

JACK PLANT

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INTRODUCTION:

THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING HERE TONIGHT AND FOR LENDING YOUR SUPPORT TO FREEDOM PARTY AT ELECTION TIME.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOUR CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT MEANS TO ME AND TO THE REST OF FREEDOM PARTY'S EXECUTIVE AND CANDIDATES.

I KNOW MOST OF YOU HERE PERSONALLY. AND THOSE OF YOU WHO I DON'T KNOW PERSONALLY, I KNOW THROUGH YOUR LETTERS, ARTICLES, OR CONVERSATIONS WITH BOB, OR OTHERS INVOLVED WITH THE PARTY.

THERE ARE ALSO MANY NEWCOMERS IN THE AUDIENCE WHOSE PRESENCE I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE, AND THANK THEM FOR GIVING US THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE THEM TO THE IDEAS OF FREEDOM PARTY.

I KNOW HOW MUCH ALL OF YOU HERE CARE ABOUT THE ISSUES OF TODAY.

ELECTION '95:

IT IS 1995 AND THE ELECTORATE IS IN A DECIDEDLY UNGENEROUS MOOD. I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH APATHY AND DISILLUSIONMENT.

PEOPLE ARE SO WARY OF POLITICAL PARTIES THESE DAYS THAT THEY ARE AFRAID TO BELIEVE IN THE VERY IDEA OF A TRUE 'PARTY OF THE PEOPLE'.

THEY ARE AFRAID TO HAVE THEIR FAITH SHATTERED.

AGAIN.

I KNOW THAT MANY VOTERS ARE FEELING CONFUSED, FRUSTRATED, AND DISILLUSIONED WITH THE CHOICES BEING OFFERED THEM THIS ELECTION.....I KNOW BECAUSE THEY'VE TOLD ME SO.

AN INCREASING NUMBER OF VOTERS SEE LITTLE TO INSPIRE THEM IN THE POLICIES OF THE THREE PARTIES,.....THEY SEE ONLY STATEMENTS THAT ALMOST SEEM INTENTIONALLY CRAFTED TO CONFUSE.

BOB RAE IS NOT ONLY DENYING THAT THERE ARE QUOTAS IN HIS EMPLOYMENT EQUITY LEGISLATION, BUT IS ALSO LABELLING AS DISPICABLE, ANYONE WHO WOULD SUGGEST SUCH A THING.

HARRIS HAS SAID HE WILL GET RID OF SECTIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT EQUITY ACT, BUT HAS PROMISED TO STRENGTHEN A GREAT INFRINGER OF OUR RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION --- THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

BUSINESS SUPPORTS HARRIS BECAUSE OF HIS PROMISE TO REPEAL BILL 40, THE INTRUSIVE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT. BUT HE HAS SAID NOTHING ABOUT OTHER PREVIOUSLY EXISTING LABOUR LAWS WHICH HAVE BEEN SO DETRIMENTAL TO THE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF OUR PROVINCE.

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LYN McLEOD, IS TAKING THE MIDDLE ROAD. SHE HAS NOT PROMISED TO DO AWAY WITH EMPLOYMENT EQUITY OR BILL 40 BUT HAS SAID SHE WILL GET RID OF CERTAIN SECTIONS" OF THEM.

SHE IS PROMISING TO BALANCE EVERYTHING,...INCLUDING THE BUDGET.

BUT THEN THEY ALL ARE....HARRIS AND McLEOD IN FOUR YEARS, AND BOB RAE, IN FIVE.

INCREDIBLY, TO MANY VOTERS, BOB RAE IS SOUNDING LIKE THE VOICE OF SANITY. RAE IS THE ONE WHO IS TALKING ABOUT HAVING TO MAKE THE TOUGH, UNPOPULAR CHOICES. BUT SIMPLY MAKING UNPOPULAR CHOICES DOES NOT MAKE THEM THE RIGHT CHOICES.

RAE'S "PROMISE NOTHING" CAMPAIGN IS, IN SOME WAYS, MAKING HIM APPEAR AS THE MOST CREDIBLE CANDIDATE TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE BECOME QUITE UNDERSTANDABLY CYNICAL ABOUT THE THREE MAIN PARTIES.

