

## **Restoring Individual Freedom – Setting the Nanny State Free**

The actions of the government in making the decisions of life for each individual are currently constrained or over defined by the state. The over action by the government is termed the “Nanny State” because liberals or progressives think these actions protect the citizens of the state. However, the Nanny State eliminates personal freedom and personal responsibility.

Why are progressives or liberals forcing the Nanny State on every citizen? This thought process is best illustrated by Rush Limbaugh’s illustration of the difference between a conservative and a liberal. If a conservative person learns that a helmet can prevent serious damage for motorcycle riders, the conservative person will either choose to use a helmet or not use a helmet. If a liberal person learns that a helmet can prevent serious damage for motorcycle riders, the liberal person feels that the government must make all motorcycle riders wear helmets.

The liberal or progressive person feels they must impose their decisions on everyone else because the public does not have sufficient sense to make the right decision. The conservative approach favors the freedom to make our own decisions and accept the consequences. The liberal approach eliminates the freedom to make our decisions and eliminates the responsibility of suffering the consequences. Thus the liberal approach produces weaker persons who cannot make decisions and will not accept the responsibility of those decisions.

If the government is to be involved in the personal freedom of each citizen, the actions taken should be to investigate and warn citizens of the dangers of not wearing a helmet, but not forcing citizens to obey. Instead, the consequences of such decisions that are detrimental should be made clear. For example, Insurance companies and medical services should be permitted to charge more for people that have accidents that were not wearing a helmet. This approach gives incentive to choose the safe course of action because of the specified consequences. This approach also reduces the cost of government oversight. More importantly, the conservative approach

supports Darwin's survival of the fittest theory of evolution, to which all liberals and progressives ascribe.