

Renegade Files®

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This is Renegade Files Episode 84: Forbidden Self Reliance and the Rent Seeking Pimpocracy.

When a large enough contingent of the economy as a whole, is made up of jobs that add no value, then the Self-Reliance activities in society that bypass those mechanisms, become vilified by employees of the no-value-added processes.

In this episode we will dissect what that sentence means for you and I as individuals, and explore how the activity described has impacted society. To do so we will coin a new term, the Pimpocracy.

A pimp is someone who adds no value to the transaction, but profits by way of allowing the transaction to take place. A pimp positions himself as the parasitic middleman, taking his cut without participating. In fact, his only participation is the talking of his cut.

This precisely describes a vast amount of activity in the modern American system of Big Government's collusion with Big Business.

For example, one of the most ancient ways to feed yourself is by fishing. Fishing is a definitive Self-Reliant activity. But now, if you want to use a stick, and a string, and a hook baited with a minnow, to catch a fish, you must have a fishing license. The person whose job it is to sit in the county tax collector's office, take your information, and your money, then issue you a license to fish, adds nothing to your ability to catch fish. They exist simply as a middle-man between you and the fish. And for this, they take their cut. This is their job. Their livelihood.

They are, in effect, pimping the fish themselves, for without those, there would be no fishing and thus no license. Extrapolate that across a myriad of building permits, vehicle registrations, license plates, insurance mandates, property taxes, business permits, Bankers who charge you to store and retrieve your own money, government commissioners who debate endlessly, and on and on ad-nauseum.

Much of our modern economy is built upon jobs like these where the only purpose of the job, is to take a percentage of the money passing between two people trying to do business. I say this is a pimpocracy.

Fiat currency not only fuels it, but demands it, but there are solutions and realistic ways out of the cycle, and if you come with me today we will explore what this all is, how it happens, and in defining it, see some clear ways out of it.

So join me and together we will explore Forbidden Self Reliance and the Rent Seeking Pimpocracy.

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Links Mentioned in Show:

[Renegade Files Episode 54, Occult Magic in Modern Science.](#)

See pics of existing Sears Mailorder Homes next to their original catalog elevation sketches and floor-plans here:

<https://searshomes.org/index.php/2012/04/10/the-kit-homes-of-raleigh-nc/>

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Episode Text

Hello my fearless friend. You have tuned into *Renegade Files*, your underground connection to the Paranormal, the Unsolved, and the Unusual. You are now in the company of outcasts. I'm your host Lex Gordon coming to you from The Jungle Villa Outpost, Deep in the Uncharted Tropics.

This is *Renegade Files* Episode 84, Forbidden Self Reliance and the Rent Seeking Pimpocracy.

When a large enough contingent of the economy as a whole, is made up of jobs that add no value, then the Self-Reliance activities in society that bypass those mechanisms, become vilified by the organizations and employees, of the no-value-added processes.

In this episode we will dissect what that sentence means for you and I as individuals, and explore how the activity described has impacted society. To do so I will coin a new term, the Pimpocracy.

In this episode we'll forgo the numbered sections of content. Often that works really well, but for today, I'm going to cruise on a slightly more Rant-Oriented path.

There are headings that bookend some of the ideas, but I'll just refrain from numbering them. They divide the content so we can build our understanding as we unravel this interconnected phenomenon of how a pimpocracy leverages influence to maintain it's position, while marginalizing our ability to do without it.

I think you're gonna really like this episode because it's a new way to look at something that we all feel and think about and talk about all the time. This is about our place in the world, and our relationship with our government which we have built. So many times we imagine the *quote-unquote* "government," as being something like a giant singular personality that operates like some ancient personified Greek God, but the reality is in the US the government is literally made-up of the citizens.

It may not always be **for** the people, and it may be less and less **by** the people, but it is absolutely always **of** the people. The human beings that work in our government departments, are our brothers, our friends, ourselves. Why then would we tax, and fine, and regulate and red tape ourselves to death?

