

FREEDOM FLYER

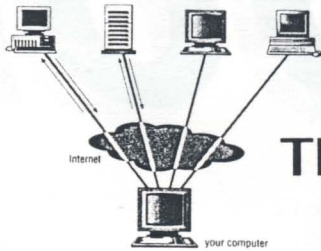
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

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<http://www.freedomparty.org>

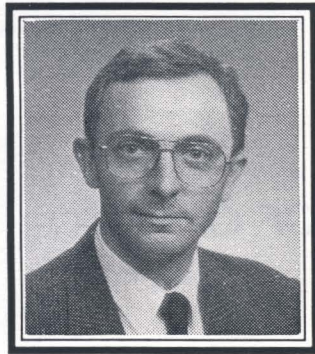
Openers...



"The Net, the very network itself, you see, is merely a means to an end... The end is to reverse engineer government, to hack politics down to its component parts and FIX it!" - Joshua Quittner, on the Electronic Frontier Foundation

THE BIG SWITCH

-Robert Metz



(Mr. Metz is president and a founding member of Freedom Party.)

It's too late now. The switch has been thrown. The BIG switch. The enLIGHTenment has been turned ON. There's no turning back. Freedom is about to become THE global issue of our time.

History demonstrates that freedom owes its existence not only to political enlightenment, but to the application of science, technology, and the human will to resist oppression. So it is that the incredible revolution occurring in cyberspace is about to create a parallel revolution in the way we do virtually everything, and that includes politics --- and **Freedom Party**.

The 'big switch' is the Internet and the Internet has been turned ON. It WILL affect your life --- even if you don't own a computer, and even if you don't have any idea of what I'm talking about.

WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMPUTERS BUT IS TOO CONFUSED TO ASK

Of course, this is just an analogy, and there really isn't a 'big switch' in the literal sense.

What really exists is a network of billions and billions of 'little switches' which, in turn, physically exist within millions and millions of home computers that come in every shape and size imaginable. These 'switches' are simply the binary electronic settings that create the images which appear on our video screens, or which generate the sounds that are heard through a set of speakers, or which execute pre-written instructions (called 'programs', not to be confused with the govern-

ment kind) that make our computers perform specific tasks.

In an incredible demonstration of nature's simplicity, the combined effect of these switches working in unison around the globe can allow us to do things that appear miraculous, and lend to a false belief that its operation is far too complex for anyone's simple understanding. But not so...

ONE, TWO...

If you can count to two, you are already able to understand the fundamental principle on which any electronic device operates, including the computer. Like the switch that turns your kitchen light on and off, a computer's electronic binary switches similarly have only two settings: on or off. What makes a computer 'powerful' is simply the number of these 'switches' that it has (the more the better) --- and the speed with which it can turn them on and off (the faster the better).

Imagine. It takes EIGHT of these 'little switches' (called 'bits') just to create a single letter of text (called a 'byte'). Yet, through the discovery of this simple binary switching principle, we have developed a technology capable of turning on and off millions upon millions of these switches on command. Voila! Pictures. Sights. Sounds.

Add to this the capability of sending the 'switch settings' in your computer to anyone else's computer in the world (or vice-versa), and you have the beginnings of a relationship. Communication. Interactivity. The miracle of the Internet.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

When the Internet first entered the general public's consciousness just a few short years ago, there were many who dismissed it as another technological fad that would soon outlive its appeal or value. Though a few doubting Thomases still exist, their doubt is about to be set to rest. As more and more people buy computers and get on line --- many of whom could not even conceive of owning a computer just a few months ago! --- I can well understand why it is reported that over a million new people gain access to the Internet each and every week of the year.

Make no mistake. The Internet is as dramatic a development in our society as were the introductions of the telephone, radio, and television --- combined!

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Thanks to the power of the Internet, anyone can now be a 'publisher' or 'broadcaster'. On the Internet, there are an unlimited number of 'broadcasting frequencies'. (In fact, you can literally tune in to live radio broadcasts from around the world, with perfect sound reproduction and no static.) On the Internet, everyone is accessible to anyone in the world who has a relatively inexpensive computer and who subscribes to a similarly inexpensive Internet service via a telephone line in their home or office --- all without long-distance charges of any kind.

While this is good news for most of us, the new application of technology will be threatening to certain elements of the status quo, particularly those who depend upon misinformation, ignorance, or coercion to justify their causes or positions.

Like governments.

POLITICS AGAIN

Already, a new political frontier is emerging. But the key issue in this new frontier is an old one: freedom of speech. Governments and politicians eager to cut the flow of free information are already busily preparing the groundwork to establish a basis for censorship on the Internet, and as always, will start by using the "protection of children" argument to establish censorship --- for adults.

"An unsupervised teenager with a modem is a dangerous as an unsupervised teenager with a gun," is a quote attributed to Arizona Assistant State Attorney Gail Thackeray in the October 1996 issue of *Yahoo* magazine.

This is fear and irrationality talking. Fear, because even an unsupervised teenager WITH a gun should not be dangerous, if that teenager has been raised with even a minimum sense of responsibility and morality. Irrationality, because guns do not equate with a free exchange of ideas, and unsupervised teenagers should not be dangerous under any

(OPENERS cont'd next page...)

(...OPENERS cont'd from prev pg)

circumstances. Moreover, a lack of supervision indicates a lack of parenting, which is an issue that cannot be simply brushed aside by expecting government to provide the supervision that parents will not. To accept this argument is to become part of the problem, not the solution.

✉ NO PLACE FOR CENSORSHIP

There's no place for censorship on the Internet, but there is a place for law and justice. As in the rest of society, consent must be a ruling principle.

But let us not forget that freedom of speech excludes --- without the necessity of censorship --- for example, the exploitation of children in the production of child pornography, since those under the age of 18 have not yet reached the age of consent. It also excludes fraudulent activity, since this generates false consent which thus amounts to theft.

Both of these issues should properly be dealt with through criminal law (which will require some international cooperation) since each involves a criminal act. Resorting to censorship betrays other motives and deflects our attention from the true nature of the crime. From a legal standpoint, it should not matter whether child pornography is "obscene" or not. What should matter is whether a crime has been committed through the direct violation of an individual's rights.

Nevertheless, these are the kinds of issues that will find themselves forced into the public arena. The Internet will make possible an awareness of individual freedom that will forever leave its mark on the global consciousness.

The empowerment of the people through this incredible technology cannot be taken away from them. No longer will individuals have to depend upon unreliable third parties for their information. No longer will they have to tolerate the censorship of their governments. The potential to become fully informed voters is virtually unlimited.

✉ FREEDOM PARTY: [http:// www.freedomparty.org](http://www.freedomparty.org)

Now that **Freedom Party's** new Web site is on-line, active 24 hours a day and accessible to people anywhere on the face of the globe, the rules of political persuasion are rapidly changing.

It is incredible to think that, for the same cost of mailing this single issue of *Freedom*

Flyer to our limited number of members and supporters in Ontario, we are now able to deliver --- direct into the homes of individuals anywhere in the world --- our entire political library, including every issue of *Freedom Flyer*, *Consent*, our issue papers, official submissions, speeches, photos, software programs, video and audio signals for six months, 24-hours-a-day!

We could not possibly have asked for a more ideal medium with which to market **Freedom Party's** philosophy and platform or to expose our ideas to the world. The power that this global presence places in our laps is awesome, and will have future effects that we can not possibly predict at this point in time.

✉ WEB POWER

Some of these advantages are already self-evident. No longer do we have to depend upon the popular media to create a public awareness of us --- or to tell our side of a particular story or issue. In fact, our relationship with the media itself is bound to undergo a dramatic change. Over time, it will become increasingly difficult for the media to dismiss us, with the knowledge that our Website can provide the public with information that they might otherwise misrepresent or ignore.

