

The World According to Nick

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The Koch Brothers Aren't Conservative

One of the more interesting things to come out of the Koch Brother's episode with Scott Walker is everyone's description of the Koch Brothers. Both Democrats and Republicans keep talking about the Koch brothers, and most often describe them as being "conservative" philanthropists. I hate to break it to both sides, but the Koch brothers aren't Conservative... [they're Libertarian](#).

It's an important distinction that both sides should pay attention too, because Democrats certainly shouldn't vilify them, and Republicans shouldn't be taking so much credit as if they're cut from the same cloth. [As has been noted in several web sites](#), the Koch brothers are major donors to different Libertarian think tanks including the [CATO Institute](#) and the [Reason Foundation](#) (which publishes [Reason Magazine](#)) and the [Institute for Justice](#).

Among the various "conservative" causes that CATO and Reason support are:

- Ending the Drug War
- Legalizing the Gay Marriage
- Cutting Defense Spending

More specifically, they both joined with George Soros (*gasp*), and [donated millions of dollars](#) to the [ACLU](#) for the specific purpose of defeating the Patriot Act. Talk about Conservative right? And all those are definitely things that Liberals would hate supporting huh?

But hey, maybe the Koch brothers are only fans of the "conservative" parts of those organizations... except of course for the fact that David Koch was on the Libertarian Party Ticket in 1980 as the Vice Presidential Candidate.

So to those Liberals who vilify the Koch brothers for what they support, why don't you want to legalize Gay Marriage, end the Drug War or roll back the Patriot Act? And to those Conservatives who are so willing to turn a blind eye to their support for those same causes which you obviously disagree with... why are you so willing throw away your core beliefs for money? Do you give them a kiss after they leave their money on the pillow for you?