brought to the table in its self-appointed role of "dealing" with each of the above issues for us.

America Would Be One Big Rave Party. Rave parties are the crazed glitter-child of the War on Drugs, just as gin-joints and speak-easies were a result of Prohibition in the Roaring Twenties. Because the drugs are on the black market, no age limit is required to purchase them, so they are more widely available to minors than substances terms like "minors" were invented to regulate. Liquor, even though it's legal and everywhere, is harder to get than Ecstasy because of that darn ID thing, plain and simple. Moreover, whenever the state comes down like Hitler on something that is benign, harmless and pleasurable, that something will become romanticized as the victim of senseless and evil brutality, and deservedly so. Drugs which are taken for pleasure fall into this category. The Drug War is such a bloody, stone-hearted beast that it instantly romanticizes the target of its venom, which is *that which causes pleasure*. The first time a teenager tries marijuana or Ecstasy he knows the demonic possession he was warned of was a cheap lie, and a betrayal, too. The lie immediately seems more like a flimsy justification for the violence of the Drug War than an honest message to them about their own welfare. Such a teenager is quite liable to overestimate the benefit of drugs as such, as soon as the propaganda is discredited. And because the government is enforcing all of this, institutions have no choice but to teach the militant propaganda that will eventually alienate so many children. No one dealing with real live circumstances involving these matters can think, act or speak any differently about them because of their illegality. If they do, they could go to jail or lose their jobs for dispensing extra-legal advice. If drugs are bad because they damage your mind, government eliminates the human mind from the social equation entirely. We are locked into a dysfunctional system by deaf, dumb and blind laws which diminish the capacity of us all, and society as a whole, to deal with the issue of drugs.

Gang warfare. Gang warfare, driveby shootings, and gang-related mayhem is, also, a direct result of the Drug War. Drug prohibition drives the price so high that those ruthless enough to defy the law suddenly find themselves making more money than a TV star, and kids look up to them as neighborhood role models. They not only make enough money to suddenly buy all sorts of automatic weapons, they *need* to, in order to survive. And, of course, since they don't work in a regular, legal sort of business environment, they and many of their field distributors operate out of their homes in mostly poor neighborhoods where there are lots and lots of kids on the street, who can be handy runners, spotters and customers. Great recruiting grounds. And because there's none of that ID stuff again, or Child Labor laws or, well, *any* of that bumfuddle to worry about, kids can go right to work and get a straight deal without Uncle Cookie Monster taking a bite out of their paycheck before it reaches their itsy-bitsy little hands. And since the Drug War is throwing so many kids in jail, where approximately 70% of male prisoners are raped within five years, it's always good insurance to join a gang. *The Drug*

War has funded, formed and even necessitated America's gang problem.

Doctors on Drugs. One thing is for sure, if drugs were legal, drug problems would be easier to deal with, for everyone involved. Options could be discussed openly, the problem could be confronted directly without fear of legal repercussions. People could reach out to each other, legally, to deal with addiction, and services would be readily available without the stigma and terror of government persecution. Non-serious use of drugs would not be subject to capricious condemnation and the human destruction associated with such unwarranted intervention. It is far more likely today, with the Drug War blazing, that if your doctor, pilot, or auto-mechanic was on drugs, he would be forced to hide it for fear of immediate legal jeopardy. If drugs were legal, however, it would be far more likely that his doctor and yours could talk to patients about their drug use—a novel idea—and help find useful, peaceful remedies.

Armageddon. The imbibing of mind-altering substances (alcohol) is alive and well in the Bible and the New Testament. There is nothing fundamentally or morally different about such an activity that involves another substance and another kind of alteration. Few illegal recreational drugs, however, are as physically and mentally disabling as alcohol, with the exception of speed and PCP. Finally, what is most ironic is that religion actually is prevented from being a much larger force on the issue of drugs *because* of their illegality. One million people are in prison because of drugs today, well out of reach of the church or anyone else's help. The Drug War cripples one of the main functions of religion and, indeed, all systems of ethics in human society by encroaching on ethical territory and claiming it as criminal territory.

