

Why Not Socialism?

Why didn't the United States grow up to be a socialist nation? Why the founders in their well-read, well-researched spot in the universe come to the conclusion that this new nation would be better off under socialism, a tried and true governmental system rather than this newfangled notion of free-market capitalism?

Didn't they want to try something new, something improved, something novel in the world?

Actually, they did want something new and improved; free-market capitalism.

For most of the world's history, top-down government was pretty much the way to go with kings and queens and emperors. The American colonies began as all colonies do, as a way for King George to make money. Send settlers out, let them do or die, work their fingers to the bone, and send payments back. They'd toe that line, hoe that furrow, plant those crops, stack those bales, and collect their share. Yes, share. The colonists didn't get to keep it all. That was part of the deal. But supervisors were a long ways away in those days. You could plant an extra row of crops for yourself. And then an extra couple of rows and then a field and then a couple of fields. And a couple more fields. From that point of view, socialism never had a chance, then. Does it now?

One of the elements that prevents socialism or rather promotes free-market capitalism is freedom. And who wouldn't want that? Well, there are those who are willing to give up a little freedom for a little more security. We're not talking about the captains of industry, your Zuckerbergs and your Jeff Bezos but ask the guy or gal at the other end of the scale if they'd be willing to give up a little autonomy for a lot of financial security and get back to me. Especially if inflation has sapped the strength out of the dollar.

All of us have come across a young person in our travels who says the only thing wrong with socialism is it hasn't been done right, the right people weren't in charge, the rightest, kindest, most generous, least selfish people to run the enterprise. But in order for socialism to work, the work-force has to toe the line, totally. They don't get a share of the profits. Or a say in where the lunchroom is. Or if there is a lunchroom. And they can't say no. Or quit.

Consider the difference the Convention of States proposition makes in which we remember that we are in charge of the nation that we own, that we're responsible for. If not, why would these guys and gals keep asking us to vote for them? Free-market capitalism is a going proposition and socialism is a failed economic system that works well for those few in charge, not so well for us little people. And that's the important thing to remember about socialism; sure it works, but at what cost? If you haven't gotten involved in this heady little exercise of being in charge, go to conventionofstates.com/events_petition and sign that petition. You'll be amazed at how good it feels to remember we're in charge of the nation. And that's today's Founder's Solution, I'm DAP