The answer is because many of those individuals have wedged themselves into a place, and into a department, that accumulates income from facilitating transactions that are void of reciprocal value. And this extends from the clerk who processes your vehicle registration, to the lobbyist who earns his company billions of dollars by getting a legislator to change a single sentence in a 700 page bill.

The more you take care of yourself, the more you are marginalized by the bureaucrat class whose livelihood relies on you playing ball, so they can take their cut for doing their part by...taking their cut.

So join me and together we will explore Forbidden Self Reliance and the Rent Seeking Pimpocracy.

A pimp is someone who adds no value to the transaction, but profits by way of allowing the transaction to take place. A pimp positions himself as the parasitic middleman, taking his cut without participating. In fact, his only participation is the talking of his cut.

This precisely describes a vast amount of activity in the modern American system of Big Government's collusion with Big Business.

That dangerous situation that president Dwight Eisenhower warned us, of in his now famous televised speech, right before he left office, and which we, as a nation, summarily ignored.

Eisenhower was speaking specifically about the big business of military contractors, but the government has aligned with countless other businesses and has their hands in the pockets of everyone else from the top to the bottom.

And the systems and mechanisms that both the enormous corporations and the bloated bureaucratic governments use to line their pockets, are all of those thousands of things which facilitate the day-to-day consumption, survival, entertainment, Transportation, education, and, to put it succinctly, the activities of being alive.

An endless list of pimps have positioned themselves along the supply chain of everything you want to do, have to do, and are mandated by law to do. And at every one of those checkpoints the only way through is to hand over, to that gatekeeper, some money.

Because these people and these enormous departments make their living by being the middlemen between you, and the things you must have to survive... the activities of someone who tries to survive outside of that system become ridiculed, vilified, and in many cases outlawed.

For example, one of the most ancient ways to feed yourself is by fishing. Fishing is a definitive Self-Reliant activity. But now, if you want to use a stick, and a string, and a hook baited with a minnow, to catch a fish, you must have a fishing license. The person whose job it is to sit in the county tax collector's office, take your information, and your money, then issue you a license to fish, adds nothing to your ability to catch fish. The fishing license isn't the same kind of license as a drivers license or a CDL, which you can only get after passing a test to prove that you can drive a car or semi truck. Fishing licenses are purely for generating income for the state. And the clerks who issue them exist simply as middle-men between you and the fish. And for this, they take their cut. This is their job. Their livelihood.

They are, in effect, pimping the fish themselves, for without those, there would be no fishing and thus no license. Extrapolate that across a myriad of building permits, vehicle registrations, license plates, insurance mandates, property taxes, business permits, Bankers who charge you to store and retrieve your own money, government commissioners who debate endlessly, and on and on ad-nauseum.

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Before we move on lets define some ideas.

A few Definitions and Some Background

What is Self Reliance? It is the ability to take care of yourself. If a large bureaucratic government is in the business of selling you the means to do this, then they paint their goods and services as a luxury they will give to you for free. This harvests your votes.

Then you find that their services are in fact not free, but that we pay for them with our tax dollars and, as importantly, our freedoms. The more freedoms they take from us, the more reliant on their system we become.

Their commerce is promises, and all they ever deliver is a need for more time. They trade in pure lies without remorse, because their sales pitch puts them in office regardless of their performance. They create a sense of urgency which drives an immediate necessity.

Thomas Paine told us, quote,
“Immediate necessity makes many things convenient, which if continued would grow into oppressions.”

That’s from Thomas Paine’s revolutionary Pamphlet called “Common Sense”. Revolutionary in the literal sense, because it was describing how America could break free from being a Colony of England.

Thomas Paine, in that same paper wrote, quote:

Some writers have so confounded society with government, as to leave little or no distinction between them; whereas they are not only different, but have different origins. Society is produced by our wants, and government by our wickedness; the former promotes our happiness positively by uniting our affections, the latter negatively by restraining our vices. The one encourages intercourse, the other creates distinctions. The first is a patron, the last a punisher.