For example, had this medium existed just a few short years ago when **Freedom Party** came to the defence of (former) London landlord Elijah Elieff before an **Ontario Human Rights Commission** Board of Inquiry, the outcome of Mr. Elieff's tragic experience might have been quite different. Though we won the case before the Board, Mr. Elieff lost everything he owned as a consequence of the negative and false publicity generated by the *London Free Press*. Perhaps Mr. Elieff's situation may yet turn around, given that his whole story is now permanently accessible to the public and media on our Website at: <http://www.freedomparty.org/cheyenne.htm>. Let us hope that others able to help in some way will contact us so that something more meaningful --- to Mr. Elieff --- can be accomplished.

Our ability to help others who have been direct victims of arbitrary government policy is just one possible advantage of our being on-line. Let's consider another, one closer to the goal of contributing to **Freedom Party's** growth and organization.

If any of you have been thinking about getting involved with, or organizing for **Freedom Party** in your local ridings, consider the incredible resource already instantly available at your fingertips. With **Fp's** entire library a click away, you can hold discussion or recruiting meetings in the privacy of your own home and be able to answer any question about **Freedom Party** simply by going on-line and

getting whatever information is required. This has tremendous possibilities, of which more will be said in future.

✉ NOT JUST BRAGGING

Though I have an obvious bias in this regard, I am quite confident in saying that **Freedom Party's Website** is the most comprehensive, content-packed political site that I know of anywhere in the world. Just compare our site to any other, and you'll know that I'm not just bragging, but stating a fact.

Freedom Party's Website strategy is aimed at providing anyone in the world with free access to a deeper understanding of a freedom philosophy, complete with a consistent standard, definition, and demonstration of what individual freedom is really all about, and the principles on which it is based. There is no value more profound or important to humanity than individual freedom --- many of our forefathers died for it --- and yet it continues to be under assault and chipped away by each successive legislative action of our many layered governments.

✉ ETERNAL VIGILANCE

Knowledge is power, and the protection of individual freedom requires eternal vigilance. **Freedom Party's Website** is a powerful instrument in providing both the knowledge and the vigilance.

Visitors to our Website are greeted with a welcome stating that "for us, freedom is a universal concept that knows no border, no political label, and no political restriction on the right of all individuals to freely choose their own destinies. **Freedom Party** believes that the purpose of government is to protect individual freedom of choice, not to restrict it."

We invite our visitors to discover freedom at their own pace and leisure. We hope we've designed a Website that delights, educates, informs, and entertains. I hope you'll take the time and seize the opportunity to pay us a visit in cyberspace. Watch for our daily updates, our continually-added features, and for our incredible library of the ideas that can change the world.

Freedom. Yours to discover. For free!
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<http://www.freedomparty.org>

Political Reform...

FREEDOM PARTY SUPPORTS GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE ON REFERENDA

TORONTO (September 11, 1996) - In a 30-minute official presentation to the **Standing Committee on the Legislative Assembly** in Queen's Park, Fp president **Robert Metz** and Fp Special Projects Manager **Lloyd Walker** offered cautious support of the Ontario government's commitment to the introduction of referenda in Ontario.

Entitled **Our Ontario, Our Freedom Of Choice**, **Freedom Party's** response was aimed at the government's prepared Consultation Paper on Referenda, entitled **Your Ontario, Your Choice**, which outlined a wide variety of possible options and criteria under which a referendum might be conducted.

RESTRICTIVE ENDORSEMENT:

Subject to the condition that a referendum's outcome cannot infringe upon fundamental freedoms (including property rights), **Freedom Party** once again went on record to endorse referenda in two specific fundamental areas of political concern: constitutional amendment and issues of taxation.

Walker applauded the government's Consultation Paper for stating that "individuals should decide their futures" and that "the function of government should be to serve a facilitate those aspirations, not to rule or constrain them."

"Absolutely right!" he told members of the Committee, which was composed of MPPs representing each of the three major Ontario political parties.

"Those are the principles that must provide the most important limitation on referenda," he continued. "Referenda should not be a tool used to contradict the purpose of government we have agreed upon. They should not be a tool used to rule or constrain the aspirations, activities, or lifestyles of individuals."

CONTROL GOVERNMENT - NOT CITIZENS

"That is the sole purpose of a referendum," emphasized Walker, "to allow citizens to rule or constrain their government."

Having established the principles upon which **Freedom Party's** response was based, Metz followed up on Walker's comments by

outlining some of the more technical issues related to referenda, and used the opportunity to warn Commission members about the hazards inherent in the government's regulation of referenda.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH FUNDAMENTAL

"**Freedom Party** opposes any bans, controls, or regulation of advocacy groups or advertising, including political parties," said Metz. "However justified, these measures all effectively amount to a restriction of freedom of speech, the fundamental freedom upon which any free election depends."

Using the existing regulations of Ontario's **Election Finances Commission** as an example, Metz pointed out how those regulations were being applied in such a way as to inhibit political viewpoints consistent with **Freedom Party's** philosophy, while encouraging viewpoints with a left-wing agenda.

Metz illustrated: "The Executive Director (of the **Elections Finances Commission**) plainly informed me that **Freedom Party** would not be allowed to issue official tax receipts for any contributions we might raise to facilitate our on-going information campaign to disempower Ontario's **Human Rights Commission**, but that we WOULD be permitted to issue official tax receipts if we wanted to raise money to campaign for 'gender equality' in the legislature."

"If this is the type of regulation and control to which referenda might be subject,"

said Metz, "then all is lost, and the question of whether we have referenda or not becomes irrelevant, because we will still end up with the same kind of government."

STILL ROOM FOR REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

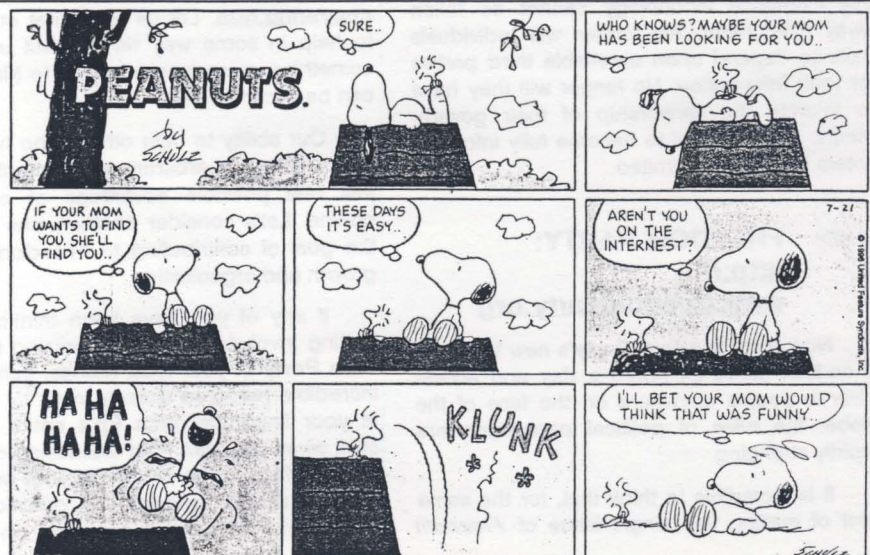
Metz concluded by reminding Commission members that "there is still room for the traditional election process and for representative democracy. To that end, we have proposed the **Single Transferrable Vote (STV)** as the ideal means with which to achieve genuine proportionate public representation through elected officials." (Upon his request, a copy of Fp's STV proposal, written by Regional vice-president (Eastern Ontario) **William Frampton**, was forwarded to Committee vice-chair **John Hasting** following the hearing.)

Freedom Party's written submission included an appendix of specific responses to each of the government's twenty-one questions raised in its discussion paper.

