

1 The philosophy of liberty is based on the principle of self-ownership.

- * You own your life.
- * To deny this is to imply that someone else has a higher claim on your life than you do.
- * No other person, or group of persons, owns your life.
- * Nor do you own the lives of others.

2 At times, some people make use of force or fraud to take from others without voluntary consent.

- * The initiation of force or fraud to take life is murder.
- * The initiation of force or fraud to take liberty is slavery.
- * The initiation of force or fraud to take property is theft.

It is the same whether these things are done by one person acting alone, by the many acting against the few, or even by people calling themselves "officials" in fine hats.



3 The product of your life and your liberty is your property.

- * Property is the fruit of your labour: the product of your time, energy and talents.
- * Property = Material Value.
- * Two people who exchange property voluntarily are both better off, or they wouldn't do it.
- * Only they may rightfully make that decision for themselves.



4 You have the right to protect your life, liberty and justly acquired property from the forceful aggression of others; and you may ask others to help peacefully defend you.

- * But you do not have the right to initiate force against the life, liberty and property of others.
- * Thus you have no right to designate some other person to initiate force against others on your behalf.
- * Regardless of the imaginative labels for their behaviour, or the number of people encouraging them, the people calling themselves "officials" have no right to murder, to enslave, or to steal.
- * You cannot give them any rights that you do not have yourself.



5 Since you own your life, you are responsible for your life.

- * You do not rent your life from others who demand your obedience.
- * Nor are you a slave to others who demand your sacrifice.
- * You choose your own goals based on your own values.
- * Success and failure are both the necessary incentives to learn and grow.

Your action on behalf of others, or their action on behalf of you, is fair only when it is derived from voluntary mutual consent.

This is the basis of a truly free society.