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Tax Revolt Decreases Cost Of Living

As usual, the cost of living in the U.S.A. went up in 1978. The Consumer Price Index went up in every state except California. One obvious cause of this is the tax revolt in that state and the passage of Proposition 13, an amendment putting a ceiling on tax increases.

Nationally, the cost of living increased 7.2% over 1978. With the exclusion of California from computation, however, the figure is 7.9%. Although we can not account for this by stating only one factor, it seems quite clear that efforts of Howard Jarvis, originator of Proposition 13, have paid off for the people of California. These benefits are not as prominent among those dependent on the state, such as the elderly, the sick, and the poor. Those situations do not seem to have been hurt by the tax revolt.

There is only one way that Proposition 13 will benefit all. Private responsibility and individual consideration for the disadvantaged, independent of the government, will have to occur. By releasing themselves from spiraling taxes, the people of California have necessitated independent responsibility. If they believe that the government is spending their money ineffectively, then they will have to help the disadvantaged in an open hearted way. Ideals will have to become the main force, this will be a challenge to the Californians in today's world, but if the people rise to it, a tax limited society may flourish.

In California, the cost of living has gone down, but more will have to be done before Proposition 13 can be considered successful in all facets.

Seth Mckee

Collectivism in Action

In Time, February 5, 1979, it was reported, "Tehran in many ways is as bleak and lifeless as a dead planet, but it is surprising how little four months of strikes and almost complete economic denial have affected the majority of the population."

How can this be? There was no government to organize their affairs. Moreover, they maintained a relatively orderly society without traditional governmental restraints. I mean there wasn't chaos, or so called anarchy. But was there anarchy in the positive sense of the term?

It is sad that the word anarchy has a duplicity of meanings. The word is most frequently used to mean chaos, and often times people forget that, it also means a society without a government. A society which helps itself, within itself, and doesn't need a government to control it. A small group of people working together to satisfy the group wants has been shown effective and is known as a collective. This group shares a common ideology, the most natural and simplest possible, anarchism.

In theory, anarchist only considers a small collective group possible, but in practice the largest city in Iran, Tehran has shown otherwise. Reports state that the poor are faring best because of community food cooperatives and neighborhood organizations.

The Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has given them unity through religion. He has given the people of Tehran the courage to come together and work for other. In the past the Ayatollah Khomeini's grandfather and father, have always been radical humanist, they would require their rich land tenants to share with the poor ones. This type

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