GET THE DETAILS!

Copies of **Freedom Party's** response to the government's Consultation Paper on Referenda are available to **Freedom Party** members and supporters on request. See green box on back page of newsletter for details of how to get in touch with us!

[END]



<http://www.unitedmedia.com/comics/peanuts>

Racism...

ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION APPEALS BOARD OF INQUIRY RULING

LONDON (October 24 & 25, 1996) - Three justices of the **Ontario Divisional Court** have reserved their decision with respect to an **Ontario Human Rights Commission** (OHRC) appeal to overturn a 1994 **Board of Inquiry** ruling. That ruling found that there was no evidence to support a racism complaint against London landlord **Elijah Elieff**, who was represented before the Board by **Freedom Party** president, **Robert Metz**. (A complete accounting of the issue has been reported in several past issues of *Freedom Flyer*, and is now available to the public on **Freedom Party's Website** at: <http://www.freedomparty.org/cheyenne.htm>.)

Since he is not a lawyer, and has been busy acting as an advocate for Elieff directly to the government (see pages 6,9), Metz did not represent the former landlord before the court.

ELIEFF THE REAL VICTIM

Elieff was originally forced before an OHRC Board of Inquiry after a paid lobbyist by **United Church of Canada**, Reverend **Susan Eagle**, actively sought out a member from the Cambodian community in Elieff's Cheyenne Ave apartment buildings to launch a contrived complaint of racism against him. While keeping the landlord thus occupied, and with the unabashed and totally biased assistance of the **London Free Press**, she lobbied both the provincial and London's municipal government for taxpayer money to have Elieff's apartment buildings converted into publicly-funded co-op housing.

"The fact that the OHRC is completely undisturbed and unaffected by these facts is alarming," comments Metz. "Obviously, they have a lot to lose if our 1994 victory before the Board of Inquiry should set a precedent.

"What's at stake for the *Ontario Human Rights Commission* is its right to conduct investigations and hearings without having to consider evidence, and without having to be held accountable for its arbitrary --- and racist --- mandate in the province of Ontario," he concludes.

Elieff did not have legal counsel and had to represent himself because he has no money left following his losses caused by the whole affair. Those losses include his **Cheyenne Ave** apartment buildings which housed a majority of Asian tenants, and a submarine sandwich shop which also became a target of

a planned conspiracy to discredit and label him a racist.

A recent immigrant himself, Elieff speaks a broken English which reveals his Macedonian background, and certainly does not possess the legal expertise necessary to defend himself adequately on his own. As far as he's concerned, he's innocent of any wrongdoing and knows that those responsible for his plight have thus far managed to evade any direct responsibility for their actions.

SHAKY GROUNDS

The OHRC's appeal was based on 15 legal arguments that the Board of Inquiry erred on the following grounds:

According to the appeal, "the Board of Inquiry:

1. "...erred in failing to conduct a substantive equality analysis in determining whether discrimination occurred;
2. "...erred in failing to consider relevant legal principles in determining whether discrimination occurred;
3. "...applied the wrong burden of proof for determining whether discrimination occurred;
4. "...erred in requiring demonstration of animus* (*ed: intent) in order to find that discrimination occurred;
5. "...failed to consider whether indirect or systemic discrimination occurred, despite section 9 (then 8) of the Code having been argued;
6. "...erred in failing to consider relevant testimony, especially where the Board found the witness to be credible;
7. "...erred in ruling that principles of constructive discrimination were applicable where there were no neutral rules or policies in issue;
8. "...erred in distinguishing the actionability of discriminatory comments made directly to the complainant versus those comments made directly by the respondent to the public about the complainant and other members of the Cambodian community;
9. "...erred in determining that corroborating evidence of the complainant's evidence was required, especially in light of the Board of

Inquiry's finding that Elijah Elieff was not a credible witness;

10. "...erred in concluding that subsequent acts of the respondents could not be considered in determining whether a breach of the Code had occurred;

11. "...erred in concluding that a racially poisoned environment did not exist;

12. "...erred in failing to consider the differential impact of the respondents' treatment of Chippeng Hom as a female member of the Cambodian community and other Cambodian tenants;

13. "...erred in awarding minimal restitution to the complainant having found the complainant suffered considerable mental anguish and having found the respondents' conduct in reprisal was both deliberate and severe;

14. "...erred in failing to conclude that discrimination occurred contrary to sections 2 and 9 of the Code;

15. "...erred in failing to award interest."

FINAL ARGUMENT REINTRODUCED

Solicitors for the OHRC spent the entire first day and the opening hours of the second day arguing their case by citing legal precedents from across the country --- none of which had anything to do with the direct or indirect actions of Mr. Elieff.

Despite his legal handicap, Elieff gave an impassioned accounting of the events that led to his predicament, while court justices seemed genuinely receptive to his story, and amazed at some of the finer details of the case.

Most significantly, Mr. Elieff managed, after an initial objection, to get the court to accept several copies of **Freedom Party's Consent 21**, which contained an edited version of Metz's **Final Argument** before the original Board of Inquiry.

Armed with both the personal testimony of Mr. Elieff and with the documented article in *Consent*, the justices now have an excellent opportunity to view Elieff's situation in full context.

Stay tuned to this newsletter for future updates on this tragic affair.

{END}

"Surely you jest!" says Montag

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SAYS NO FINANCIAL RECORDS EXIST

TORONTO (June 4, 1996) - In an officially filed **Freedom Of Information (FOI)** Request, Freedom Party has requested a listing of the **Ontario Human Rights Commission's** expenses incurred with respect to its actions against London (former) landlord **Elijah Elieff**.

Filed on Fp's behalf by Fp member and past-candidate (Oxford) **Jim Montag**, the requested expense listings relate to three specific actions taken by the OHRC: (1) expenses incurred in the initial investigation of the filed complaint, (2) expenses incurred at the Board of Inquiry level, and (3) expenses incurred to date at the appeal level (see related story).

REQUEST DENIED

"Please be advised that the Commission has no record with respect to the expenses incurred in investigating this case," replied **Roger Palacio**, the OHRC's Coordinator for Freedom Of Information and Protection of Privacy, in an October 3 written response to Montag.

He further went on to report that **Keith Norton**, Chief Commissioner of the OHRC, made a decision not to disclose monies spent on its Board of Inquiry hearings and on its current appeal, citing grounds that such information is subject to a "solicitor-client" privilege exempted under section 19 of the **Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act, 1987**.

GOTTA BE KIDDING

"Based on the premise that the Commission conducted an adequate investigation prior to the initiation of the Board of Inquiry hearing, I cannot and will not accept your statement that you have no records," responded Montag. "This is taxpayer money, and taxpayers have every right to insist upon such an accounting. Surely you jest when you state that you have no records."

But the Commission apparently is not jesting. In a subsequent follow-up to Montag's comments, Palacio simply stated that "we note your objections and reiterate our letter of October 3, 1996."

MORE TO HIDE?

However, in addition to its refusal to provide financial information to **Freedom Party**, the OHRC has also totally ignored and

failed to respond to other non-financial information requested.

In addressing the OHRC's "solicitor-client privilege" argument, Montag noted:

"It is my understanding that the Commission is required to operate in a completely impartial manner and therefore cannot be party to a solicitor-client relationship within the context of a filed complaint. To whom are you referring as the solicitor? To whom are you referring as the client?"

"(You have) clearly indicat(ed) that the Human Rights Commission does not keep financial records with respect to its investigations. Could you please advise me what section of what Act empowers you to NOT keep records such as this?"

So far, the OHRC has completely ignored these questions and has only acknowledged the official Information Request, as it must do by law.

