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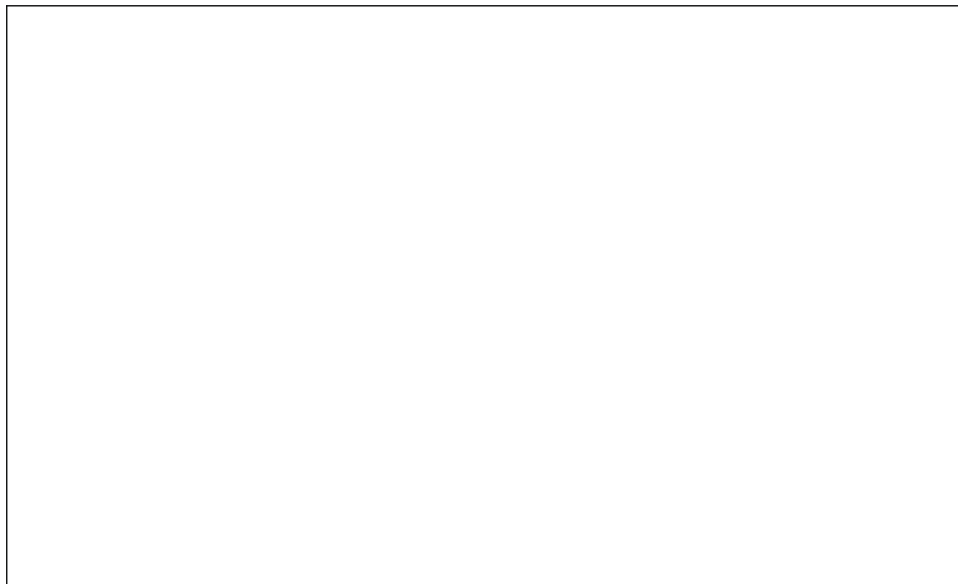
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David Boaz, Executive VP of Cato, Tells MHD Why He's Optimistic About the Growing Freedom Movement

June 11, 2009

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This week we're back in Jason and my old stomping grounds — Washington DC. Earlier this week we had an [awesome meetup](#) and since then we've been making the rounds, interviewing some of those advancing the freedom movement in their own way (which, being in DC, usually means through public policy).

One such person is [David Boaz](#), the Executive Vice President of the [Cato Institute](#). In this video David gives an overview of Cato and touches on its impact, shares his thoughts on other mediums to work through including civil disobedience and the [Free State Project](#) and details why it is that he remains optimistic.

I should note that I personally owe a lot both to Cato and to David. When at [Strand Books](#) in NYC with my bro Tom back in the day I inquired about books on libertarianism. I was handed [The Libertarian Reader](#), which David edited, and was quickly introduced to many of the best minds of the political philosophy, including an essay by Herbert Spencer called "[The Right to Ignore the State](#)" which was one of the first readings that caused me to question the legitimacy of the State.

Later, after deepening and broadening my grasp on the ideas of liberty (with much credit due to those active with the [College Libertarians at Western Illinois University](#)) I applied and was accepted at Cato as an intern in the Spring of 2005 by then-intern coordinator [Krystal Brand](#) (now Slivinski). There, I worked with the folks in [Foreign Policy and Defense](#) and when able, helped those in the [Constitutional Studies](#) area. Needless to say, it was an education that helped shape me into the person I am today and for that I am very thankful. So, if you're in college now and are down with liberty, I encourage you to [apply for an internship](#) or check out their [home study course](#).

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