Parents Would Be Helpless. The Drug War has driven a flaming wedge between parents and their children. Whereas in a sane and free society, parents could almost casually ask their children if they were trying drugs, no one can bring up the topic of lawbreaking without great anxiety. When imprisonment is what the other side offers, the debate is over, trust is destroyed, and a conspiracy begins. Drug parties in the wilderness and raves are the natural consequence. Without the Drug War, the issue of drugs, as with alcohol, tobacco, and sex, would be the sacred province of parents and children, and social evolution would begin to define the best ways to teach, in peace, the best and most honest ways to deal with the issue, as free human beings have shown themselves quite capable of doing without the government's help in regard to sex, alcohol, and tobacco. And there's that ID thing again. Kids don't need an ID to buy drugs, courtesy of the Drug War, and parents are helpless to control it or sue the vendor who sold drugs to their child.

Cops Would Be Unable to Fight Crime, and Take Drugs, Too. My friends, cops could do their jobs again. If anything drives cops to skim drugs or money off the winnings in this winless war, it's the crazy role they are forced to play in it. They have to be the Boogey Man blasting into family's homes in the dark of night to rip them apart forever because of a bag

of weeds or powder, or wink and look in the other direction for a bribe. They are the pitchforked demons casting the sinners into hell in this Bruegel painting. Meanwhile, two thousand cops have died in this war, at least, in the last 20 years. One million people are in prison because of victimless

Announcements

General Meeting:

"Sex and the Law" panel discussion this January with moderator Tracy Ryan

When: Sunday January 6, 6:00 PM

Where: 888 South King Street. Corner of King and Ward. Straub Clinic Presentation Room, ground floor behind the cafeteria.

Open to public

Trade Show:

on Friday and Saturday January 11 and 12. We will be needing volunteers to cover this booth at which we will collect Ballot Access signatures. We also need roving signature collectors. It is always fun when we do things in a group. RSVP to Tracy Ryan 534-1846

Executive Committee Meeting:

When: Sunday January 20, 6:00 PM

Where: 888 South King Street. Corner of King and Ward. Straub Clinic Presentation Room, ground floor behind the cafeteria.

All members welcome

Join the Hawaii Libertarian Party

On Line: Visit the Hawaii Party website at <http://www.hi.lp.org>, click on the *Join LPH!* Button, and follow the instructions there. While there, look around! You'll find lots of useful info.

By Mail: Call the Hawaii office at (808) 537-3078, or call any of the names listed on the back page, and ask for a membership application. When it comes, fill it out, sign it, and mail it with a check for the annual dues of \$35 to:

Libertarian Party of Hawaii
625 Keawe St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

drug violations. And less than 3,000 people a year die from actually taking illegal drugs—compared to 100,000 from tobacco and another 100,000 from *legally prescribed drugs*. If this war was stopped, kids would salute cops again on the street and be happy that they were there to protect their family from thieves, rapists and killers. And cops would feel at peace

again instead of always fighting a well-funded army of scumbags. You want a "Leave It to Beaver" America again? Think it can't be achieved? Gee Wally. Why don't we legalize drugs?

The Economy Would Collapse. The economy would explode as government debt was retired and the underground economy was brought into the legitimate economy. Moreover, if the FDA got out of the way, legitimate companies would develop better drugs that would alleviate undesirable side effects associated with illegal drugs and rapidly market the criminal drug racket out of business, not to mention the alcohol business. Drugs would become safer, more pleasurable, with less impairment or after-effects, eventually replacing alcohol, the number one killer drug in America. Moreover, about one million prisoners could become productive citizens again, instead of rape victims in the moralistic hell we have damned them to, which happily costs us the equivalent of sending each of them to an Ivy League school every year that they are incarcerated. And with Mandatory Minimums, that's enough time to pile up more degrees than Jacob Bronowski. Many of these people were productive, creative, brilliant and wonderful people before they were sent to America's version of hell. They could be so again. ([see Part I](#)) The savings in the court systems, police, and prisons would be an unprecedented boon to the prosecution of violent crime and fraud as the narcotics gangs and organized crime scrambled around for awhile before going legit or withering away. Most of the corruption of our institutions would come to an end, inevitably strengthening our society and our markets.

