PROPERTY RIGHTS and FREEDOM

Everyone owns *property* and everyone is conscious of such ownership. Phrases such as "your boat", "my car", "his house", are evidence that possession of such items is commonplace, and taken for granted.

Yet, most people never stop to think of the importance of their *right* to own property. Even though they may highly *value* certain things they own, it would not occur to most that the *right* to own property is their *only means of survival.*

Any prudent individual, given the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness will, in the exercise of such rights, come into the ownership of property. The important thing here is not the *character* of the item(s) owned, as this would vary from person to person; the important thing is having the *right to own.*

At present, this right is greatly threatened. Our new *Canadian Constitution* refers *not* to "life, liberty, and *property,"* but rather to "life, liberty," and something called "security of the person." It should be clear that this last phrase is redundant, since anyone who has a right to life and liberty *already has* "security of the person." But even more disquieting is the continuation of the same sentence as follows: "...and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice." In other words, your rights are not absolute, but may be legislated away by government.

If the government wants your property, all it has to do is pass a law.

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The *ways* that governments can violate our propert rights are so numerous that they boggle the imagination. I Ontario, they might include any one of the *1,016 powers o entry* (into your property), only 70 of which are subject t limitations as to time, only 88 of which require prior notice and only 22 of which require proper identification by th entrant. They might include *rent control* legislation, whic not only forces the landlord to subsidize the tenant, bu *reduces the value of his property.* Or they might include on of the many *government regulations* that can constitute a infringement of an individual's right to run his business a he sees fit, and that can impose costs which reduce th value of such a business.

When a small family bakery in Kemptville Ontario, whic had been serving that community for over a century, wa visited by government inspectors, the proprietor wa ordered to (a) switch over to metric, (b) wrap all bread, an (c) tag and date all products (i.e., "best before..."). Th *owner's* protests that all his baked goods were always sol the same day were ignored; the regulators were adaman and he was given a deadline for compliance.

So who really "owns" the Kemptville bakery? Who really i exercising the *right of choice* when it comes to decidin how that bakery should be run?

Freedom Party believes that the *purpose of governmen* is to *protect* our freedom of choice, *not* to restrict i

The right to *keep, use, buy, sell, mortgage, rent, give away leave to heirs,* etc., are just *some* of the numerous aspect that we associate with the right to own property. All thes aspects of ownership are now under attack by govern ments.

Freedom Party believes that the foundation of *persona liberty and choice* is the concept of *private property,* and th right to fully exercise ownership of such property. If yo agree, why not *get involved* with **Freedom Party** today --- After all, freedom of choice is what we're all abou

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Freedom Party is founded on the principle that: Every individual, in the peaceful pursuit of personal fulfillment, has an absolute right to his or her own life, liberty, and property.

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