FREEDOM PARTY FILES APPEAL

TORONTO (October 3, 1996) - **Freedom Party** has filed an appeal with the **Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario** in order to overturn the OHRC's decision not to disclose financial expenses incurred in it pursuant of the the **Elijah Elieff** case.

The appeals office has stated its intention to resolve the appeal on or before February 14, 1997.

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Working For Freedom...

FREEDOM BRIEFS

'A MISSED OPPORTUNITY,' HOPPER TELLS MANNING

LONDON (August, 1996) - **Reform Party** leader **Preston Manning** has assured Fp's Political Issues Analyst **Murray Hopper** that he "did not act precipitately in suspending" **Reform Party** members **Bob Ringma** and **Dave Chatters** for making allegedly racist comments.

"Please also be assured that I very much dislike having to take this type of action at all," wrote Manning, in his response to Hopper's May 29 open letter to the **Reform Party** leader. Hopper, a contributing **Reform Party** member himself, had his letter distributed at the past **Reform Party** convention in Vancouver, and it apparently reflected the feelings of a great many **Reform Party** members who were disappointed at Manning's failure to defend his MPs.

"You missed a golden opportunity to spring to the defense of capitalism and to support the right of every employer to deal with his employees according to contract," said Hopper's letter. "You could have fought back, but did not."

Manning told Hopper that he had "reviewed the full transcripts of their interviews to determine the context of their remarks and the exact words" before arriving at his decision.

He went on to say that he similarly decided to reinstate both MPs to full Caucus participation "after I met with them individually, and they satisfied me that they both fully support Reform's position that all Canadians have the right to freedom from discrimination and that they believe in equality for all."

In an October 10 written response to Manning, Hopper thanked him for his concern and forthrightness.

"I am sure we both share a common love for our dear Canada, and want to see her prosperous and free of intrusive government," he wrote.

Hopper also requested copies of the transcripts of what Chatters and Ringma actually said, adding: "I am sure we can both agree on one thing: in far too many cases, the media resort to dubious characterizations of what was said, and avoid the verbatim."

WALKER TELLS CHRETIEN WHY CENSUS BOYCOTTED

LONDON (May, 1996) - Fp's Manager of Special Projects, **Lloyd Walker**, has refused to complete the **1996 Canadian Census** on the grounds that filling it out would require him to adopt a racist perspective. In an open letter

Working For Freedom...

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THE OTTAWA TIMES

NEWS

Free enterprise not PC policy for education and health care

Harris Agenda 'Too Liberal'

Jonathan Bloedow
PROVINCIAL

While the media, students, labour union professionals, and the "poverty industry" have been decrying Mike Harris for being too conservative in their economic policies as he has attempted to begin balancing the Ontario budget, the Progressive Conservatives are coming under attack from the right for their policies in at least three areas.

Some conservative critics say that even though Mike Harris has declared support for free market policies in general and has decried Bob Rae and the NDP's socialism, he in fact seems to support socialism in principle in health care, education, and child care.

This acceptance of state intervention and monopolization shows a fundamental distrust of the free market and of free Ontarians, they say.

They argue that Mr. Harris does not believe that the free market works in the areas of health care provision and education.

Freedom Party

But, says Robert Metz, president of the libertarian-oriented Freedom Party of Ontario, one should not be surprised given their campaign message.

He says they were campaigning on an economic

blueprint, not a social blueprint, and so they are going to get into contradictions in the areas where there is crossover.

People are the Problem

While Mr. Metz would prefer that the free market be allowed to operate, he says the real problem is not politicians, but the public. They don't want to have to pay directly for their health care and education, he says.

"No politician in his right mind would say he would privatize education or health care."

In fact, in their campaign, they promised not to cut funding to health care or classroom education. They have actually pledged to enhance the government health care system.

Freedom Party's policy for education proposes that parents would not have to pay upfront if they didn't want to, but the alternative would be for them to be taxed for it throughout their entire lifetime. Those who paid upfront would not have to pay taxes for education.

Health Care

Rather than weaning Ontarians off their socialized health system and introducing free market reforms and competition, the PC government objects vigorously to any accusation that it is cutting

taxpayer funding of the health care system.

In fact, it now brags that overall health care funding has been increased to \$17.7 billion from \$17.4 billion — a \$300 million hike — since it took power.

The reforms they are introducing have not been towards freeing Ontarians from government control, but rather towards making the government-controlled system more efficient.

Critics argue that even if they were to succeed, which they say is unlikely given the nature and record of government management of the economy, they will only serve to provide stronger arguments for socialists who believe that governments can own, operate, and regulate large segments of the economy, and thus undermine their opposition to government intervention in and management of the economy.

Specifically, some of their achievements in this area include:

Expanding the Trillium Drug Plan "to make it accessible to an additional 140,000 low-income earners in need," equipping 20 Ontario communities with "life-saving kidney dialysis services," earmarking \$15.5 million for "additional paramedic training" and \$25 million for 18 hospitals in "fast-growing communities."



Mike Harris

Also, 23 new, expensive MRI units are being handed out to various communities, doctors working in hospital emergency wards "in rural and remote areas" will get a special bonus for working weekends, and funding has been increased for cardiac surgery, for acquired brain injury treatment, emergency defibrillator services, and for ovarian and breast cancer detection and treatment.

An unspecified amount of funding was provided for a province-wide measles vaccination program, and funding is being found for an entirely new, province-wide education program for nurses.

Funding Education

In education, they are bragging because \$20 million in new money is being put towards the already existing program "for innovative uses

Harris
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Harris

Continued from page 2

of technology in the classroom," and funding is also being given to purchase computers and other computer technology.

Child Care

In child care, the Tories are handing out \$5 million "to help parents and communities set up and expand local nutrition programs," \$10 million this year (growing to \$20 million) to "expand services for 10 percent of Ontario preschool children that have speech and language disorders," and \$10 million "for expectant mothers and families" for "education and sup-

port."

Furthermore, to the anger of many, they are trumpeting the fact that they have increased the province's support for child care by an additional \$200 million, to \$600 million, "the highest [level] in Ontario's history."

The championing of government-funded "child care" has long been regarded as a mainstay of the radical feminist desire to move child-rearing away from the domain of parents, particularly mothers, and towards the domain of the state. Consequently, it has generally been regarded as a far-left cause.

A recent move on the health care front towards containing the burgeoning costs to the taxpayer have some conservatives pleased, but they still do not suggest that the Tories have any problem with socialized medicine in principle.

But, says Mr. Metz, the key is that the public has to come

to understand that everyone has to take personal responsibility for their lives."

"Universality has to go. It's already crumbling. He wrote an article 10 years ago saying that. 'It will still be crumbling in 2000 but they'll still call it universality so they don't scare anybody.'"



Above/Left: -from the Ottawa Times, July-August 1996. A good summary contrasting some fundamental differences in perspective on education and healthcare between the Harris government and Freedom Party.

(...BRIEFS (cont'd from prev pg))

to Prime Minister Jean Chretien, which was also published in *Dialogue* magazine (June-July 1996), Walker concluded that "to me, the 1996 census is an example of government gone bad. Your fascination with what people were prior to their choosing to become Canadian is abhorrent."

Referring to the government's collection of racial data, Walker's criticisms elicited a revealing written response (July 29, 1996) from **Ivan P. Fellegi**, Chief Statistician with **Statistics Canada**:

"Question 19, often erroneously referred to as the 'race' question, was intended to produce information on the visible minority population. Answer categories listed in the question, with the exception of white, are those used in defining the visible minority population for purposes of the **Employment Equity Act**."

It was not until October 16, 1996, that Walker wrote back:

"I have waited a few months to reply to your letter. I had hoped that after a couple of months I could reread your letter and take less offence at what it contained. On that point I was wrong."

