

CHAPTER 6

Communist Manifesto

In the mid-1800s, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels were faced with the philosophical question of what the perfect communist state would look like. In other words, what conditions would be necessary to facilitate the “perfect implementation of collectivist principles”? The short essay they wrote has become one of the most famous written works of our world. Their thesis is known as *The Communist Manifesto*. It contains ten planks they felt were necessary in order to successfully achieve their goals. Here is a summary of those ten planks:

1. Abolition of private property
2. Heavy progressive income tax
3. Abolition of all rights of inheritance
4. Confiscation of property of all emigrants and rebels
5. Central bank
6. Government control of communication and transportation
7. Government ownership of factories and agriculture
8. Government control of labor
9. Corporate farms, regional planning
10. Government control of education

Please look carefully at the first plank, “abolition of private property.” I’ve already asked you for your definition of “abolish” in a different context. How does that definition apply in this instance? Do you think that communists plan to allow some private property, or do you think it is their intention to deprive you of all ownership?

Do you recall the John Adams quote concerning property? It is: “The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the law of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence.”

Clearly, if communists intend to abolish private property, they do not consider it “as sacred as the law of God.” Without property, you have no rights. That is why communism is evil. A closer examination shows that the first plank describes what communism intends to do, and planks two through ten describe how they intend to do it.

Let’s take a brief look at each plank. As you read, keep track of how many of these policies already exist in the United States. Keep a tally on a separate sheet of paper, or put a check mark along side each paragraph that describes an agency or policy here in the land of the free.

1. Abolition of private property

America’s war on drugs has prompted government agencies to establish asset forfeiture laws which allow the arresting agency to take all of the property belonging to someone suspected of being involved with drugs. Frequently the arresting agency is acting on an anonymous phone call. The property is then sold at auction for a fraction of the cost, and the arresting agency keeps the money.

Whenever our government invokes eminent domain to take someone’s property, they are demonstrating their lack of respect for private property, and acting just like any other communist regime.

2. Heavy progressive income tax

A progressive income tax means the more money you make, the higher your percentage of tax. In the United States the IRS determines the percentage of our progressive income tax. Those percentages are included as a table with the instructions that come with your 1040 form. If you make enough money, you may be lucky enough to fall in the 50 percent tax bracket. The strongest slaves are lucky enough to carry the heaviest rocks.

3. Abolition of all rights of inheritance

If your parents die without a will, the government may take half of everything your parents owned before you and your siblings are allowed to divide what’s left. Even with a will the government can take a percentage. This prevents future generations within a family from accumulating a significant amount of wealth. What justifies this tax on dying?

4. Confiscation of property of all emigrants and rebels

Anyone who travels internationally must declare whether he or she is carrying more than \$10,000 in money, stocks, or bank notes. Friends of mine who intend to relocate to New Zealand have been told that they cannot take their money with them.

5. Central bank

The Federal Reserve Bank is a private company and not a part of the American government any more than Federal Express is a part of the U.S. Post Office. You can prove this for yourself by searching the blue government pages in the phone book. When you fail to find it there, try looking in the white business pages. When you control the printing of money, it doesn’t matter who controls the government. The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 is completely, totally, and unquestionably unconstitutional.

6. Government control of communication and transportation

The Federal Communications Commission controls all radio and television signals in the United States. The Federal Aviation Administration, National Transportation Safety Board, and every state department of transportation and motor vehicles control every aspect of transportation in this country. You cannot travel, ship, or broadcast anywhere in the United States without getting government approval.

7. Government ownership of factories and agriculture

Government doesn’t actually own factories, but it also has no business bailing out Chrysler and savings and loan associations when they get into financial trouble. The recent collapses of Enron and WorldCom have suggested inappropriate connections with the government. The U.S. Department of Agriculture controls and regulates nearly every aspect of the food chain, from farm to table.

8. Government control of labor

Innumerable government agencies within the United States regulate nearly every facet of every kind of business. Although there is no formal government agency that directly controls unions, they are strongly influenced by federal agencies such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. (OSHA).

9. Corporate farms, regional planning

In the not-too-distant past, most farms were owned by small families. Now they are owned by large corporations and merely leased to the original tenants.

Every large city in the United States has a regional planning office. Austin, Texas, has a Planning and Design Office, a Planning/Environmental and Conservation Services Department, and a Planning and Economic Development office. Check your phone book to find similar agencies where you live.

10. Government control of education

There is no point in arguing whether or not the government controls education in this country. The Democrats and Republicans are falling all over themselves claiming to be the ones who control it best.

When the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) was established in 1953, American students ranked number one the world in the fields of math and science. Students from every other country were eager to come to the United States to get a good education. Eventually the Department of Education became a separate entity, but as of 2003 this country has experienced fifty years of government control of schools.

Statistics now rank American students as twenty-first in math and science. Our schools are now filled with children who can't read or write, and we spend ten times as much per student as we did in 1953. Even if the Department of Education was constitutional, which it is not, it should still be eliminated for doing such a terrible job.

So what was your total? Eight? Nine? Ten? I have always held that if it walks like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then it is probably a duck, regardless what the crowd around me is calling it. If the United States is already practicing all ten of these communist principles, then we must be living in a

communist country. Does that give you a warm, cozy feeling inside, or are you suddenly concerned about the people in Washington who have promised to protect your rights?