



Written by [William S. Hahn](#) on August 8, 2023

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Never, Ever Give Up!

Members of The John Birch Society are forever optimists. We're the proverbial frog that's being swallowed by the pelican while shouting, "Never Give Up!" as we wrap our hands around the throat of the pelican that's attempting to swallow us. We can never quit, so when we are asked if it's too late, our answer is a loud and clear, NO!

There are those who think and operate differently, being pessimistic and predicting the Republic's demise without seemingly lifting a finger to stop it. If they knew of a successful plan, would they get involved? Perhaps they would, or perhaps they prefer to wallow in the mire of despair, which provides a pathetic cover for not doing anything.

One thing is certain: If someone has his heart set against doing something, you're probably not going to change his mind. If you can talk him into something, someone else can talk him out of it. He must change from within. Those who engage in "soul-winning" understand this concept. Please forgive me for any sacrilege, but the concepts of "churching" and "Birching" are very similar. In your conversations with others, you find common ground and build from there. Sometimes you merely plant a seed, and other times you reap a harvest.

The reason for this optimism has largely come from what's known as the American way. Early settlers didn't come to this country to leech off a government that would provide for them. No, they came here to shake off persecution and to build a new future based on the sweat of their brow. While the odds were stacked against them, they relied on their strong work ethic and helped their neighbors. This type of self-reliance, independence, and charitable neighborliness was sewn early into the fabric of this new nation. Our answer to what might look like insurmountable hurdles should never be, "let someone else handle it," "let the government fix it," or "just leave me alone."

Americans have historically been resilient, with a firm reliance on the Almighty. The Declaration of Independence clarifies the purpose of government: to safeguard God-given rights. Government is not to run our lives. Instead of looking over our shoulder for government, we have an upward focus — seeking God's protection and His mercy and grace — praying as though it all depends on Him, and working as if it all depends on us.

The Founding Fathers offered a rather simple, but ingenious — and many would argue divinely inspired — blueprint for a successful civilization: enough government to protect rights, but not enough to interfere in the free exercise of those rights. Constitutional limitations provided for strong barriers to keep government at bay, while the people themselves held the majority of the governing powers. The fact that the creation overtook the creators isn't an indictment of the system; rather, it's an indictment





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against those who are supposed to hold their representatives accountable.

In the nearly 240 years since the creation of the Constitution, the blueprint still exists. Due to the safeguards of the system, Americans haven't yet squandered the system they inherited to the point of no return. But mark our words: If we ever lose the Constitution, we may have lost the last bit of our grip to resist that proverbial pelican that seeks to swallow us.

The Founders expected us to be involved, so let's start there. The John Birch Society has helped protect the foundation of this constitutional Republic time and time again. We don't need to fight every battle that the enemies of freedom engage in. Rather, we fight an organized foe with organization that rallies around an action-based agenda.

Local successes are plentiful, and can quickly multiply into national success — all by following a plan that builds relationships with other patriots and helps to inform them on the most important threats. Get on board with a bunch of optimists and make a difference! Join today at [JBS.org](https://www.jbs.org).

— *William S. Hahn,*
CEO of The John Birch Society



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