"I was brought up to think about people as individuals. My parents taught me that you don't make judgements based on race or visual characteristics. That is my culture! Why, of all cultures present in Canada, is mine (one that believes all people are individuals and should be equal before and under the law) the culture that is to be belittled and prosecuted by Statistics Canada? Mr. Fellegi, your reply has only served to confirm my original opinion of the nature of Canada's census."

Walker concluded by thanking Fellegi for his response, since it would be of great assistance in helping him convince even more people that they should boycott the next census.



SMOKING BYLAWS VIOLATE PROPERTY RIGHTS, SAYS FITZGERALD

ETOBICOKE (May 30, 1996) - In response to Etobicoke Board of Health's announcement of a public meeting on the issue of smoking by-law amendments in the city, Fp CA president (Welland-Thorold) **Barry Fitzgerald** made a private presentation criticizing by-laws as infringements of property rights.

Fitzgerald outlined the rights involved in this issue as: (1) the right of non-smokers to breathe clean air; (2) the right of smokers to

(BRIEFS... cont'd next pg)

Working For Freedom...

(... BRIEFS (cont'd from prev pg))

consume a legal product without undue harassment; (3) the property right of a business owner to select clientele and offer services under conditions those customers want.

The public hearings were forced upon the Board of Health by the municipal council after the Board, without any public consultation, presented a proposal for a 100% smoking ban on March 23. According to a report in the June 5 *Etobicoke Life*, "opponents of smoking were out-numbered on the speakers' podium two to one."

"So I don't think it would be too cynical to suggest that your policy is firmly set, and that you don't really want public input," said Fitzgerald, "especially if it disagrees with your position."

"When you refer to 'enclosed public places', you really mean privately owned property that the public or at least some of the public sometimes has access to, and that is an important point. You intend to further restrict property rights. How far will you go? Will you ban smoking at home as well? You mention workplaces, and some workplaces are in the home."

With that warning, Fitzgerald concluded his presentation by encouraging the Board to concentrate on methods of treatment for nicotine addicts, and on education and persuasion rather than on tactics of legal force and coercion.

Below: -from the St. Marys Journal-Argus, April 17, 1996; Fp CA president Robert Smink (Perth) counters the prevailing hostility towards the profit concept. A similar version of the article was also published in the *London Free Press* on October 21, but, as per that paper's editorial policy on political parties, without attributing the author's connection to Freedom Party.

Has the word 'profit' become a four letter word?

Is it just me, or do you also get the feeling that there's a growing tinge of jealousy, often combined with outright hostility, towards anyone or any group making a large profit?

Regarding the recent record profits of \$5.2 billion by the six big banks, the major media in Canada, the press, TV and radio, have reported those profits as almost something bad, if not tragic.

I, for one, believe that we should be happy that our banks, trust companies, and credit unions are making money. If the banks made little or no profit, that would be tragic... even apocalyptic.

It would indicate a sick economy and a bankrupt country. It would throw us into a recession that would make the depression of the 1930s pale in comparison.

For more than 60 years, socialists, led by unions and the NDP, abetted by all the major political parties, and comforted by the politically correct media, have consistently portrayed profits as something almost illegal or ob-

Guest Columnist



ROBERT SMINK

scene. Their tone usually implies that profits are something 'dirty' and worthy only of fat cigar-smoking 19th-century industrialists and robber barons who made their fortunes on the backs of the poor in sweatshops and through inhumane child and near slave labour.

The implication, of course, is that anyone generating profit can only be doing so at someone else's loss, a win-lose situation. Thus, profits must all somehow be 'evil'.

But, when the great industrialists of the century past made their fortunes in a free market, without the use of force and without the assist-

ance or interference of government they created NEW WEALTH. They did not take it from those who did not have it or from those who did not create it. They understood that you can't get blood from a stone and that true wealth can only be created from a 'win-win' relationship between producers and consumers.

For those who doubt it, take a look at the standard of living of those countries where such entrepreneurs and industrialists are not allowed to exist.

Webster's Dictionary defines 'profit' as 'gain, a positive return on investment, a valuable return, a benefit, yielding advantageous returns or results, and net income'. These are all positive attributes.

By definition then, the word 'profit' is a synonym for success. Unless you are a criminal or a government, profit can only be gained through the virtues of voluntary trade and not through force.

Consider what it takes to produce success, and thus profits: thought, resourcefulness, intelligence, thrift, integrity, dedication, reason, hard work, honesty, risk-taking, trust, knowledge, respect for others, good-

judgment, creativity, freedom, objectivity, planning, in short, productive ability.

Is it conceivably possible that 'evil' can emanate from such a list of virtues?

By morally and intellectually denigrating the word 'profit' socialists try to justify their claim to, and theft of, the very profits that they supposedly despise. To disguise the greedy morality that motivates them, socialists argue that profits should be 'redistributed' for the 'good of the community'.

Philosophically, communal ownership of 'resources' and 'profit' is taken for granted. The moral concept of individual property rights is swept aside. The virtues of profit have been blindsided by the socialist philosophy that it's OK to rob Peter to pay Paul!

The major media has carried this banner of socialism practically unopposed!

App Rand:

"... Western man's abundance was not created by public sacrifices to 'the common good', but by the productive genius of free men who

pursued their own personal interests and the making of their own private fortunes. They did not starve or enslave people to pay for industrialization. They gave the people better jobs, higher wages, and cheaper and more abundant goods and services with every machine invented, with every scientific discovery or technological advance. Thus, the whole of western civilization was moving forward and PROFITING—not suffering every step of the way."

Let us recall a few old axioms that have withstood the test of time:

- 1) You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich.
- 2) You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.
- 3) You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
- 4) You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.
- 5) You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence.
- 6) You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they

could and should do for themselves.

7) You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

8) You cannot stay out of trouble by spending more than your income.

9) You cannot remain in business for long without profit.

Profits are merely a reflection of all the virtues required to create success. They should be celebrated as an expression of all that is good and right, whether in an individual, a family, a company, a group of companies, or anywhere in our society.

It's time that profits were hailed and glorified for the success and virtue they are the measure of.

Editor's Note: Robert Smink is a St. Marys resident and London businessman. He is president of Freedom Party's Perth County Riding Association and was the party's candidate in the 1995 provincial election. He holds an Honours Degree in Philosophy and history from the University of Waterloo.

FRAMPTON/METZ ADDRESS APEC MEMBERS

OTTAWA & LONDON (June 27, 1996) - In separate addresses to members of the Association for the Preservation of English in Canada (APEC), Fp president Robert Metz (London) and regional vice-president William Frampton (Ottawa) each delivered Freedom Party's perspective on two differing issues: the Canadian census and Canada's unity problem.

That both issues have much in common with official bilingualism is no surprise. Unless stopped soon, the Canadian government's obsession with race, culture, and language will prove to be the undoing of the country.

Readers interested in the substance of both presentations are directed to our sister newsletter, *Consent 26*, where essays by both authors on their respective viewpoints appeared in print.

Thanks again to our friends at APEC, in particular Eric Frostad and George Potter, for opening their doors to Freedom Party!

ONTARIO'S TROUBLED LABOUR RELATIONS SUBJECT OF CABLE DEBATE

LINDSAY (September 26, 1996) - In yet another lively and heated cablecast debate on the program *Search For Understanding*, Fp president Robert Metz squared off with Victoria County Coalition for Social Justice representative David St Jean on the issue of Ontario's troubled labour relations. St Jean is also a CAW union representative.

At the heart of the debate was the issue of the legitimacy of union power. Citing forced membership dues and labour's monopoly status as evidence that unions have not earned their support but conscripted it, Metz argued that the power of unions is overstated and cannot be considered legitimate until workers have the individual right not to join unions.