RAE'S "PROMISE NOTHING" CAMPAIGN FITS THE VOTERS' EXPECTATIONS OF WHAT GOVERNMENT CAN DO --- NOTHING --- AND THAT'S WHY HE SOUNDS CREDIBLE.

THE CONSERVATIVES HAVE ADOPTED ONE OF OUR PLATFORM PLANKS, A "TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT". THOUGH THEY ADVOCATE GETTING RID OF "EMPLOYMENT EQUITY", THEY PLAN TO STRENGTHEN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, WHILE WE WOULD ELIMINATE BOTH.

THOUGH CONSERVATIVES ARE PROMISING A 30% CUT IN TAXES, MIKE HARRIS HAS PROMISED THAT THIS WILL BE BALANCED BY THE "FAIR SHARE" TAX ON THE RICH."

THOUGH CONSERVATIVES HAVE COMMITTED TO ABOLISHING BILL 40, THEY REFUSE TO COMMIT TO ENSURING THAT SIMILAR LEGISLATION WILL NOT BE ENACTED UNDER SOME OTHER BILL.

CONSERVATIVES HAVE, HOWEVER, MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY DO NOT SUPPORT THE RIGHT OF INDIVIDUALS TO WORK WITHOUT BEING FORCED TO JOIN A UNION AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT.

SO WHILE SOME CONSERVATIVE POLICIES SOUND A LITTLE LIKE WHAT WE'RE PROMOTING, DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE RHETORIC. FUNDAMENTALLY, CONSERVATIVES ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM THEIR LIBERAL AND NEW DEMOCRATIC COUNTERPARTS.

ALL THREE PARTIES ARE COMMITTED TO THE "PRINCIPLE" OF UNIVERSALITY IN SOCIAL PROGRAMS, AS OPPOSED TO THE PROPER AND AFFORDABLE PRINCIPLE OF HELPING ONLY THOSE IN GENUINE NEED.

ALL THREE PARTIES SPEAK IN TERMS OF "BALANCING COMPETING INTERESTS", INSTEAD OF ADDRESSING AND PROTECTING INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.

ALL THREE PARTIES SUPPORT THE DISGRACEFUL RACIST AND SEXIST PHILOSOPHY OF "POLITICAL CORRECTNESS"---- AND THE EGALITARIAN PROGRAMS THAT GO ALONG WITH IT.

AND ALL THREE PARTIES ARE COMMITTED TO A GOVERNMENT MONOPOLY IN THE FUNDING OF HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION, THEREBY PREVENTING ANY MEANINGFUL REFORM TO EITHER SYSTEM.

SUCCESSIVE GOVERNMENTS IN ONTARIO AND THROUGHOUT THE WESTERN WORLD HAVE FOSTERED A CULTURE OF DEPENDENCE.

SOCIALIST PHILOSOPHY, WITH THE SUPPORT OF WELL-MEANING INDIVIDUALS EVERYWHERE, HAS LEFT US WITH A LEGACY OF INDEBTEDNESS, FEAR, DISTRUST, RACISM, AND CYNICISM.

MUCH OF THE SOCIAL AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF ONTARIO OVER THE PAST THREE DECADES HAS INVOLVED REPLACING WHAT WORKED WITH WHAT SOUNDED GOOD.

IN HOUSING, JUSTICE, EDUCATION, RACE RELATIONS, AND ESPECIALLY HEALTHCARE THE SITUATION HAS GOTTEN WORSE AFTER BRIGHT NEW LIBERAL THEORIES WERE PUT INTO PLACE.

THE AMAZING THING IS THAT THIS HISTORY OF DISORDER AND FAILURE HAS NEITHER DISCOURAGED SOCIALIST ENGINEERS NOR DISCREDITED THEM.

YOU KNOW, WHEN COMMUNISM LOST FAVOUR WITH THE POPULACE, COMMUNISTS CALLED THEMSELVES SOCIALISTS.

WHEN SOCIALISM FAILED, SOCIALISTS CALLED THEMSELVES "SOCIAL DEMOCRATS".

AND NOW WHEN SOCIAL DEMOCRACY IS FAILING, SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ARE CALLING THEMSELVES CONSERVATIVES. BUT A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME IS STILL A ROSE.

