

Twitter Thread by Laocoon of Troy



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Thread on Libertarianism

1.

Libertarians are useful for one thing: highlighting government inefficiency. Other than that, they're almost useless and have little to no understanding of human nature.

2.

The fatal flaw of Libertarians is that they can't see that their ideology contains a programming error that ensures the death of that ideology: an ironclad belief in democracy.

3.

Arthur Conan Doyle was correct when he said: "While the individual man is an insoluble puzzle, in the aggregate he becomes a mathematical certainty."

Libertarians (outside of a few in the Mises Institute) all believe in democracy.

4.

Democracy has proven to us that, regardless of what people say as individuals about freedom or taxes, they collectively vote for benefits and larger gov't.

Example: simply look at US debt and what its government's largest expenses are.

5.

This ensures the death of the libertarian experiment because more benefits & bigger govt also expands govt authority and regulation. Govt has no reliable subculture of restraint to prevent this, because representative govts exclusively comprise those who WANT to be in govt

6.

Ergo, those who want to be in govt (ie, ran for election) will, in the aggregate, always find ways to increase their power and authority over time. In the US it started by politicians trading votes (power) for the treasury (benefits, entitlements, etc) in the 1930s and 1960s.

7.

It's been exacerbated by adding a massive surveillance state since 2001 and Covid authoritarianism since 2020. And I haven't even mentioned corporate welfare which has been going on, in some form or another, almost since the country was founded.

8.

The only libertarians I've even heard of that don't believe in democracy (because they see it as incompatible with liberty) are the Hans Hermann Hoppe type, who believe in a quaintly hallucinatory dictatorship, ruled by insurance companies.

9.

But the notion that (corporatist) capitalism = "freedom" is laughable. Anyone who's watched the news for even the last month, or ever dealt with a corporate HR Department, can see that corporations are at least as dictatorial as governments are, if not more.

10/Thread

Libertarianism is a system designed to fail because it doesn't account for human nature. One can put all of the laws and checks and balances into a system to prevent statism from happening... and still it will happen. Always.