St Jean did not apologize for organized labour's monopoly status (though Metz suggested that "it's about time someone did"), and quickly defended the concept of the "closed shop" as one of the major benefits of joining a union. Referring to organized labour's rotating walkouts around the province as evidence of the value of unions, St Jean only ended up demonstrating Metz's contention that unions have evolved into political lobby groups, "who just happen to do a little collective bargaining on the side."

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the half-hour debate can contact us for details. See green box on the back cover for details of how to get in touch with us.

(BRIEFS... cont'd next pg)

Working For Freedom...

(...BRIEFS (cont'd from prev pg))

PGIB & WORKERS' COMPENSATION

HAMILTON (October 16, 1996) - In an address to members at a \$40-a-plate dinner meeting of the newly-revived **Progressive Group for Independent Business (PGIB)**, Fp president **Robert Metz** let attendees know that **Freedom Party** fully endorsed the group's effort to lobby the provincial government to reform the **Workers' Compensation Board**.

PGIB is collecting signatures on a petition to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario which calls for an option to allow business to opt out of the WCB, and for the freedom to seek better and less expensive private insurance programs elsewhere.

Metz presented PGIB with copies of **Freedom Party's** March 1996 Workers' Compensation report, prepared by Special Projects Manager **Lloyd Walker** (see last issue). Copies of that report (**New Directions For Workers' Compensation Reform**) are available through **Freedom Party** on request, and will soon be accessible on our Website.

Those interested in finding out more about PGIB can write to their national office at 129 Pumphill Landing, S.W., Calgary Alberta, T2V 5C5 (Phone: (403) 259-5315).

METZ MEETS WITH CLEMENT

TORONTO (September 30, 1996) - In a private meeting held at the **Ministry of Citizenship, Culture, and Recreation**, Fp president **Robert Metz** and **Brampton South MPP Tony Clement** shared thoughts and information on the nature of **Ontario's Human Rights Commission (OHRC)**. Clement is heading a review of the role of the OHRC, and was seeking input from individuals who have had direct experiences with the process.

In fact, "due process" is one element that Clement acknowledged does not exist with respect to OHRC proceedings and he vowed that the Conservative government would enact changes that would hopefully better protect those who have had racism complaints filed against them. He also assured Metz that the direction pursued by the **Cornish Task Force** under the Rae administration (see *Freedom Flyer*, Dec 1992) would be completely abandoned, much to the relief of Metz.

While Metz made it clear that he preferred a complete abolition of the OHRC, the news that this government is at least changing the

Page 8, Lindsay This Week, Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Freedom Party advocates more rights, less government

BY ROD BENNS
This Week Staff Writer

As a former accountant, Bob Metz has seen a lot of government interference in the lives of others.

Twelve years ago, that interference prompted him to help found the Freedom Party of Ontario, one of the so-called fringe parties in the province.

The party president was at Jim McKee's Fenelon Township home recently, bringing his message of less government and individual rights to about 40 interested people.

Mr. Metz looked comfortable in his role as leader of one of the smaller parties in the province, soft-spoken and articulate as he outlined his party's goals and beliefs to the crowd.

He rejected from the outset any right wing-left wing labels, but his party's policies of minimal government interference makes his platform attractive to supporters of Reform or the Progressive Conservatives.

"We don't have a name for our perspective of thinking," said Mr. Metz.

London based, the Freedom party fielded candidates in 12 ridings in the last provincial election, and is always on the lookout to expand its base.

On only his second official trip north of Toronto for the party, Mr. Metz seemed intrigued upon hearing that Victoria County is a traditional right wing stronghold.

He said clearly the main challenge, then, is "to let people know about us."

"Every place has potential," Mr. Metz said.

The Freedom party accents individual rights over collective rights. Mr. Metz said the constitution makes group rights enshrined ahead of individuals, and said this is "not a recipe for unity."

direction of its policies was most welcomed. Metz discussed many aspects of the OHRC's case against former London landlord **Elijah Elieff** with Clement, who thanked him for filling in many of the details that had previously left many questions unanswered.

The party president singled out unions, human rights boards, distinct society status for Quebec and other collective power bases as the main reason for the problems facing the country.

In 1987, the City of London was in the middle of a garbage pick-up strike "for reasons that shouldn't have required not working," said Mr. Metz.

He used this as an example of the problems with group rights in the form of unions.

The Freedom party sent a pamphlet around during the strike with their platform and policies, along with a note saying leave two bags of garbage out on the curb and Freedom party people would collect it.

"We wanted to demonstrate, positively, that this (strike) was not needed," he said.

"It's group warfare out there against everyone else's expense," said Mr. Metz.

Mr. Metz said he looks forward to organizing the party north of Toronto where "the growth is."

"It's group warfare out there against everyone else's expense"

Bob Metz

Left/Above: From *Lindsay This Week*, March 26, 1996, this reproduced article is a follow-up to our own coverage of this event, reported in the last issue of *Freedom Flyer*. While generally accurate, the article does leave an important misconception that we regard as fundamental, even though most people might not notice.

Freedom Party does not advocate 'more' rights, but only *individual* rights, and would do away with the myriad of collective (group) rights that currently exist; Fp's emphasis is not on "less government", but on *more freedom*. Freedom Party does not acknowledge group rights of any kind. The article inaccurately describes Metz as party leader; Mr. Metz is party president.

All in all, the meeting was very relaxed, cordial, and informative. Metz and Clement both parted with the understanding that, while there are many differences in preferred policies between **Freedom Party** and the PCs, both parties share common opponents in the political arena.

{END}

Trustee With A Mission...

VAUGHAN CAMPAIGNS FOR FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN EDUCATION

EDUCATION

Stifling angers trustee favoring phonics

Robert Vaughan says the board of education has shut parents out of the language debate.

By Norman De Bono
Free Press Education Reporter

Parents have been shut out of a debate over language instruction in schools, says trustee Robert Vaughan.

Trustees this week voted against surveying parents over whether they prefer phonics or whole language instruction. But while Vaughan is angry over the board's refusal to ask parents for input, trustees added insult to injury by voting to refuse any discussion on the issue at a meeting earlier this week, he said.

"The hypocrisy is what gets me. You have a director (Darrel Skidmore) and a chairperson (Bill Brock) who say we are open, nothing is wrong with education, but when a simple motion to ask parents what they think is struck down with anger, it speaks to hypocrisy," said Vaughan.

"When I make an attempt to bring phonics to the forefront, I am shut out. People should know attempts to make this public are being stifled."

NO DISCUSSION: At a stormy board meeting this week, Vaughan wanted to discuss the issue of whole language instruction which is taught in schools and phonics, which he advocates. However, trustee Peter Jaffe made a motion, which was passed, that there be no discussion.

"The board of education likes to say everything is great with the school system, but they do not allow debate and discussion," said Vaughan.



File photo

Robert Vaughan says board officials are showing hypocrisy by avoiding heated debates.

LONDON (May-October, 1996) - As a trustee on the London Board of Education, Fp Executive member Robert Vaughan is still generating controversy in a one-man campaign for freedom of choice in education. (See coverage, last issue.) The selection of reprinted newspaper articles on pages 10 and 11 have all been reproduced from the pages of the *London Free Press*, and attest to the on-going effort required to counter the bureaucracy and politics behind today's state-funded education system.

(END)

At Left and Below: -from the *London Free Press*, September 20, 1996; The hostility exhibited towards a phonics-first approach to literacy --- even as an optional choice for parents --- reveals a fear unwarranted by educators who claim to be incorporating it in their current reading programs. Readers are forewarned that the description of 'Whole Language versus Phonics' in this article is a 'Whole Language' viewpoint that Freedom Party strongly disagrees with. (See our publication, Just Say 'Know' To Whole Language.)

At Right: - from the *London Free Press*, May 29, 1996. Vaughan clarifies his views on his opposition to the Board's sex-education policies.