Society in every state is a blessing, but Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an intolerable one: for when we suffer, or are

*exposed to the same miseries **by** a Government, which we might expect in a country **without** Government, our calamity is heightened by reflecting that we furnish the means by which we suffer.*

Endquote.

So this is much of the frustration we all feel today regardless of who heads the executive branch, and this is that feeling that not only are we the bearers of a long stream of excessive tampering and bad decisions, enormous inflation, unfathomable spending, stagnating economies, and endless regulations that stifle creativity in business, **but** we are simultaneously financing the entire circus with our own money.

Tax dollars that we not only pay, but that our employers match, and *they* pay a fee for the privilege of mailing in those payments. There are, quite literally, fees for paying the fees.

When I pay my property tax, I have to pay what they have the nerve to call, a *convenience fee*. This is because I'm paying with a bank card, which uses money that my bank charges me a fee for. So the bank charges me a fee for giving them my money. (And I might add they invest it in the mean time.) And this money, which I pay a fee to put in the bank, and that I use to pay my property tax plus their convenience fee, has already been taxed.

So why, for God's sake, have we created and financed a system that no one would ever logically want?

It's like changing the clocks twice a year. It's annoying. It accomplishes nothing. No one can even provide a definitive answer for *why* we started doing it.

All of those elevator speeches about *having more time to harvest crops, or so kids aren't at the bust stop in the dark...* every bit of that is total urban legend.

We change the clocks twice a year because that's just what we do. "**Shrug.**" Everyone hates it.

And if you really want to know the reason we keep doing it: Control, The government tells you what time it is. Just when you get used to it, they change it again, because the government tells you what time it is. That's the only reason it exists.

Shout-Outs to Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, the US Virgin Islands, and most of Arizona for not participating in changing the time.

Anyway that's probably an entire episode of its own, but you get the point.

The real question is how did we get to this place where a huge governmental machine taxes our taxes, and charges us fees for paying them?

What are the benefits, because there must be some, and what has created them?

Two things: **Rent Seeking and Fiat Currency.**

Rent-seeking is the act of growing one's existing wealth by manipulating the social or political environment without creating new wealth. This is the example of the state selling you a fishing license. They create wealth for their department, but add no wealth in return... they offer no service in exchange. The service they provide for buying the license is ***not arresting you, or not charging you another fine.***

You could argue that the Fish and Wildlife department of your state provides education, studies and manages populations of game, or prevents over-harvesting of natural resources, but all of these are examples of what I call perceived performance.

It *seems like* making it illegal for me to catch this or that fish would save fish. But really it's often just setting that fishery aside for a special interest, who can pay more for a bigger license, and whose business facilitates a dozen more Rent Seeking regulatory fees.

For example, does regulating the Red Snapper Fishery down to one day a year when recreational anglers are allowed to catch this species, actually save any Red Snappers from overfishing, when commercial licenses for the fish are sold in blocks of 100,000 pounds per season? Don't quote me on the exact numbers, but the Commercial Red Snapper licenses have become so valuable, that many who hold one never even fish, because they sub-lease their license to another fisherman, and charge them even more money.

This is Rent Seeking on top of Rent Seeking. It lets numerous hands profit at multiple points along the chain between Government agency and fish in the boat, by selling permits to catch hundreds of thousands of pounds of the fish, which become so valuable that those who buy the licenses can resell them at a profit, and meanwhile, it's against the law for me to keep a single red snapper, that I caught while grouper fishing, so I must throw it back, even though because it was caught from 200 feet deep it's going to die anyway.

US Fisheries are managed by NOAA and Federal regulations, while Foreign Fishing Vessels stuff their holds with fish they sell back to us. These Foreign vessels save enormous expenses by avoiding all of the OSHA mandates,

Insurance, Pollution mitigation, payroll taxes, food safety inspections, and more that American fishermen must pay for and endure.

So all of the Rent Seekers who have their hands in the Commercial Fishing Industry Pockets, obliterate our ability to compete, and force these jobs overseas in the process. They also make it so complicated and license-dense for a free citizen to legally catch a fish that it's dizzying.

