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You might be a libertarian, if ...

Posted by **Thomas Mitchell**
Saturday, Nov. 27, 2010 at 09:36 AM

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What is this?

Jeff Foxworthy made a few coins with his country comedy routine filling in the blank after the phrase "**You might be a redneck**, if ..."

You know, things like:

"... you think the last words of the Star Spangled Banner are, 'Gentlemen, start your engines.'"

"... you think a stock tip is advice on worming the hogs."

"... you have more than three cousins named Bubba." (In Louisiana several years back there were nine candidates for governor — including two Bubbas, a Buddy and a Sonny. But that's another story.)

This week the founder of the Libertarian Party, **David Nolan**, died at the age of 66. He launched the party in disdain for both major parties when Nixon imposed wage and price controls in 1971.



He also was the creator of the Nolan Chart, which displays political leanings not just along a spectrum of left to right, but also top to bottom depending on a desire for more or less government. A true libertarian would be at the top of the chart.

For years people would ask me my political views and I'd invariably reply fiscal conservative, social liberal — thinking I was in the minority with such schizoid views.

Apparently not.

According to a **Cato Institute policy analysis** in January, a Zogby poll found that when asked if they agreed with describing themselves as "fiscally conservative and socially liberal, also known as libertarian" 44 percent agreed. Asked only if they would describe themselves as "fiscally conservative and socially liberal" without the label, fully 59 percent agreed.

David Boaz, one of the authors of that analysis and executive vice president at Cato, recently recorded a podcast outlining this and addressing various threats this country faces that could be addressed with libertarian solutions.

At 32:00 of this 36-minute audio, Boaz discusses just how widespread libertarian philosophy is in America.

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