"I am angry. I am not given a say. The trustees have stifled debate. All I wanted was to ask parents what they want."

Rob Alder was the lone trustee supporting Vaughan's call for a survey of parents, but does not see the board's position as hypocritical or stifling debate. There was extensive discussion on the issue at an earlier committee meeting and further discussion would have achieved little, he said.

WHY AGAIN: "It was debated last week, why debate it again? I can understand it," he said.

However, he questioned the board's sensitivity over "messy debates," agreeing it likes to put forward a more restrained image of proceedings. There is nothing wrong with heated public discussion, he said.

"An all-out, full debate tends to be sloppy and I don't have difficulty with that. We need to have a thick but sensitive skin," said Alder.

The issue arose when Vaughan questioned the board's policy on early literacy intervention, saying it does not emphasize phonics instruction. While whole language instruction uses the meaning of words to aid learning, phonics focuses on the sound of words.

"I fundamentally believe we should use an array of instructional approaches to teach our children how to read. But I also support a review to find out what public views are," said Alder.

He is not concerned about the motion's defeat, saying he is "comfortable" with the use of different language techniques and believes there is community support.

"I believe it is important to incorporate phonics into whole language instruction and we do that," he said.

The board has had good news in recent years as literacy tests show improvement in reading skills, supporting present teaching methods, he added.

National surveys have also indicated students today are more literate than their parents.

"We're moving in the right direction, reading proficiency is up," said Alder.

WHOLE LANGUAGE VERSUS PHONICS

Lorayne Robertson, program supervisor in communications at the London board of education, described whole language as a combination approach to teaching.

It uses reading, writing and thinking as one approach, focusing on the story, the meaning and understanding of the story to help pupils decode and pronounce words.

For example, the word "trough" spelled phonetically would read "trof." So the context of how that word is used in a story helps the meaning.

While phonics is also used in whole language instruction, the concern about using only a phonics approach is that laws of pronunciation do not apply to all words. For example, the word why has a long sounding i, but that only applies to 15 per cent of words.

"If you read English phonetically, it reads like the decoding section of a dictionary," said Robertson.

"The rules of phonics only apply in a certain per cent of cases."

Phonics is "pervasive" in teacher planning guides issued by the board and will also be used in early literacy intervention, she said.

"The sound system, the sound symbol system should be taught explicitly and early but can only be understood when applied in a meaningful way. Students need the context to make sense of sound symbol match," the document on literacy intervention states.

MAY 29 1996

Article mistook trustee's views

Regarding, *Sex course stirring controversy* (May 15), inaccurately portrays my views on the issue of sex education in the public schools. Your reporter writes that I "oppose condom use and masturbation." This sweeping generality paints me as ignorant and prudish. To put the matter straight, I believe that instruction on condom use must be taught in school although it must be taught under the following conditions: the child's parents must know it is being taught, the information must be factual and not eroticized, and it must be done at a time appropriate to the sexual maturity of the student.

I do oppose the school board selling condoms in high-school washrooms. If any students wants to buy a condom they can go to any corner drugstore and do so, just like any self-respecting adult. If they feel ashamed to buy a condom in public then they should examine why they feel ashamed. For the school board to eliminate their shame does not help these students to understand that they may not be mature enough to engage in sex.

Your reporter's comment on masturbation should be put into perspective. Lesson five of an early draft sex-ed curriculum for Grade 9 presented to the community in April discussed ways of avoiding sexually transmitted diseases and described "mutual" masturbation as a "Green - Go Ahead" activity. This is completely inappropriate direction for 14- and 15-year-olds. There is not one parent in London who would recommend such an activity to their teen.

The school board administration is providing ample opportunity for public involvement in the curriculum and is changing the curriculum to better reflect the sensibilities of the community. Whether these changes are adequate is a matter for the trustees to decide. The final draft goes to the program standing committee June 11. If approved it will then go to the entire board for final approval. I would encourage all interested Londoners to get the facts for themselves. A copy of the latest draft of the curriculum is available for viewing at the board's professional library on Dundas Street.

ROBERT VAUGHAN

EDUCATION

OCT 1996

Trustee With A Mission...



Girls in sports under review

The issue sparked a heated debate at a London board of education committee meeting on Tuesday.

By Norman De Bono
Free Press Education Reporter

Why is this important? It is not the school's business to socially engineer values

"

London board of education trustee Robert Vaughan

Now that he's in high school, Ken loves playing football.

But Susie's standing on the sidelines — choosing to opt out of sports.

Is this subtle discrimination or just personal choice?

And if a school tries to keep young women in sports, do they risk crossing the line from educators to becoming gender issues police?

The London board of education is forming an advisory committee to promote gender equity in physical and health education in school — including intramural activities — as concern is growing as to the number of girls dropping out of high school sports.

HEATED DISCUSSION: But the committee's role prompted a heated discussion at a board committee meeting on Tuesday.

Trustee Robert Vaughan questioned the group's work, saying it is "peculiar" the board would attempt to form an advisory committee to try to alter "free choice and personal values."

"Why is this important? It is not the school's business to socially engineer values," said Vaughan.

an. But Linda Findley, a program supervisor at the board, believes free choice is not the issue. Research overwhelmingly shows young women are socially conditioned to opt out of sports beginning at about 13 years of age and it is a teacher's role to tell young women they can remain physically active, she said.

"Girls don't believe in themselves and we have to tell them they can do it," said Findley.

The committee will research gender equity in sports and come up with a plan to aid youths, including offering role models, posters, getting more women coaches in schools and ensuring equity in programs.

It may even touch on making coaches sensitive to demands on young women's time, like babysitting, that young men do not have and altering practice times to compensate, said Findley.

In a study, the Canadian Association For the Advancement of Women in Sport and Physical Education reported data showing young women suddenly dropping out of sports:

► From the ages of 10 to 14, 49 per cent of females are physically active in school versus 72 per cent of males.

► By the age of 12, girls' involvement begins to decline steadily until it is at only 11 per cent.

► Perhaps most disturbing of all, at six years old, both boys and girls believe boys are better at sports. This is not true, as girls are as strong if not stronger than boys until puberty.

"We hope to educate and by doing so, come to grips with what girls are grappling with," said Findley.

The committee will not encourage young women to play football or hockey, but simply wants to empower them to remain physically active, be it in an organized sport or hiking and swimming.

"We just want them to remain involved in any kind of fitness event," said Findley.

But Vaughan questioned if this is the job of the school board — especially at a time of dwindling resources and more public questioning of its role. He believes the board should not look at this as a gender issue, but support more physical involvement for boys and girls. Also, the school board does not discriminate in offering access to sports.

"What is at issue here is getting all students involved in sports regardless of gender," he said.

FOOTBALL: The answer may be as simple as "maybe some girls don't want their teeth kicked out in football," said Vaughan.

"It is not a gender equity issue. If the board discriminates I will take action against that. But in absence of fact showing discrimination, I will oppose this."

But Findley said the work of the committee will be subtle encouragement and self esteem building and that is the role of educators.

"We hope to make girls aware and encourage them to do whatever they want," she said.

Trustees Linda Freeman, Svetlana MacDonald and Marilyn Joselyn voted in support of the committee, saying "subtle, unintentional, systemic discrimination" is keeping girls from physical activity.



At Left: -from the *London Free Press*, October 9, 1996; Vaughan objects to the engineering of social values by opposing yet another unnecessary 'gender equity' program in the school system.



Below: -from the *London Free Press*, October 7, 1996; Vaughan's response to a previous editorial by London Board of Education chairperson Bill Brock lays it on the line: "So be it" he says, to the potential prospect of the elimination of school boards.

REBUTAL

Give parents more control over education

By Robert Vaughan

The writer is a trustee with the London board of education.