If I want to catch a saltwater fish I have to have a license for that. If I want to catch a freshwater fish I have to have a license for that. In addition to the license, if I want to catch a snook I have to have a snook stamp for my license which costs more money, and the snook has to be at least 28 inches long, but it can't be longer than 33 inches long. Anglers refer to that size of a snook as a slot snook, because it fits in the slot of five inches between 28 inches long and 33 inches long, so if it's too small you have to throw it back, and if it's too big you have to throw it back.

If I want to catch a lobster I have to have another stamp, more money.

Every species of grouper and snapper has a different size limit by about two or three inches at the most. You absolutely have to have the fishing app or a book in front of you to be able to tell some of the species apart because the differences can be extremely subtle. And the seasons for each species is different and some species, they don't know when the season will be... its like TBA... we'll let you know when you can catch one.

And once you figure out what kind of fish you've caught, and if it's in season, they all have various bag limits. You can keep up to 10 of any snapper species, but, if you do catch more than one species of snapper, you can still only keep a total of 10.

Some groupers you can't keep at all, but you can keep 1 of most groupers, and a total of 2 if you get more than one kind, but in some places those two groupers count toward your 10 fish aggregate, which snappers form a part of because they're both bottom fish.

Oh and tilefish are in that grouper bag limit too.

I understand that regulation is part of conservation, and I'm all for it. I go by the fishing rules. But the rules become so insane. Red snapper are literally jumping in the boat at this point. Its almost impossible to NOT catch one in many places. But you're only allowed to catch them one or two days a year. Why? Because the beauracracy of Florida Fish and Wildlife says they're over-fished.

How are they overfished if you are never allowed to fish for them?

Well, because the aforementioned commercial permit bag limits are in the tons.

So it's illegal for me to catch one, and that's going to save the natural resource, when a commercial fisherman can catch 100,000. And I didn't mean to make this a fishing episode but that example just makes the point so well.

And the costs of the license and the myriad of other regulations make becoming a commercial fisherman an enormous expense. Like if you can actually afford to do it, then you totally don't need to do it.

And this happens in many industries. The cost of operating a company is largely the cost of financing the millions of rent seekers our economy is built upon.

Rent-seeking activities have negative effects on large segments of the society by reducing economic efficiency, misallocating resources, stifling competition, reducing wealth creation, eroding government revenue, furthering income inequality, increasing debt, and fostering both corruption and the resulting public distrust of institutions as a whole.

Rent-seeking is the extraction of uncompensated value from others without making any contribution to productivity. In short, pimping.

And this pimpocracy extends far beyond our fishing examples. At institutional levels new tiers of rent seeking threaten to destroy entire paradigms.

Haven't you heard the stories of some guy who tries to build a house and live off grid by digging his own well and building out a bunch of solar and essentially disconnecting from all of the county services wherever he lives.

So then the county dredges up some old homesteader prohibition law from 150 years ago, fines the guy to death, threatens to arrest him, and basically makes his life miserable because they drag him through the system of enforcing some law, *that they made*, which makes it illegal for someone like that to have a house that isn't hooked to the county electric grid, that isn't hooked to their water system, that doesn't pay for their garbage collection, and that doesn't use whatever other services they dream up and staple onto the arrest warrant.

And when it comes down to it, the whole entire affair has nothing to do with the safety, or the health, or the hurricane codes, or structural requirements, that make a house fit to live in, but in reality are only enacted because someone like that is circumventing the cash flow coming into the pockets of all those many and a-sundry rent seekers in the supply chains that have been developed around the process of building and maintaining and living in a house in America.

And the giant housing development companies print money by bulldozing millions of acres to pack as many houses as close together as they can to

maximize the impact fees they have to pay, and the counties and cities continually expand how many houses or units can be squeezed onto an acre, because doing so increases those impact fees they can charge these huge companies.

