

Letter: Help the little guy, too

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Socialism is evil. On the TV or radio, one would assume that this type of government is an idea that sprang forth from the devil's own dark imagination. Programs like Social Security, food stamps and Medicare are widely popular and are socialist programs. Yet, socialism is stomped on like a bug. I was curious, so I did a little research.

On Merriam-Webster.com, socialism is "a way of organizing a society in which major industries are owned and controlled by the government rather than by individual people and companies." Socialism is governmental control. They run the businesses and take care of its people. So far so innocuous. What seems to be the big deal?

Well, one argument is that the government would be able to choose the winners and losers. Let me run something by you: bail-out. Our government already chooses the winners and losers.

What about the control part of the socialist aspect of our government (yes, we are a blend)? There are things an individual is not allowed to buy if they are on food stamps like diapers and warm food. Is there any control in how a business is allowed to use the bail-out money? Nope.

In 2008, the banks were bailed out to the tune of \$700 billion (reportedly), \$16.8 trillion (totally). Our government swooped in and rescued the banks that were "too big to fail." Were there repercussions? Nope. Bank leadership patted themselves on the back and received raises and bonuses; essentially they were

rewarded for their poor practices. When the government tried to dictate how the money should be used, the bank executives cried out “socialism” like it was a curse word.

I’m OK with a blended government, so long as it is the same for the little guys as it is for the corporations.

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