In his column, *Critics should visit classroom* (Sept. 26), Bill Brock, chairperson of the London board of education, identifies concerns parents and taxpayers have about public education. Poor literacy results, inadequate report cards and lack of community involvement have been problems, and Brock is correct when he says they are being addressed and improved.

He fails to recognize, however, that the improvement is a result of outspoken critics. Brock is also wrong to believe everything is now fine and all the critics should just go home and let the experts handle it.

If troubles of the past teach us anything, it's that education is not something the public should blindly trust to bureaucrats or politicians like Brock or me. Ideally, education should be controlled by parents.

The London board has taken years to recognize the legitimate concerns of "critics" like parents and taxpayers.

Recognition should not go to the trustees nor to Brock. It should go to the vocal critics and to out-going director Darrel Skidmore. Trustees have regularly rebuffed attempts by individual trustees, including myself, to increase parental involvement.

The trustees (including Brock) turned down a request to survey parents about phonics or "whole language." Also, when the board was asked by a provincial task force led by David Crombie for its opinion on boards placing questions on the ballot during municipal elections, its draft response questioned the "intent" of such a suggestion and expressed concerns over "frivolous questions."

MOTION DEFEATED: Brock speaks of looking "forward to hearing from school councils on how we can improve." Yet, when I made a motion to have the newly formed school councils advise the board on the changes to the sex-ed curriculum, it was defeated by Brock and other trustees. Apparently, school councils are asked for their opinion as long as it's not a controversial issue.

As for visiting the classrooms, before becoming a trustee I was invited by the former principal of St. George's Public School to see how happy the children were in his "whole language" classrooms. When he learned I was aware of much of the academic research surrounding the debate over whole language phonics, he withdrew his invitation. Apparently, only the ignorant may visit classrooms.

Brock speaks of the community in developing curriculum. But how the community is engaged? Public forums are strictly controlled events where public involvement is limited. The restrictions are, by and large, a consequence of ministerial directives and inflexible administrators. The results are predictable — the status quo.

In my two years as trustee, I have found teachers to be hard-working and caring. Most of the educators at the board offices are sincerely interested in the education of children. Unfortunately, I have also discovered frustration among many teachers, arrogance on the part of the some administrators and contempt for parental choice with most trustees. Many feel the "system" must survive at all costs — the community be damned.

CHANGE: With every new provincial government there comes change. But when we are stuck with only one education system that is tightly controlled by bureaucrats, change, if it leads to choice, should be embraced. In our system there can only be one educational philosophy that "wins." With such a monopoly you can count on every parent and interest group going to battle for control of that prevailing philosophy at every opportunity. The system is a political and educational quagmire and children and parents are caught in the middle.

The answer is not the status quo, as Brock appears to suggest. The answer is to remove education from the political process and offer parents and educators real choice. The Ministry of Education is right to examine all alternatives for reform. Education should be taken out of the hands of bureaucrats and politicians and given back to parents and teachers. Education should not be funded through property taxes, but out of Queen's Park, where your education tax dollars follow your children, whether they go to public or private schools. The ministry should set standards but still allow individual schools to choose how and what they teach based on demand and interest.

If the provincial government acknowledges parents should have the final say in the education of their children, and trusts them to make the right choices, it would end the constant political wrangling over teaching methods, report cards and the like. If that acknowledgement means there would no longer be a need for school boards and trustees like Brock and myself, so be it.

Freedom On The Internet...

FREEDOM PARTY LAUNCHES WORLD WIDE WEB SITE

ONTARIO (September, 1996) - **Freedom Party** has officially and permanently established its Internet presence by launching a site on the **World Wide Web** at the following address: <http://www.freedomparty.org>.

Thanks to the hard work of **Fp Webmaster Greg Jones** and **Fp member Mike Davidson**, **Freedom Party's** site already contains the party's entire library of *Consent* magazine, half of **Fp's Freedom Flyer** library, a broad selection of issue papers, and various alternate **Fp** publications, literature, official briefs, speeches, and media coverage. Much more is yet to come.

PARTY HISTORY

Essentially, **Freedom Party's** entire party history --- from January 1, 1984, when the party was founded, to the present --- is now accessible to an audience that is literally world wide.

Articles and essays from back-issues of our newsletters and publications have been left unrevised, and read exactly as when originally published in print. With hindsight and retrospect, readers will be able to judge the validity of **Freedom Party's** philosophy, predictions, judgements, and expectations for themselves.

"(**Freedom Party's**) Website is extremely well-organized, easy to navigate through, and contain(s) a lot of real information. Congratulations!" says **Jeannie Novak**, founder of **Kaleidospace**, the first company to commercially distribute works by independent artists and musicians via the World Wide Web, in Los Angeles California.

Since speed and ease of navigation are important to most users of the Internet, **Fp's**

Website has been carefully designed to minimize the time spent downloading documents.

As of this writing, **Freedom Party's** Website already contains well over 500 separate documents and articles, and will contain over 2,000 by the time the site is fully completed and up to date. For ease of access, documents and articles on site have been made accessible through several different indexes.

No doubt, the most popular and useful index will prove to be **Freedom Party's Issues Index Search**. This index locates every article published or reprinted by **Freedom Party** on a specific subject or issue. By simply pointing and clicking on a particular word in the index, a complete listing of every **Fp** article dealing with the selected subject or issue appears. From this listing, any article of interest can be instantly downloaded with the click of a mouse button.

EQUAL PLAYING FIELD

For **Freedom Party**, the Internet will act as a great equalizer, since it is a medium that overcomes virtually every physical, political, and economic obstacle inherent in the existing print and broadcast media. On this equal playing field, **Freedom Party's** influence can be as great as or better than any competitor's.

With the ability to compare the philosophies, policies, and records of action of the various political parties on their respective Websites, voters now have an unprecedented opportunity to get their information unfiltered by media interpretations and unfettered by the current election regulations which limit the amount of information (via paid advertising) that political parties and candidates may make available to the public.

Freedom Party's Internet presence will make it much easier for members of the media, business, and government to discover, research, and/or contact **Freedom Party** or its representatives and spokespersons. With our new e-mail address at feedback@freedomparty.org, contact is just a click away.

FEEDBACK

No doubt, the most important aspect of our Internet presence will be the ability of our Website visitors to directly communicate with us. Because of the nature of interactivity, this may be the most unpredictable section of **Fp's** Website, since its content will be largely determined by the questions, comments, and criticisms directed at **Freedom Party**.

To accommodate this expected interchange, a future feature on our Website will be our **FREEDOM FORUM**, which will serve much as a "letters to the editor" section, but will also have the added potential of developing into a two-way dialogue that can prove to be an objective testing ground for **Freedom Party's** ideas and philosophy.

Already, with existing Web technology, it is possible to make available on a Website not only textual information, but also full colour still pictures and video, audio transmissions, computer software, games, and more. All of these media forms will eventually be available on **Fp's** site.

We encourage our members and supporters not only to visit our site themselves, but to tell their friends and acquaintances about **Fp's Website** at: <http://www.freedomparty.org>. And of course, we welcome your feedback via e-mail at: feedback@freedomparty.org.

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FREEDOM FLYER

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FREEDOM PARTY OF ONTARIO

Freedom Party of Ontario is a fully-registered Ontario political party. Contributions are tax-creditable. **Statement of Principle:** **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.* **Platform:** that the purpose of government is to protect individual freedom of choice, not to restrict it. **Annual Membership & Support Level:** \$25 minimum (tax-creditable); **Provincial Executive:** Ontario President: Robert Metz; Regional Vice-president, Eastern Ontario: William Frampton; Chief Financial Officer: Patti Plant; **Executive Officers:** Barry Malcolm, Robert Vaughan, Gordon Mood; **Party Leader:** Jack Plant.

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