ONTARIO'S CONSERVATIVES ARE PUSHING THE SAME AGENDA AS THE LIBERALS AND NEW DEMOCRATS --- SOCIALISM WITH A CONSERVATIVE FACE: PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATISM.

UNFORTUNATELY FOR SOCIALISTS, THERE'S A VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH SOCIALISM.

I BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE THRIVE ON RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOMPLISHMENT.

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT TAKES RESPONSIBILITIES FROM OUR SHOULDERS, IT TAKES ALONG WITH THOSE RESPONSIBILITIES, THE SELF-ESTEEM THAT ARISES FROM THE SATISFACTION OF FULFILLING THEM OURSELVES.

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HUMAN BEINGS DO NOT THRIVE WHEN THEY OWE THEIR LIVES TO OTHERS AND THEY TAKE LITTLE COMFORT FROM BENEFITS THEY HAVE NOT EARNED.

YET, FOR MANY, WITH NUMEROUS UNACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AT THEIR DISPOSAL, THE TEMPTATION TO BE IRRESPONSIBLE IS IRRESISTIBLE.

PART OF OUR JOB, AS ADVOCATES OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, IS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT SOCIALISM IS NOT SIMPLY A BENIGN SYSTEM OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

SOCIALISM DEMANDS THE DESTRUCTION OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.

IT IS A LEGAL MECHANISM WHICH ALLOWS --- AND OBLIGATES --- GOVERNMENTS TO USE STATE POWER EVER MORE INTRUSIVELY UPON CITIZENS, WHEN THE VERY PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE TO PREVENT SUCH INTRUSIONS INTO OUR LIVES.

GOVERNMENTS CANNOT GIVE SOMETHING TO ONE PERSON, THAT THEY DON'T HAVE TO TAKE AWAY FROM ANOTHER. IN ORDER TO ROB PETER TO PAY PAUL, THEY HAVE TO ROB PETER. IN ORDER TO ROB PETER, THEY HAVE TO VIOLATE PETER'S RIGHTS.

TODAYS POLITICAL MORALITY OFFERS A SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE MORAL JUSTIFICATION TO VIOLATE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS --- THE NEED TO HELP OTHERS.

I AM REMINDED OF THE QUOTE, WRITTEN BY FREEDOM PARTY'S OWN MANAGER OF SPECIAL PROJECTS, MURRAY HOPPER:

"WHEN A PRIVATE CITIZEN ATTEMPTS TO 'REDISTRIBUTE THE WEALTH' OF OTHERS, WE CALL THE ACT BY ITS TRUE NAME: THEFT. WHEN A POLITICIAN DOES EXACTLY THE SAME THING, HE CALLS IT BY AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT NAME: EQUITY! THUS, BY SOME MYSTERIOUS ALCHEMY, STEALING IS TRANSMUTED FROM THE BASE METAL OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY TO THE PURE GOLD OF HIGH AND NOBLE PURPOSE."

IT'S A GREAT QUOTE, AND IT HELPS TO ILLUSTRATE HOW THE CAUSE OF THE PROBLEMS WE ARE FACING TODAY IS THE GENERAL PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF THE CENTRAL PRINCIPLE OF SOCIALISM ---

"FROM EACH ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITY TO EACH ACCORDING TO HIS NEED".

ON THIS FUNDAMENTAL, CONSERVATIVES, LIBERALS, AND NEW DEMOCRATS ALL AGREE.

THEY ALL AGREE THAT IT'S OKAY TO STEAL, IF IT'S FOR A GOOD CAUSE.

THEY ALL AGREE THAT THEY HAVE THE SANCTION TO USE GOVERNMENT FORCE FOR THE GOOD OF SOCIETY.

TO ACCEPT THAT THERE MAY BE AN ALTERNATIVE TO GOVERNMENT IMPOSED SOLUTIONS, SOLUTIONS THAT INVOLVE MORE FREEDOM OF CHOICE AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY, IS TO OPEN ONESELF TO A FREE MARKET UNIVERSE. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS --- OF ALL THE PARTIES --- SIMPLY CANNOT DO.

OPEN DISAPPROVAL OF THEIR POLICIES IS LABELLED POLITICALLY INCORRECT AND BRINGS A GROWING FEAR OF REPRISAL AND REJECTION.

