You Just Lost Another Right

by Phil Rasmussen

The other day I was listening to the news about the latest "Whistleblower," when I heard something in the report that probably most people probably did not think about, and should cause a great deal of concern.

According to the Federalist, sometime between May 2018 and August 2019, the intelligence community secretly gutted the requirement of first-hand knowledge for whistleblower complaints. The document reflecting this change can be found at: https://www.dni.gov/files/ICIG/Documents/Hotline/Urgent%20Concern%20Disclosure%2 OForm.pdf on the Internet. According to the document properties, it was modified September 25, 2019.

The timing of when this change was made public and when the whistleblower's statement was received is for others to discuss. What is relevant, and of importance, are the implications that this document will have, and is relevant to all Americans.

By allowing for secondhand information or as it is legally called "hearsay," the government has abrogated many of your rights as guaranteed by the Bill of Rights under the US Constitution. Broadly defined, "hearsay" is testimony or documents quoting people who are not present in court. Hearsay evidence is inadmissible for lack of a firsthand witness. When the person being quoted is not present, establishing credibility becomes impossible, as does cross-examination. However, like all rules, there are close to thirty exceptions.

Two important exceptions are:

- Statements against interest These are admissions or confessions which in some way adversely affect the divulging party. The theory for this exception is that a person would not fabricate a statement against his own best interest. The problem is that the testimony may be false, as the interest may lie elsewhere.
- Matter of Record This exception primarily refers to documents and records.
 The records/documents can be public or private

With the so-called impeachment hearings being "legitimized", it will be important to know if the whistleblower testimony will be heard. If it is, then we are definitely screwed

and have lost the right to fair justice and the concept of the truth and only the whole truth. This action is only one of many that continue to chop away at our freedoms and Bill of Rights. If allowed to persist, human rights violations will increase while human dignity will decrease. A form of apartheid accompanied by a totalitarian, authoritarian or fascist government will prevail. Socialism is just the first step!

The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), in conjunction with the American Communist USA party, advocate for a maximum decentralization of our economic system and replacing it with social ownership. This means that no one will own a business, that all businesses belong to the state. The DSA attempts to achieve this goal through the veiled propaganda that they are for basic human social and economic rights whose implementation would help to achieve freedom and dignity for all Americans. Their mantra includes:

- Universal healthcare
- Universal childcare
- Progressive taxation
- Tuition-free higher education
- Cutting military expenditures
- Maximum wage ceilings

Most Americans have no understanding of what a socialist government or society means. The socialists talk about their goals and means as being for all people (the collective). Yet the "collective" actually means the general public and the ruling group. Once you are in the ruling group you have it made and will have greater choices but still will be controlled by the state. Without going into a discourse of socialism, here are some basic characteristics of this type of environment:

- Classless Society no rich or poor people (they are all poor except for the rulers)
- Socialism provides equal opportunity (according to how the state defines it)
- Work and wages according to ability and needs as defined by the state
- State is responsible for basic necessities of life (all aspects will have limits)
- All property is state owned (no you do not own anything)
- The economy is planned by the state
- State controls all production and distribution
- No competition for business will exist
- Limited choice of consumer products
- Pricing will be state controlled

All socialist societies have failed in the past. Current socialist countries are either starting to experience failure or are already in a failing state. Take a look at China with Hong Kong, and at Venezuela as examples. When these states fail, either democracy prevails or some other greater controlling form of government. Following are the characteristics of three forms of government that usually follow socialist government failures.

Government State Characteristics

Totalitarian State	Authoritarian State	Fascist State
 Rule enforced by a single dictator The presence of a single ruling political party Strict censorship, if not total control of the press Constant dissemination of pro-government propaganda Mandatory service in the military for all citizens Mandatory population control practices Prohibition of certain religious or political groups and practices Prohibition of any form of public criticism of the government Laws enforced by secret police forces or the military 	 Limited political freedom with strict government controls imposed on political institutions and groups like legislatures, political parties, and interest groups A controlling regime that justifies itself to the people as a "necessary evil" uniquely capable of coping with "easily recognizable societal problems" such as hunger, poverty, or violent insurgency Strict government-imposed constraints on social freedoms such as suppression of political opponents and anti-regime activity The presence of a ruling executive with vague, shifting, and loosely defined powers 	 Espouses radical, far right political Imposition of dictatorial power Government control of industry and commerce Forcible suppression of opposition, often at the hands of the military or a secret police force. view democracy and the electoral process as an obsolete and unnecessary obstacle to maintaining constant military readiness. They also consider a totalitarian, one-party state as the key to preparing the nation for war and its resulting economic and social hardships. the label more used to describe the government is: "neofascist,"

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