Health Would Decline. See above. Not only would legally answerable companies create more healthful recreational drugs in a free market, but they would be able to market life-extending drugs, as well, something a government counting on death for its Social Security Ponzi scheme to work isn't likely to allow. Believe me, legalizing all drugs, and holding drug companies and their insurance companies legally liable for damages, would not only create a healthier population, but a much longer-lived one, as well. (See [this essay](#) by Durk Pearson and Sandy Shaw on this fascinating subject.)

The Government Would Be in the Drug Business. Americans have sadly been trained ideologically to think that everything that isn't illegal is somehow mandatory. It is not the government's place to give its blessing to crack-smoking or snake-handling, to the League of Ecstasy Poppers or the Catholic Church. Just because the government doesn't imprison female impersonators it doesn't mean your tax dollars are going to *La Cage Aux Folles*. Likewise, just because the Catholic Church is not specifically endorsed by the government it doesn't mean the Catholic Church should be outlawed.

America Would Look Like a Bob Guccione Production. What most good God-fearing Americans are afraid of is that they would have to deal with these issues personally again (Uncle Jim) if the government got out of it. The Drug War is like a big Christian wish-fulfillment—we're casting those sinners into hell! And indeed we are—to hell, that is. Only, they're not dead yet, and we're not God. This system is, by Christianity's own precepts, sacrilegious, upending the entire

concept "judge not lest ye be judged," and usurping God's role by passing a purely moral sentence against those who have not transgressed against their fellow man. The Drug War itself is the true moral abomination in our society, by all codes of ethics, religious or secular. It is the fatal hubris of the government playing judge of our *souls* and punishing not crimes, but *sins*, as William F. Buckley has observed. If you want to see Bob Guccione's Caligula, look at what happens to the hundreds of thousands of harmless young people who are enslaved by the Drug War and shipped out to prisons filled with sexual depravity, disease and violence. We are hijacking our teenagers and youth and sentencing them to defilement, despair and destruction in a slave pit. And we are afraid that ending the Drug War would create a depraved society?

It's time to stop blaming a substance for a policy. It's time to start recognizing that the problems associated with drugs are not caused by drugs but by the savage way we are addressing the issue of drugs. Gang violence, lost youth, shattered families, demoralized cops, corrupt institutions, wasted resources, and a society helpless to do or say anything about it is what government has brought to the issue of drugs by imposing its brute force. Drugs are a complex enough issue for a people to deal with all by themselves without adding all of these other destructive problems. What would America look like if drugs were legal?

In the next and final part of this series, I'll look past the myths about legalizing drugs and describe the reality of a world where government simply stepped aside (gasp) and let the people deal with the problem, as the Constitution clearly demands the federal government do.

—Casey Fahy, 9-10-2000

p.s. This is what my novel, [Escaping America](#), is about. If you know anyone with the means and the nads, please tell them to publish the damn thing.

To attach faces to the anonymous groups listed above and see photographs of real people whose lives have been ruined by the Drug War, <http://www.hr95.org/hr95faces.html>. You won't believe your eyes. . . ☺

Polyamory In Hawaii

Historical Perspectives

Hawaii is the only state of United States with millennia of polyamory as a mainstream way of life. Before the arrival of missionaries, the Polynesian extended family meant not only a lot of people living together and sharing their resources but also freedom of love. Bengt Danielsson notes, "... in Polynesia, neither gods nor men were able to understand that sex life could be sinful. The priests lived as merry a life as the chiefs and the higher their rank the more wives and concubines they had."(1) Conditions in the Marquesas are in this respect typical of Polynesia in general. As Handy says: "...natives of both

sexes run wild for a few years after adolescence in pursuit of amusement in general, but of the satisfaction of their abundant sexual appetite in particular. A girl was looked down upon in a native society if she did not run wild this way...A party consisting of ten to twenty youths would sometimes spend the night together in the bush. A favourite pastime was the making of nests in the bush and spending the night in pairs or small groups." (2) On a more modest tone, the great Hawaiian historian of the after-missionary era, Mary Kawena Pukui adds about adults: "in Hawaiian custom in pre-missionary times it was permissible for a man to have several wives or for a woman to have several husbands."(3) Western taboos of wrongness of open sexual behavior were totally unheard-of by Polynesians, yet they created and sustained a happy and prosperous civilization for millenia. This brings the meaningfulness of our old-fashioned Western concepts of chastity and innocence largely into question.