This is because the cost of leveraging some higher-tier Rent Seeking activity, is nothing compared to the income potential. This is called The Tullock paradox, named for economist Gordon Tullock.

The paradox is that rent-seekers wanting political favors can bribe politicians at a cost much lower than the value of the favor to the rent-seeker. For instance, a rent seeker who hopes to gain a billion dollars from a particular political policy may only need to bribe politicians ten million dollars, which is only 1% of the gain to the rent-seeker.

Why would someone sell out a billion dollars for a mere ten million? Because it isn't their money in the first place. Also, competition between different politicians eager to offer favors to rent-seekers, may bid down the bribes.

Finally Rent-seekers can return some of the money they swindle by making campaign contributions to the politicians who provided the enabling legislation.

So at every level, from the \$17 fishing license, to the Billion Dollar Greenhouse Gas study, the Rent Seeker economy lines its pockets with taxpayer dollars while providing not a penny of value in return.

This creates an entire economic segment of departments and individuals who have a vested interest in the population relying on the activities that force them to populate their payment offices and online dashboards.

For this reason there is nothing a Rent Seeker hates more than someone who is self-reliant.

If you grow your own vegetables in your back yard, then you dodge the food safety license the restaurant has to buy. You don't help pay the grocery store's property tax by paying \$50 for 2 bags of nothing. You don't facilitate the vehicle registration taxes on the delivery trucks. In short, there is no opportunity between the Tomato Plant and your table for the Rent Seeker to reach into your pocket, so they hate you for it.

How does this manifest. In articles such as this one entitled:

Green Menace? Study Finds Food From Urban Agriculture Has 6x Larger Carbon Footprint, written by the University of Michigan, and yes that's the byline, and published by Sci-Tech Daily.

The study the article references was financed in part by the US National Science Foundation which has a budget of \$10billion dollars and a board of 24 directors who require no senate confirmation and are appointed by the president, as are the director and deputy director, who do need to be confirmed to get the job, but no one who works there is elected. So in other words, Rent Seekers with a budget of \$10billion dollars.

Now maybe they do tons of good things, but if this socio-politically motivated hackjob article is any indication of what they churn out, I wonder.

Their conclusion is that big corporate farms produce endless monoculture crops with the use of pesticides and herbicides, and that this creates less CO2 than growing herbs and vegetables in an urban garden. And just so you know I'm not spinning what they say, this is from the article... quote:

"For example, conventional farms often grow a single crop with the help of pesticides and fertilizers, resulting in larger harvests and a reduced carbon footprint when compared to urban farms," endquote.

No one is buying this. Let me read a few lines from the comment section below the article:

One comment reads:

The goal is to make growing your own food illegal and completely controlling the food supply. You will eat what you are told and like it.

A second comment says:

The "carbon footprint" angle is a gimmick to guarantee publication. In every other way locally sourced food is better.

And the last comment tells us:

*This article is absolute horseshit***.*

So all of this Pimpocracy Protectionism has deeper socio-political roots and while there's no need for us to incorporate a sociology PhD here today, it is worth noting some of the ideas these Rent Seekers leverage.

Mainly Gnosis & Experiential Knowledge, Fear Politics & How Learning Types Affect Understanding, and The marginalization of the Pagan Traditions.

Gnosis and Gnostic traditions of experiential knowledge are always persecuted and marginalized in favor of intellectual knowledge, especially by those who earn a living teaching that intellectual knowledge.

This is that old tradition of ridiculing a Native Population's ideas that all things have a spirit. So the trees have spirit, the river, the butterfly. This is mistranslated as "The natives believed that all things had a human ego and an awareness personality."

It is depicted as a simpleton idea that substituted for knowledge in a world before science... so you get these parables like, the native populations believed that the cloud spirit (so the cloud's ego personality) made it rain. They believed the Tree Spirit Ego Personality built the trees out of wood, the way a person makes a desk out of wood. They believed a wolf spirit howled to make the moon spirit walk into the night sky.

The implications from the academics being that the poor natives didn't understand the myriad of arbitrary names we've given to all things in biology, astronomy, and geology, so they invented personalities for the trees and the rocks to explain how the world worked.

