

# Freedom & Vibrant Reciprocity.

**F** = FREE i.e.  
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Many Americans are voicing their need to protect their freedom. Consider that a single, clear definition of freedom might have avoided the 620,000 deaths, North & South, during the American Civil War (1861-1865). Differing, but deeply held feelings about freedom's essence divided the two sides.

Here's an example of a single, clear definition:

**freedom:** An individual citizen's right to make desirable personal choices within explicitly known & sometimes age dependent rights, rules, constraints, demands and support by society which apply uniformly to all citizens. Examples: breathing air & driving a car.

Groups of people who do harm to outsiders need to be put in check, because the harm interferes with other people's individual freedom. To consider a remedy, let's define '**club**' to refer to any association of people who are trying to achieve a common purpose; '**tenet**' to refer to a principle, belief, or doctrine of that association; '**accountability**' to refer to having personal liability for harming people who are not part of the association (i.e. outsiders); and '**vibrant reciprocity**' to refer to a reliable return in predictable & fair measure wherein harm begets harm, benefit begets benefit, etc.

Let's apply logic to ask two questions. Given that people belong to many clubs in their lifetimes, and considering each member of every club individually:

**If:** the tenets of a club or the actions of one or more club members harm\* outsiders  
**and** an individual club member does not publicly oppose the harm...

**then** 1.) What is the threshold for demanding individual accountability?

**and** 2.) When the threshold is exceeded, what form of vibrant reciprocity applies?

Clubs hammering the freedom of individual outsiders and groups of outsiders is a refrain of human history. The logic & two questions above shed light on organizing and stabilizing the protection of freedom. As predefined facts, the thresholds of individual accountabilities and the forms of vibrant reciprocities will deter or punish the excessive harming of outsiders by clubs.

A sample issue:

The U.S Congress (a club) recognizes that many citizens cannot afford and do not have healthcare coverage for themselves & their families. The status quo has been a club tenet for many years. Some club members describe more-than-no healthcare is the evil of 'socialized medicine'. Should the club members who voted for none-as-minimum be held accountable. If so, what form of vibrant reciprocity applies? One idea: Block the supporters of none-as-minimum from having any healthcare coverage for themselves & their families - so that those club members are as equally harmed as the outsiders.

To preserve fairness let's avoid applying accountabilities & vibrant reciprocities retroactively. Hence the congress club would have a 2020 accountability pass despite the unreasonableness of the no-healthcare-as-minimum tenet of the present session.

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\*For quantifying some forms of harm, '**enough**' is subjectively measurable, so is '**not enough**'.  
See "Measuring Social Fairness": <http://ftp.setterholm.com/WorldPeace/MeasuringSocialFairness.pdf> , 2 pages.

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