

IT'S JUST NOT TENNIS

By Christopher J. Wilkinson ([Website](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Telegram](#), [MeWe](#))



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The detention of Novak Djokovic sets a dangerous precedent for future liberty.

Due to contest the Australian Open, Djokovic's visa was cancelled despite [Tennis Australia issuing him an exemption](#). He's claimed to have tested positive for COVID on December 16. Now denied entry to the country, the tennis star faces deportation and is currently being held in an immigration detention centre where [conditions have been reported as worse than prison](#). Australia, which as of January 9 [reported a total of 2,367 deaths attributable to coronavirus with a survival rate of 99.4 per cent](#), has presently [implemented a 'no jab, no pay' policy](#) which denies tax relief to parents who refuse to have their children vaccinated in addition to [compulsory vaccinations for all residential aged care workers](#) effective from September 17 2021.

The politicisation of sport is nothing new. For some, the England team "taking the knee" in support of Black Lives Matter at last summer's Euro Championship drew unfavourable comparison to the [Nazi salute observed during a match against Germany in Berlin, 1938](#). The primary interface the British public has with tennis is Wimbledon; images of strawberries and cream with a glass of Pimm's and crisp white sports attire permeate in the mind. Contradictions to such popular imagery are

typically glossed over for fear of disturbing social order; see [The Emperor's New Clothes](#) (1837). The Djokovic case is an intriguing exception, but there is a clear motive behind such high-profile coverage of an otherwise politically adverse story.

Media commentary, quick to identify Djokovic as a vaccine sceptic, has during the past two years expressed an openly biased, credulous adherence to government policy thereby [preventing individuals from making informed decisions](#) regarding their health and wellbeing. Meanwhile, [senior public officials and investors with interests in private pharmaceutical firms are set to make substantial profits](#) as vaccine rollouts proceed. Why the lack of scrutiny? To deny there are never any side-effects from vaccines is to deny the truth. To deny there were alternative options available to the British government in its handling of COVID, such as the Swedish model, is to deny the truth. Journalist Walter Lippmann acknowledged that [news and truth were mutually exclusive](#). The underlying truth is hardly a secret – there's an agenda at the heart of every individual, organisation, even government that may run counter to our own.

The methodology behind the agenda is clear. COVID passports for large-scale entertainment venues, enforced quarantine for the unvaccinated travelling abroad, increased business dependency on government, and financial punishment for non-mask wearers in wider society equates to [a rudimentary form of identity-driven behavioural economics](#); an economics that leaves the door wide open for the implementation of a Chinese-style social credit system. Relentless propaganda, ubiquitous slogans, and political messaging fuels an egotistical confirmation bias among those unable to think critically through lack of appropriate information or education. The wearing of blue surgical masks, the presence of hand sanitiser stations in commercial establishments and the declaration of one's vaccination status act as [subconscious virtue signals](#); an appreciative endorsement of the agenda. Our issue should be weighted between the circumstances we find ourselves in combined with the individuals enforcing arbitrary policies converse to our own instincts and sensibility. I often say that common sense isn't common to some people.

In 1981, Dr Perry E. Gresham identified that [Adam Smith's enduring concept of natural liberty was determined by sensible individuals opting for freedom if given a choice](#); swimmers escaping China and border-crossers escaping East Berlin are given as pertinent examples. The cultural shift away from liberty today is identifiably forced by a combination of state power and media influence. Djokovic's [choice-affirmed opposition to vaccination combined with his undisclosed vaccine status](#) make him an outlier in a socioeconomic system geared towards authoritarian tyranny where choice and privacy are perceivably undesirable and dangerous. His detention serves as an almost theatrical reminder to the millions of other outliers about the consequences of non-compliance with this system; services denied, fulfilment prevented, life experience limited, life degenerating into mere existence, the human soul crushed. In the case of Austria, a country that will make coronavirus vaccination compulsory from February 1 2022, non-compliance [will likely result in a monetary fine with potential imprisonment for non-payment](#). An ugly precedent has been set. The seeds of a global two-tier society have been sown.



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Lippmann, in his seminal work [Public Opinion](#) (1922), remarked that when civil liberties are in jeopardy, the human spirit is in jeopardy and that 'should there come a time when they have to be curtailed ... the suppression of thought is a risk to civilization which might prevent its recovery'. Since our context is one of restricted movement, control of information, censorship of free speech, suppression of protest, and profit-driven state-corporate scientism, we must ask whether the liberty-destroying way of life forced upon us constitutes a legitimate risk to human civilisation and progress today. To them, the truth doesn't matter if it doesn't suit their agenda. To them, Djokovic's story provides assistance not obstruction.

