Redefining Socialism

by Phil Rasmussen

For the past year there has been a lot of talk about Biden and the Democrats pushing our nation toward socialism. In my mind there is no doubt that this is happening at a horrendously fast pace and it needs to be stopped.

Those of us who grew up during the Cold War are fairly familiar with the various attributes of Socialism.

The concept of socialism grew out of the 1800s with Karl Marx's dissertations on the shortcomings of capitalism and exploitation of workers. While Marx defined the principles of socialism, over time, various forms of socialism developed, each emphasizing selected aspects of socialist ideology.

Regardless of your own familiarity of what socialism is or is not, the truth be told, most of us have no idea of what it is or what its outcomes actually are. We can gain some understanding by researching why so many people want to leave a socialist controlled country for one of democratic freedom.

There are thirteen basic characteristics of socialism. Knowing these characteristics however does not provide us with an understanding of their impact on our lives.

Characteristics of Socialism			
1.	Public ownership of economic resources		
2.	Abolition of private property		
3.	Centralized economic planning		
4.	Establishment of one party totalitarian state		
5.	Community co-operation		
6.	Creation of classless (egalitarian) society		
7.	Suppression of anti-revolutionary activities		
8.	Social welfare provided by the government		
9.	Income redistribution		
10. Provision of basic needs			
11. Price control			
12. No competition			
13. Limited choice of consumer products			

To better understand how socialism and a socialist government can affect us, let's do a comparative study.

Such comparative studies will compare socialism to other forms of government. However our study is going to look at the comparison of various activities that take place in our daily lives. We will do this comparison in chart form.

	Socialism	Slavery
Economic resources	State owned	Slave owner
Private property	State owned	Slave owner
Economic planning	At government level	At slave owner level
Political parties	Only 1 party	None
Lack of co-operation	Prison	Chained and/or whipped
Classes	Controlled by government	Controlled by slave owner
Revolutionary activities	Tortured and/or kill	Chained and/or whipped
Income redistribution	Not applied to leadership	No income given to slaves
Basic needs	Determined by class	Determined by class
Consumer products	Limited by government	Limited by slave owner
Travel	By permit only	Limited by slave owner
Medical	Based on class	Based on importance
Clothing	Based on class/occupation	As provided by slave owner
Firearm ownership	Not authorized	Not allowed

While a lot has been written about the so-called benefits of socialism, not a single country in which it has survived for more than 75 years (the USSR survived for 70 years). Even when it was originally tried in the 1800s, socialism was a dismal failure.

The chart above indicates that socialism is essentially nothing but another term for slavery. There is nothing beneficial about socialism. In fact socialism results in the following:

- Two class structures: the elite (bourgeoisie) and the working class (proletariat)
- Two levels of income: the rich (bourgeoisie) and the poor (proletariat)
- Cancel culture: ostracism that will eventually lead to imprisonment or worse
- Government control: every aspect of your life will be controlled by government, increased bureaucracy, unnecessary government spending
- Economic upheaval: severe shortages, high prices, increased taxes, slow economic growth
- Poor medical care: shortage of medical supplies, restricted access, restricted care

- Restricted travel: fuel shortages, required travel permits, implemented mandates
- Gatherings: no public protests, restricted number of people
- Increased taxation: results in disincentives to work, reduces economic development, less entrepreneurial opportunity

In short, ALL the rights that you now have under our democratic constitution will be replaced and every aspect of your life will be controlled by government.

And the one thing we know about government is that when it takes over welfare programs, industries, institutions, services, etcetera, it **ALWAYS** screws up and mismanages these entities.

Slavery in the USA was abolished in 1865 by the 13th Amendment and elaborated on with more prohibitions by the 14th Amendment (1868) and the 15th Amendment (1870).

Socialism is Slavery by another name!
It should NEVER be permitted in our country.