

FORGET SLEAZEBALL POLITICS, WHERE IS MY TAX REBATE?

September 11, 2001

Some things never change. The country and selective sections of media attention are focused on another prominent politician's latest sex scandal in difference to the nation's problems. It follows the all too familiar scenario of the two major political parties in its treatment.

If the transgressor is a Democrat their major benefactors – the minorities, unions NOW and the major media outlets ignore or downplay its significance. Their champions steadfastly clutch their positions of power and privilege to their bosoms, immune to public shame or ridicule.

Republicans in the same straits leave public office followed by the raucous cries of Democratic supporters and their new- found moral indignation.

I for one am disgusted with both parties and concerned for the country and my grandchildren's future. To borrow a phrase from Bill O'Reilly, host of Fox News Channel's The O'Reilly Factor, "Who's looking out for the working people?" When politicians are more concerned with getting reelected than they are in the country's welfare we are all in trouble.

Government's principal role is national defense and matters not delegated to it are systematically suborning that. We have a far too intrusive government wielding powers not assigned to it by the Constitution or the Bill of Rights. The way is paved by liberal judges more inclined to write law suited to their political ideology than following their mandate to interpret the laws as written.

Thomas Jefferson had some thoughts along these lines when he made the following statements on appointing judges for life: "*In truth man is not to be trusted for life if secured against all liability to account.*" He further opined, "*The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground*". Truer words were never spoken in both instances.

Alexander Hamilton gives credence to my above pronouncements with the statement, "*In a contest between the law passed by Congress and the Constitution the Constitution ought to be preferred to the statute, the intention of the people to the intention of their agents*".

The liberal left has eroded each and every freedom Americans once enjoyed under the Constitution and Bill of Rights since their inception. Many have been for all practical purposes eliminated. Ask any property owners for their opinion on the subject. The tragedy is that all Americans are adversely affected whether they own property or not.

The bottom line is that all the meddling and usurpation of our rights calls for bigger government and costs reflected in our burgeoning tax burden. Every year we are forced to work longer to support an unaccountable system that undermines our way of life and very families. This brings us back to the first paragraph of this column.

Instead of concentrating on the latest sleazeball's sexual indiscretions why are we not more concerned with items like our tax rebate? Of course, both parties are trying to make political hay of its consequences, pro or con.

My take on the subject is I have no faith in the predictions of either political party as to how it will all play out. I do have faith that we who get rebates will benefit our

families and the country with it a whole lot more than leaving it where it was. After all, it is a rebate, which amounts to nothing more than our own money.

I will say with certainty that if the previous Administration had it, a good share would have gone to drug pushers, union bosses and other special interest groups. All those who oppose its dispensation have the opinion of returning it. No crowding, please.

My use of my rebate, which incidentally I have not yet received, explained by the expected burgling of 40,000 returns in Pittsburgh, was used to buy a washing machine. I bought it locally from Helmer's. Several others received at least a small part of it, which in turn hopefully helped their families.

Simply put, it's Americans helping each other.