

Leave Us Alone
Getting the Government's Hands Off Our Money, Our Guns, Our Lives
by Grover Norquist

In 338 pages, Grover Norquist has broken the complicated down into understandable and believable sections dividing Americans into two categories----The Leave Us Alone Coalition and the Takings Coalition.

Norquist provides data and information which will encourage all Americans who are concerned about our future. Several profound quotes follow which will hopefully wet your appetite for his book.

(Page xiii) We could fall backward and become like Old Europe trading freedom and opportunity for security and enforced leveling.

(Page xv) Over the next decade America will make decisions that will set us on the path of Old Europe----trading liberty for security, dynamism, and growth for safety and managed decline----or recommit itself to pursuing a free and open society where there are no limits on what the individual can accomplish free of the politics of envy and leveling and control.

(Page 3) The Leave Us Alone Coalition is a coalition of groups and individuals that have one thing in common. They do not want the government to give them something. Or take something from others.

(Page 7) Government cannot create. It can only take and relocate. It cannot give you anything, including jobs, which it didn't take by force in the first place.

(Page 13) Over the years the aggressively secular left has created a more ecumenical right.

(Page 24) Political parties, candidates, and political movements live or die by focusing like a laser on those issues that move votes, not those that wag tongues.

If you want a political party where every member agrees on all major political issues of the day, then you have one of those Trotskyite parties in Britain with seven members. Fine size for a discussion group. Not a contender for power.

(Page 26) Each voter does not need four reasons to vote for you. One strong one will do. One fish, one hook.

(Page 34) The Takings Coalition- These groups and individuals view the proper role of government as taking things from one group and giving them to someone else.

(Page 37) State and local workers also enjoy higher pay, benefits, and pensions; earlier retirement; more vacation days; and more job security than the taxpayers who foot the bill.

(Page 38) When a job ceases to be productive in the private sector it goes away. In government, the job remains and gets a raise.

(Page 59) The largest demographic change in the past twenty-five years is not the number of Americans whose parents speak Spanish. It is the number of Americans who own stock---- directly, in 401(k)s, in individual retirement accounts, or in mutual funds.

(Page 65) Since total wealth in America is \$53 trillion, we see that 30 percent of the nation s entire wealth has been created since the 2003 tax cut.

(Page 81) Just as you cannot put your foot into the same river twice, you never hold elections with the same America.

(Page 113) The greater the number of dependent Americans, the stronger the left.

(Page 127) In 2005, those paid with tax dollars earned \$36 per hour in wages and benefits. In the same hour, those paying the taxes in the private sector earned \$24.

(Page 128) Who will stay forever in Louisiana, where 14.6 percent of the workforce works for the state and local government, when New Hampshire will only make you pay for 9.8 percent government workers?

(Page 217) The Leave Us Alone Coalition has one great advantage over the left. Its policies, when enacted into law, attract citizens. People want to live in low-tax, small-government, tough-on-crime states what do not hand over their citizens lives and paychecks to the trial lawyers, the labor-union bosses, and City Hall.

(Page 219) The top ten states in teacher pay had 3.6 million residents leave those states from 1996 to 2004, taking with them \$97 billion in annual income.

(Page 227) In politics, taxation is not the most important thing. It is the only thing.

(Page 274) Investment will, over time, flow to those nations with lower taxes on labor and capital.

(Page 275) The Democrat Party rationally opposes the flat tax and also opposes ending the marriage penalty tax as married men and women are more likely to vote Republican.

(Page 276) Every country in Europe is a reminder of the danger of having both a national income tax and a national consumption tax.

(Page 282) Free trade is Latin for lower taxes.

(Page 303) The Leave Us Alone Coalition must now focus on reducing government spending as a percentage of the nation s economy.

(Page 304) ...there are really three big costs of government in America: pensions, health care, and education.

(Page 312) George W. Bush's legacy will be the creation of an ownership society where every American owns a personal savings account and has personal security in their retirement.

(Page 319) Let Americans become savers and owners, and the politicians will never take that independence and self-control away from them again.

(Page 320) We have learned over the centuries that monopolies serve themselves rather than their customers, and only competition can force reform in a monopoly.

(Page 325) If the government-school monopoly believed they were putting out a quality product, they would welcome school choice.

(Page 328) Every single government service administered by federal, state, or local government that can be provided by the private sector should be contracted out.

Compiled by Wayne Ryan
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