SOCIALISTS OF ALL PARTIES NEED FEAR TO GAIN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THEIR POLICIES: FEAR OF NOT HAVING MEDICAL CARE; FEAR OF DYING PENNILESS, FRIENDLESS OR ILL; FEAR OF RACISM; FEAR OF CRIME; FEAR OF THE DRUG PROBLEM; FEAR OF VIOLENCE; FEAR FOR THE ENVIRONMENT; FEAR OF TAKING THE FOOD OUT OF CHILDRENS' MOUTHS.

WE DO HAVE SOME REASON TO FEAR SOME OF THOSE THINGS, BUT GOVERNMENT IMPOSED SOLUTIONS WILL ONLY GUARANTEE THAT WE WILL BE FACING THEM ALL.

THE THING WE REALLY HAVE TO FEAR IS BIG GOVERNMENT AND THE POLITICIANS WHO PROMOTE IT.

FREEDOM PARTY BELIEVES THAT NO PERSON OR GROUP HAS THE RIGHT TO USE FORCE EXCEPT IN RESPONSE TO THE INITIATION OF FORCE, NOT EVEN IF IT'S JUSTIFIED TO "HELP" PEOPLE.

THE BEST WAY TO HELP THE POOR IS TO RESTRICT THE GOVERNMENT'S INVOLVEMENT AND LOOSEN THE WEALTH PRODUCING FORCES OF THE ECONOMY; TO CREATE WEALTH.

PROGRESS ONLY RESULTS FROM SURPLUS PRODUCTION.

BUT LET ME ASSURE YOU, THE PROVINCE'S BOOKS DO NOT SHOW A SURPLUS, AND THE NDP GOVERNMENT IS NOT INTERESTED IN WEALTH CREATION.

WEALTH IN THE HANDS OF GOVERNMENT IS NOT WEALTH....IT IS WASTE, AND IT IS A BURDEN UPON THE CITIZENRY, BECAUSE IT IS THEIR WEALTH THAT HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM THEM.

SOCIALISM IS NOT HELPING US, IT IS DESTROYING US!

TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY, THE THREE AREAS WHERE GOVERNMENT HAS A LEGITIMATE FUNCTION: NATIONAL DEFENCE, THE POLICE, AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, ARE THREE AREAS WHERE THE GOVERNMENT TODAY IS AT ITS WORST.

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THE SINGLE MOST FEARFUL THING CONCERNING THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REFORMS WE ARE GOING THROUGH IS THAT IT WILL REQUIRE THAT INDIVIDUALS TAKE MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR LIVES IN THE AREAS THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS SCREWED UP.

THE EXTRAVAGANCES OF THE LEFT HAVE LEFT US WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

I AM PROUD TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT YOU WITH FREEDOM PARTY'S ELECTION '95 PLATFORM, WHICH IF IMPLEMENTED, I BELIEVE WILL POINT THE WAY TOWARDS THE RESTORATION OF FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY IN ONTARIO.

YOU SEE, AT FREEDOM PARTY WE DON'T TAILOR OUR POLICIES FOR THE SAKE OF POLITICAL EXPEDIENCE.

WE BELIEVE IN OUR POLICIES.

WE BELIEVE IN THEM BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT "EVERY INDIVIDUAL, IN THE PEACEFUL PURSUIT OF PERSONAL FULFILLMENT HAS AN ABSOLUTE RIGHT TO HIS OR HER OWN LIFE, LIBERTY, AND PROPERTY."

IT IS FROM THE APPLICATION OF THIS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE THAT OUR POLICIES COME.

WE HAVE NEVER CATERED TO POLITICAL CORRECTNESS IN HOPES OF GARNERING FAVOUR AND VOTES.

WE BELIEVE YOU DESERVE MORE THAN THAT. WE BELIEVE ONTARIO DESERVES MORE THAN THAT.

MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE SUPPORTING FREEDOM PARTY BECAUSE WE OFFER THEM SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST A CHOICE BETWEEN "THE LESSER OF THREE EVILS"

WE OFFER THEM A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE WITH THEIR CONSCIENCE FOR A CHANGE.

