

Rebuttal to Ed Barker's April 18, 2016 Quepasa

The only point Ed makes that I agree with is that America is on a great precipice of history. We, the citizens, are going to be making a choice this fall. Will we remain the strong leader for the world or will we continue down the path the democrat party wants to go? The path of entitlement, subservient and cowering to the will of other people and countries.

Mr. Barker took James Madison's comments from the Federalist's Papers #10 out of context. The words in the quote are written exactly as they are in the Paper. But, as always, without expressing the intent of the conversation Madison, Hamilton and Jay were having with the citizens to advocate for the ratification of the US Constitution. James Madison is credited with being the architect of the Constitution. Madison, as determined from his other writings, is a strict constitutionalist and believed in a small limited federal government.

In Federalist Paper #10 Madison was explaining the need to be a Republic, not a Democracy. He talked about factions being a needed constant in any society. People inherently will divide themselves in groups, "factions" that should not be legislated out by a government. All that a government should do is ensure that each faction's liberty, freedom to act without punishment or retribution from others, will be ensured. Factions not only are formed from economic interests but for religion, locality and experiences.

Madison also said, "The protection of these faculties is the first object of government". Just reading that without understanding the context of the whole Paper can lead you to think many things. So, I strongly suggest that you go and find the actual Federalist Paper #10 and read it. With the precursor that it is written in the language of the time. So you will probably need to read it a few times to get the meaning that is intended.

To sum up what I am saying, our government is not here to take care of our individual needs. It is here to take care of us collectively and to ensure that the liberties of the individual are not taken to benefit the needs of another individual.

Jeff Struble
Apache Junction