

Will Tea Party Conservatives Become Liberalism's Useful Fools?

James Ronald Kennedy, www.kennedytwins.com

The pejorative term “useful fools” or the harsher term “useful idiots” was attributed to Vladimir Lenin by American anti-communists to describe liberals during the Cold War whose policies, whether intentional or not, tended to support international communism. Useful fools generally refer to those who unwittingly support a malignant cause through their “naïve” attempts to be a force for good. My concern is that honest American patriots in the Tea Party Movement (TPM) will unwittingly be used (“fooled” as in tricked) by America’s professional political ruling class into actually helping the political establishment in their never-ending efforts to maintain the political status quo.

America’s current system of federal supremacy provides the ruling elite in Washington, DC, with power, perks, and privileges undreamed of at the founding of this once constitutionally limited Republic of Republics. Our political ruling elite use the current political system to dispense favors to K-Street lobbyists representing large national and international corporate interests; political allies from large Wall Street financial firms; labor unions; and leftist social welfare groups. This well-established group of special interests will not sit idly by and allow a system of governance that has become so lucrative for them to be fundamentally changed—regardless of how many TPM conservatives are elected, the political status quo will not fundamentally change.

But you may ask, “What does that have to do with the TPM becoming liberalism’s useful fools?” The answer is deceptively simple. The key reason that the federal government has become too big, spends too much, borrows too much, and uses its power to foist oppressive and obnoxious policies on “we the people” is that the current

federal government has no controls, no checks on the use of its powers, outside of Washington, DC. Just like a king in the age of absolute monarchy, the federal government is the final authority as to the extent of its powers—a tyrant could not ask for more! As long as the unconstitutional system of federal supremacy remains in place, the status quo is secure. For example, recall when conservative victories at the polls forced President Bill Clinton to declare that “the era of big government is over.” Conservatives who cheered and celebrated Clinton’s words were in fact useful fools—in the sense that we were tricked into believing Clinton’s words—we thought we had won when in reality liberalism merely stepped back while we celebrated. And when the celebrating was over, liberals used the machinery of federal supremacy to continue the advance toward their dream of an American nominal socialist state.

The problem is not with us conservatives who elect and send the right people to Washington, DC; the problem is with the political status quo whose power center is in control of Washington, DC! Regardless of how exciting elections may be, elections alone will not solve the problem—the only solution is to make a fundamental change in the current system of federal supremacy. Think of the current political system of federal supremacy as an attractive nuisance drawing the attention of parasitic entrepreneurs who flock to Washington with the intention of getting their share of vast amounts of OPM (other people’s money) collected by the federal government. As long as the nuisance is there, crafty people will find ways to take advantage of the system. These crafty people may be corporate lobbyists or social welfare lobbyists, but they will find a way to “game” the political system. They and the political ruling elite have a shared interest in keeping the current system in place. Remember James Madison’s warning:

“Where there is power, and an interest to use it, wrong will be done.” Conservatives play into the hands of liberals by failing to recognize the harsh reality that a fundamental political change is required in order to solve the problem of big government. When conservatives fail or refuse to acknowledge the need for fundamental change, they unwittingly become partners with liberals in maintaining the political status quo—they become liberalism’s useful fools!

Sovereign authority, in the original American system of constitutionally limited federalism, resided with “we the people” of the sovereign states. Authority for government arose from the people of the sovereign community who delegated a portion of their authority to form their state government; the state then delegated an even smaller portion of its authority to the federal government—at no time can it be shown that delegated authority was in fact surrendered authority! “We the people” of the sovereign states did not create a sovereign federal government to hold and exercise unlimited power over the people of the states.

If the TPM wants to maintain the current system of federal supremacy, a system in which the federal government is the final judge of its powers and the people are subject to the sovereign will of the federal government, then they should just keep electing good conservatives who go to Washington, DC, and become a part of the political status quo. If the TPM wants to avoid becoming liberalism’s useful fools, then they must act to produce a fundamental change in the political status quo. The only way to do this is by enacting a constitutional amendment acknowledging the inalienable right of “we the people” of the sovereign states to nullify unconstitutional or onerous federal acts.