But the reality is that native, first people's relationships to the world and their understanding of it were *and are* far more eloquent and complex. I'm not here to say what someone does or doesn't believe, but as I understand some of the Calusa and Seminole spirituality from my own area, it seems far closer to the Buddhist concept of *all things are consciousness*, so a reflection of your consciousness, but so too are you a reflection of all other things, and so treat each grain of rice as if it were the Buddha himself.

"*All things are consciousness*," is a far more sophisticated worldview than "all things are conscious," which is the anglo-projectionism of the teacher who told me in elementary school that the Native Americans believed the trees had a spirit.

In general intellectual knowledge is painted as more important than experiential knowledge because Rent Seeking benefits from the institutions of intellectualism, and not from the direct experience of activity.

Scholar and writer Joseph Campbell said that if an American had a choice between going to heaven, or going to a lecture about heaven, they would go to the lecture.

Then we have Fear Politics & How Learning Types Affect Understanding.

We learn by Experience, Observation, and Instruction. In most cases Experience trumps Instruction. But the combination of Instruction and Observation is powerful too, which is why the media always follows CDC or NIH Instructions with Covid statistics. This combination of Instruction and Observation has led to the Tribalization of fear which replaces logic and reason with a survival instinct. It

causes people to quickly abandon their personal freedoms and allow themselves to be controlled in the belief that those controlling them possess two characteristics: 1) knowledge and subject expertise beyond their own understanding, and 2) their best interest at heart.

Learning by research and gathering information falls into the Observation category and is usually second hand, which necessitates a component of trust.

Field Research or information gathered first hand removes the trust requirement, and is therefore often viewed as both more credible and worth the logistics of accomplishing.

So the Pimpocracy understands and leverages these various components of learning and through their systematic applications have convinced entire segments of the population that nature is dangerous and to be avoided, when in reality, you are far more likely to be injured or become a victim of violence in a large city. Its ironic.

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This leads directly into the last idea here, which is **The marginalization of the Pagan Traditions.**

The marginalization of the Pagan Traditions is mainly the discounting the notion of the elements. The old pagan elements are Earth, Air, Fire, and Water and the modern education system teaches kids that this stems from an ignorant age when they believed these things to be the only physical elements, and knew not of our extensive elemental charts of today.

How many of us have heard a teacher say, “they only thought there were 4 elements, earth, air, water, and fire... huh-huh.”

But really the Pagan concepts used these 4 labels as an elegant illustration of making your way successfully in the world.

The Earth element represents the physical parts of life, so your body, your home, your land and seas and woodlands, the food you eat, your physical self and environment.

Air is your thoughts, your clear ideas, your beliefs.

Water is your feelings and emotions.

And Fire is your passions, your enthusiasms, your indulgences.

The pagan ideal is a balance of these elements in your life. When these things are working in harmony, then the 5th element, **Spirit** (or the consciousness of the Universe is experienced directly) can guide and direct the other 4 elements to successfully accomplish the best experience for humans and the world alike.

Any time you experience struggle, stress, anger or continual failure, it is because you are giving a disproportionate amount of attention to, or neglecting, one of these core elements: your body or environment, your thoughts, your passions, or your emotions. Earth, Air, Fire, Water.

Becoming aware of this is an extremely effective way for an individual to manage his or her life, environment, and path in the world. And it was this effective individualism that was persecuted by the church, and the reason that witches and pagans are still vilified today.

When religions were replaced by science, these same witches and pagans became the off-grid preppers and the free-thinking anarchists and the system grew to vilify the self-reliant, just as they vilified the witches of old.

If we delve deeply into the ancient gnostic traditions, their baptism rights were whole in this respect. The first baptism was by water, then the second was by air, and then by fire. This is the path of awakening from your physical self, into your mind's perceptions, then into the fire, the passionate life.