I KNOW THAT WE HAVE SOMETHING ONTARIO WANTS.

EVERY POLITICAL PARTY, AND ALL OF SOCIETY, IS FEELING THE PRESSURE OF THE IDEAS AND PRINCIPLES WHICH DEFINE FREEDOM PARTY'S PLATFORM AND POLICIES.

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FREEDOM PARTY SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE OF DIRECTING HELP ONLY TO THOSE WHO TRULY NEED IT, AND AN END TO FUNDING FOR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS.

WE ADVOCATE A TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT; SPENDING CUTS; DEFICIT AND DEBT REDUCTION; AND A REDUCTION OF SUFFOCATING BUREAUCRACY AND RED TAPE FOR BUSINESS.

WE WANT TO SEE THE PRIVATIZATION OF GOVERNMENT OWNED BUSINESSESAND THE REPEAL OF **EMPLOYMENT EQUITY, THE LABOUR RELATIONS ACT AND OFFICIAL BILINGUALISM**..... AND ANY OTHER LAWS WHICH HAVE BEEN SHOWN CLEARLY TO BE AN INFRINGEMENT OF **FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS**.

WE ARE CALLING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF "MPP SUPER PENSIONS" WITH PENSIONS IN LINE WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR; THE LOWERING OF TAXES THROUGH CUTS IN SPENDING; AND AN END TO THE DIVISIVE POLICIES OF MULTICULTURALISM.

FREEDOM PARTY SUPPORTS THE RIGHT OF TAXPAYERS TO DIRECT THEIR TAX DOLLARS TO THE SCHOOL OF THEIR CHOICE; THE MEDICAL SYSTEM OF THEIR CHOICE; AND THE PUBLIC WELFARE CHARITY OF THEIR CHOICE.

WE BELIEVE IN THE SANCTITY OF PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS AND LEGAL CONTRACTS; IMPARTIAL AND OPEN COURTS; AND EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW.

FREEDOM PARTY IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER POLITICAL PARTY, IT IS A SCHOOL AND MODEL UNTO ITSELF.

WE ARE OUT TO CHANGE THE AGENDA.

I THINK WE ALL UNDERSTAND THAT IF YOU WANT SOMETHING DONE YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT YOURSELF.

IF WE WANT TO BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE, THEN WE HAVE TO WORK FOR IT.

A NEW KIND OF THINKING IS REQUIRED, NOT THE KIND WHICH RESULTS FROM FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY, BUT THE KIND THAT RESULTS FROM KNOWLEDGE, LOGIC, AND HOPE.

UPON OUR SHOULDERS RESTS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE.

WHAT WE HERE TONIGHT REPRESENT IS SOMETHING ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO SURVIVE AS A FREE SOCIETY.

ONLY OUR ACTION WILL BRING ABOUT NECESSARY CHANGE.

IF WE WANT TO GET RID OF ALL THIS SOCIALISM WE HAVE, THEN WE HAVE TO DO IT OURSELVES.

UNTIL WE DO, WE HAVE NO REASON TO FEEL OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE.

LET'S NOT KID OURSELVES, THE LEFT IS NOT GOING TO ROLL OVER AND DIE, THEY ARE GOING TO FIGHT TOOTH AND NAIL FOR WHAT THEY HAVE GAINED.

I KNOW THAT MANY OF YOU ARE LEADERS AND HEROES IN YOUR OWN RIGHT, THOUGH YOU MAY NOT BE AWARE OF THIS YOURSELVES.

SIMPLY BY BEING HERE TONIGHT, ALL OF YOU HAVE TAKEN ONE OF THE SMALL STEPS THAT WILL BRING CHANGE.

NEVER HAS THERE BEEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVOCATES OF FREEDOM, LIKE THE ONE WE HAVE BEFORE US NOW. YOU HAVE THE VEHICLE AT YOUR DISPOSAL, AND IT'S CALLED FREEDOM PARTY.

REMEMBER, AFTER THE ELECTION WE'LL STILL BE WORKING HARD, SO IF YOU'D LIKE TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT CORRECTING OUR PROVINCE'S PROBLEMS,GET INVOLVED AND BECOME PART OF THE ACTION.

ONTARIO NEEDS YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.