



[Home](#)

[About the Editor](#)

[Do's and Don'ts of Cuba Policy](#)

[Email sign-up](#)

[RSS](#)

A Zero-Sum Argument by CATO

at 6:16 PM Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Daniel Griswold of the *CATO Institute* made this insulting, not to mention nonsensical, argument for lifting sanctions towards Cuba in *Opposing Views*:

*"If more US tourists were permitted to visit Cuba, and at the same time US exports to Cuba were further liberalised, the US economy could reclaim dollars from the Castro regime as fast as the regime could acquire them. In effect, the exchange would be of agricultural products for tourism services, a kind of **"bread for beaches", "food for fun"** trade relationship."*

Coincidentally, the U.S. State Department released its 2009 Trafficking in Persons report today, which classifies Cuba in the lowest rank, Tier 3, due to its tourist sex trade and female exploitation practices. **Are the apartheid hotels, beaches and nightclubs -- where only foreigners and prostitutes are allowed access by the regime's authorities -- the "beaches" and "fun" referred to?**

Even more fundamentally flawed is the notion that U.S. tourists would fuel the demand for U.S. agricultural products in Cuba. Economically, that is a zero-sum proposition. You'd simply be feeding an U.S. tourist in Havana versus doing so in Miami Beach, there's no added value.

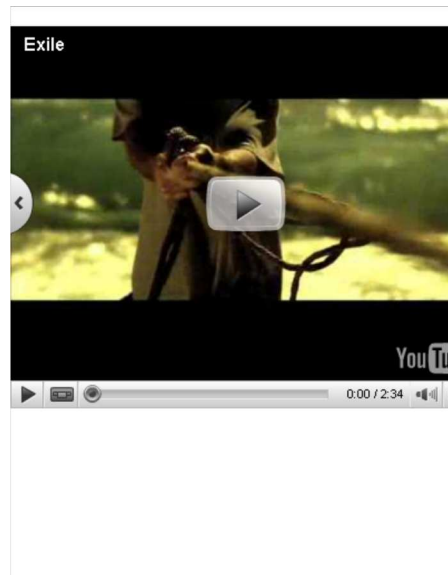
ShareThis

[Newer Post](#)

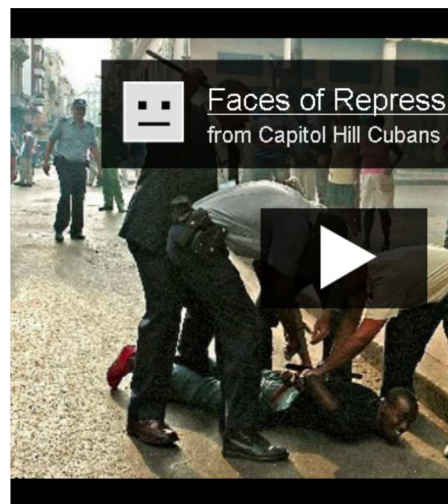
[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

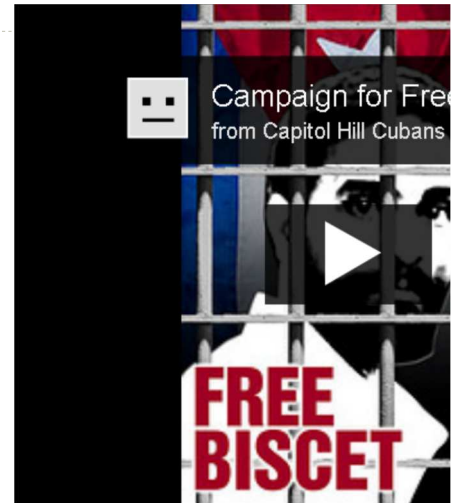
Capitol Hill Cubans TV



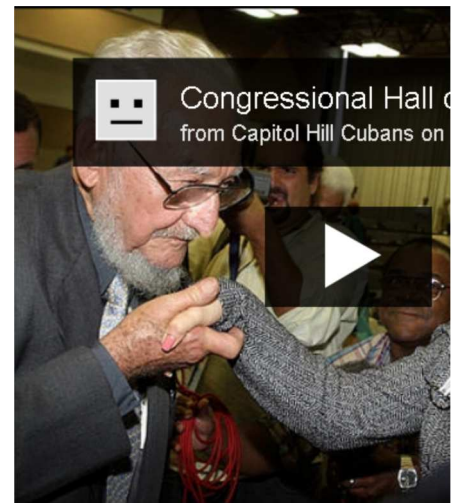
Faces of Repression



Campaign for Freedom



Congressional Hall of Shame



Link List

[Congressional Cuba Democracy Caucus Letter to President Obama](#)

[Cuba After Castro](#)

[Florida Cuban-American Voters Survey](#)

[SayfieReview.com](#)

Blog Archive

▼ 2009 (373)

Copyright © 2009 Capitol Hill Cubans

▼ 06/14 - 06/21 (20)

[Trade Conference
Remarks](#)

[New Trafficking in
Persons Report](#)

[A Zero-Sum Argument by
CATO](#)

[Cubans Akin to 18th
Century Slaves](#)

[Corporate Beneficiaries
of Travel to Cuba](#)

[Europe's Oxymoron \(or
Moron\)](#)

[Criminal Procedure 101](#)

[A Lesson in Civility](#)

[Iran's Shot Heard 'Round
the World](#)

[The Golden Cows](#)

[Castro's Tourist Scam](#)

[Supreme Court Rejects
"Cuban Five" Appeal](#)

[The Flipside of Biden's
Remarks](#)

[CAMBIO is Inevitably
Coming](#)

[Wreath Laying Ceremony
Tomorrow](#)

[Vaclav Havel on EU
Relations With Cuba](#)

[In My Humble Opinion,
Pt. 9](#)

[The Isolated Gesture
\(That Took 15 Years\)](#)

[Quote of the Week](#)

[20 Years After the Arrest
of General Ochoa](#)

▶ 06/07 - 06/14 (32)

▶ 05/31 - 06/07 (46)

▶ 05/24 - 05/31 (39)

- ▶ 05/17 - 05/24 (47)
- ▶ 05/10 - 05/17 (29)
- ▶ 05/03 - 05/10 (26)
- ▶ 04/26 - 05/03 (30)
- ▶ 04/19 - 04/26 (34)
- ▶ 04/12 - 04/19 (48)
- ▶ 04/05 - 04/12 (16)
- ▶ 03/29 - 04/05 (2)
- ▶ 02/15 - 02/22 (1)
- ▶ 02/08 - 02/15 (1)
- ▶ 01/25 - 02/01 (1)
- ▶ 01/04 - 01/11 (1)
- ▶ 2008 (1)