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The Blanks Slate

"Only the refusal to listen guarantees one against being ensnared by the truth" - Robert Nozick

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2010

Just for Fun Friday: Libertarian Cheat Sheet

There was much ado on the Twitters this week about what conservatism is, thanks to [patently false comments by Jim DeMint](#), because people tend to lump all conservatives together as if they all believe the same thing.

Similarly, people often think of libertarians as having a monolithic way of thinking, but this could not be further from the truth. Indeed, to paraphrase Brian Doherty's book *Radicals for Capitalism*, if two libertarians agree on something, one invariably will accuse the other of selling out.

To clear this up, then, I've put together a short list of the many kinds of libertarians so you can tell us apart:

Catoites: Associated with the Cato Institute, typically urbane libertines. Work in a giant greenhouse. Often mistaken for Republicans, but indeed they are too principled.

Reasonoids: Associated with **reason** magazine, typically libertine urbanites with an aversion to professional attire and a penchant for Johnny Cash impersonators.

CEIers: Convinced that the polar bear floating down the Potomac was just a hallucination brought on by *delerium tremens*. Remedy: more drink.

Classical Liberals: aging ex-hippies familiar with Latin, Greek and/or the Western Canon.

Randians/Objectivists: Making the principled argument for selfishness since 1957. They believe in objective truth as told by Rand, so they are very much like fundamentalist Muslims though thankfully they're too self-absorbed to blow themselves up.

Paulistas: A cult of personality much like the Randians but lack any

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Jonathan Blanks
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[@unsuckdcmetro](#) whose bright idea was it to do construction on EVERY SINGLE LINE this weekend? I'm cabbing it to avoid the mess.
yesterday

[@worm_66](#) Can I get some fantasy help? Rivers on bye--start Bradford @ Gold miners or Hill @ Bison?
yesterday

[@richeisen](#) [@si_peterking](#) Can I get some fantasy help? Rivers on bye--start Bradford @ SF or Hill @ BUF?
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[@adamserwer](#) More on the point of wealth transfer over generations, Skip Gates in NYT in 2007.
<http://ow.ly/38VZL>
2 days ago



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cognizable sense of humor. They are best known for driving flame-traffic on websites that criticize the great and powerful Ron.

Liberalartarians: The one group in America that can legitimately blame Obama for their unemployment.

Beckians: Nominal libertarians but *de facto* conservative populists whose manifesto pines for the day when America was collectively at the height of its irrationality and bloodlust as we entered the anger stage of the grief process. (No, really.) Also, they seem to believe Jesus wrote the Constitution.

Constitutionalists: Lawyers and legal types who take the Constitution much more seriously than the Founders ever did. They seem to believe that Madison was Jesus.

Austrian Economists: Economists who hate math.

Chicago Economists: Economists who hate English.

Anarchists: Statists who've never been mugged.

Minarchists: Anarchists with commitment issues.

Seasteaders: Anarchists (on a boat!) who've never been marauded by pirates.

There you go. So the next time you're navigating a room full of drunk libertarians, this little cheat sheet will give you a good idea of what kind of person you're dealing with.

Have a good weekend!

bellum medicamenti delenda est.

Posted by JPB at 12:00 PM 

Labels: [Cato](#), [Glenn Beck](#), [just for fun](#), [random thoughts](#), [reason](#), [Ron Paul](#), [seasteading](#)

2 comments:

Anonymous said...

Austrian economists hate math?

I thought they were the only ones who new enough of it to wade through JMKs bullshit formulas for economic prosperity.

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