To those who think the Western civilization had its sexual taboos from the outset, it will be a surprise to learn that Europe enjoyed its own period of polyamory at roughly the same time the Polynesians did. "Polyamory and free love had been traditional in (mediaeval) Europe before the arrival of Christian missionaries, and they continued to be traditional for many hundreds of years after. Our knowledge is limited partly by the fewness of written records...however, we do know something about the Irish in the first few centuries of the Christian era, for they produced a considerable literature. It shows us a people strongly matriarchal and with few inhibitions about sexual matters. Virginity was not prized, and marriage was usually a trial marriage or a temporary agreement. ... polygamy was not uncommon and many of the heroes are portrayed as having two or more wives...nudity was no cause for shame; not only were warriors normally naked, except for their accoutrements, but women also undressed freely. ...In circumstances such as these, the Church's first object was to establish the principle of lifelong monogamous marriage, without which its stricter regulations were practically meaningless...(4) "In the earlier part of Middle Ages what we chiefly find is frank sexuality, with which the Church at first battled in vain." (5)

The Church ultimately prevailed, and the first Westerners to arrive to Hawaii brought its taboos with them, albeit to a varying degree. In 1819, after forty-one years of contact with the Western civilization, the Hawaiian society, led by Queen Kaahumanu shed all of

its 800-year-old taboos, realizing they lack foundation. (Interestingly no such revelation occurred on the Western side.) Impressed by the technological advances of the Western World, (big sailboats, metal tools, weapons, writing, et al.) and believing that those are products of the Western religion, not the advanced Western economy (a misconception that the missionaries weren't too pressed to dissolve) the Hawaiians adopted the Christian faith with its taboos. Now the men could eat freely with their women, but not consort freely with them.

Enters a third religion, a propagator of polyamory. In 1850 the Mormon Church established a mission on Lanai, and in 1865 moved to Laie, Oahu Island. The Mormon concept of polyamory was one of the polygyny, one husband and several wives. (The Mormon Church discontinued the practice of plural marriages in 1890.)

The Mormon religion is every bit as much of an import in Hawaii than the original Hawaiian belief in "mana" or supernatural power. The latter arrived from Tahiti only 1200 years after the Polynesian settlement of Hawaii.

Morality? Religions and taboos come and go. Polyamory stays. ✍

Get Online with Hawaiian Libertarians

Our Website Home Page: <http://www.hi.lp.org>

Open Discussion Group: lph-discuss@topica.com

Announcements: lph-announce@topica.com

National LP Website Home Page: <http://www.lp.org>

Idiots In Government

"The all-knowing FAA now wants to ban all knives from the passenger cabin! Hello! Idiots in the government! Would you like to know what WILL stop the bad guys? It is this: LOTS of knives, LOTS of box cutters, and LOTS of guns in the hands of passengers! The FAA makes no sense whatsoever. Has any government bureaucracy ever made sense?

"How about this: Thirty-three states have shall-issue concealed carry laws in effect. Why not let those licensed to carry concealed handguns from those states carry on aircraft? Oh, I would insist that their handguns be loaded with some low-energy, high-absorption bullet like a Glaser Safety Slug. While there might be some small danger from the inadvertent discharge into someone's crotch or something, just one Bubba with a snubby .38 would give any terrorist pause -- and several additional bodily orifices. After all, it is not death which these guys fear, it is failure. Change the odds, and the whole game changes."

GOPN&V reader Don "Jet-Eye" Loucks, 9/14/01

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** RR = hawaii.rr.com

*** NS = netscape.net

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