SOCIALISM DOES WORK AFTER ALL

By LibertariDan ([Telegram](#))

After many years as a critic, I've decided that Socialism does work after all. It delivers exactly what the powerful people pushing it want it to deliver - more power to them over the lives of everyone else.

Awful though it sounds, the endgame of more state control over the lives of everyone is supported by many useful pawns. Yet, if history repeats, supporters now may rue the day they ever were fans. [According to Yuri Bezmenov](#), a former KGB agent who defected to Canada in 1970, the plan was that 'political prostitutes', as the communists called them, had no value beyond demoralising the nation

now. When regime change comes they would have to go, because there is nothing more dangerous to a new regime than a disillusioned former 'loyal' supporter. And disillusioned they will be.

[As Gary Allen, Journalist and Author, explained:](#) "The idea that socialism is a share-the-wealth program is strictly a confidence game to get the people to surrender their freedom to an all-powerful collectivist government. While the Insiders tell us we are building a paradise on earth, we are actually constructing a jail for ourselves."

One of the keys to this is the graduated income tax. In the UK the graduated income tax first came about to fund the war against Napoleon (a 'useful' war for the wannabe world rulers in more than one way). Seen by Labour as [a way to "weaken capitalists" in the early 20th Century](#), one could argue it is still seen that way today. In the USA the introduction of the Federal Income Tax was initially a tax-the-rich programme. However, by the time it was passed into law elite insiders had stashed their wealth in tax-free foundations where the tax collector couldn't reach it. Instead this supposed 'rich' tax was gradually inserted into the pocket of everyone else.

Gary Allen explains: "These monopolists could now compound their wealth tax-free while competitors had to face a graduated income tax which made it difficult to amass capital. As we have said, socialism is not a share-the-wealth program...but a consolidate-and-control-the-wealth program for the Insiders. ...The conspirators now had created the mechanisms to run up the debt, to collect the debt, and (for themselves) to avoid the taxes required to pay the yearly interest on the debt. Then all that was needed was a reason to escalate the debt. Nothing runs up a national debt like a war. And World War I was being brewed in Europe."

It's a tactic some astute observers might see mirrored in current events. Some might ask how 'The Great Reset', 'lockdown', the 'climate agenda' with its additional levies, the vast money printing (and coming inflation), and other things might play into the hands of those seeking power at everyone else's expense. Yet, the majority seem ignorant of any threat enough to think casually that those 'in charge' know what's best.



Source: [LibertariDan](#), [Twitter](#) and [Archive.org](#)

Yet, the threat is hardly hidden. To take one example considered by many to be just that, the Great Reset trumpeted by the World Economic Forum, openly avows its more 'communitistic' aims: ["you will own nothing and you will be happy" it proclaimed](#) in its famous 2016 video tweet, now deleted.

The implications of that statement are huge. It's the end of private property (for you anyway), placing each individual at the mercy of those who exercise the only level of control you can call ownership. What could such a power not demand of you, holding your freedom and the means of your survival in its hand? If you think some landlords are bad now, what of a new landlord who you can never escape? If you didn't like your employer, what of a new employer you can never quit?

Whether through a 'utopia' like that presented by the WEF, or some other method of consolidating ownership, control and power, the outcome is not good for you and me. I know that's not what most people imagine when they start out towards socialism, intoxicated by propaganda, but it is what they will get, and it is exactly what it was intended to deliver.

The socialism many have in their heads may never have been tried, but the one intended for us all has been tried many times. Let's not try it again.

BE THE CHANGE

By Mike Swadling ([Website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Gettr](#))

It's FA Cup third round weekend again and I have spent much of the Friday in a number of meetings with one of the schools I'm a governor at. The meetings were productive, although I can't pretend hugely fascinating. They were however an opportunity to support the head of the school and provide some insight from the commercial world into the world of education.

As soon as the draw was made for the Cup, we knew this one would be a little special. My team Palace were playing local rivals Millwall at the New Den, and as we hadn't played them for a few years, we knew it would be quite some match.

Last year during the period between lockdowns, a friend and I ran a 'Palace Day' at a local members club (what used to be called a working men's club), in aid of the club's charity. It provided an opportunity to draw more people in to watch the match that day, helping raise some much-needed funds for the club and the charity.

This match would provide a similar opportunity, a chance to get the charitable collection for the year started and encourage people out to the club on a miserable January day. Between the time of first goal, picture quiz and lucky dip we managed to raise about £100 for charity and bring in some extra trade – not bad for a lunch time game. Of course, the result also went Palace's way.

As someone who believes in less top-down government control and more local and personal responsibility, it's been remarkably easy to help be that change. Being a school governor, I have a direct involvement with the school system in my area. We've been able to support a local business and a local charity. These activities have stretched me and helped me gain new skills. With government encroaching evermore into every part of our lives, let's make sure liberty lovers are involved in building communities that can push back.



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