Not to offend anyone's religion, but the modern church, speaking in general terms, has left out the completeness of the original ritual, and today baptisms are done with only water, which is symbolic of emotions and feelings, which are the mechanisms through which the business of centralized religion seeks to control the population, and I know that's thin ice, but it's factual nonetheless.

It also brings me to another idea I had recently and I'm sure someone else thought of this before me but it was an original thought at the time when I put it in my notes and I have mentioned this before, but it is this:

When Science replaced religion as a way to explain the world, Science also replaced religion as a way to control the masses.

I touched on this concept in Renegade Files Episode 54, Occult-Magic-in-Modern-Science, Check it out or share it with a friend if you already listened to it and liked it. Just send them the link to that episode's Home page on our website, which I'll put in the show notes for you.

We are all familiar with the old interpretation that the ancients used Religion as a way to explain the world. We also know that Religion was formalized as a way to control the masses.

Modern educators are quick to point out that today, we use science to explain the world, but they leave out the part that about controlling the masses.

This gets into a whole thing and we have large organizations like the CDC and the W.H.O. that assert their scientific authority and the population defers to them in certain areas... and they may do some good. But they too are largely rent-seeking bureaucrats.

So now we can wrap this up.

A system whose costs far outweigh its benefits, is simply not sustainable. Such a system *can be* propped up, but at an exponentially increasing cost. Therefore, a system that is not sustainable, will eventually, *stop being* sustained.

If you think that the bloated and parasitic US Federal Government and their corporate cronies have grown into a juggernaut that's too big to fail, then remember, where is Blockbuster? Where is Circuit City? Where is Sears? Where is the local Mall?

Gone.

And of that list, which is exemplary but far from exhaustive, consider Sears.

They were **the** pioneers of home delivery. Their catalog was in every home. A glossy mail-order magazine that was 3 inches thick and from it you could order every household item imaginable, from clothes to bikes to toys and kitchen appliances.

There was actually a time when you could order a **house** from Sears, and they would deliver the hand-built components to you on a semi truck and you or a contractor, or a service team from Sears, would put it together.

And those houses were not only beautiful, but many are still standing today. I'll put a link in the shownotes to a page on a site called SearsHomes.org that shows a list of pictures of still existing Sears Modern Homes next to the original catalog page's elevation sketches and floor-plans and it's just incredible.
<https://searshomes.org/index.php/2012/04/10/the-kit-homes-of-raleigh-nc/>

The point is Sears should have been the first Amazon in the internet age. They had nationwide shipping down to a profitable science, and they had a deep and wide catalog of products you could buy by mail. You could buy a house and everything in it from Sears.

So what happened? That's a long story but in short, Sears had developed an investment banking division, and the overall company came under the control of

a finance guy who leveraged this division into an underwater position so far gone that Sears went bankrupt and closed.

So a rent seeker, who added no value to the organization, liquidated a century of hard work and good will to get rich, and destroyed an American Institution in the process.

Other companies in that list died because the times and ways of buying and selling retail goods changed and they couldn't adapt fast enough. In the same way that Sears should have become Amazon, Blockbuster should have become Netflix. But giant, bureaucratic companies often can't pivot fast enough, in the case of Blockbuster, or fall prey to the pimps of the Pimpocracy, like Sears.

These were huge institutions in America. No one would have believed they would fail, and yet, they are gone.

And a big, inefficient, wasteful, federal government is no different. It will eventually be replaced by something that works better.

So what will that something look like? What is the solution to the Pimpocracy?

In my opinion we already have that replacement and it is a fully functioning alternative. It's called... ***the State***.

Thomas Jefferson said the State is the Laboratory of Democracy. They are smaller and more able to handle their specific needs far better than a centralized federal bureaucracy. And the ones that mismanage their resources, like California, go bankrupt and are forced to reconsider the ways in which they operate, and others are free to do things differently that the states with enormous problems.

Even a State is an enormous management project, but it pales in comparison to the federal government.

Another Jefferson quote: Government is best, which governs least.

XXXXXXXXXXXXX

ending sign off

Thank you sincerely for investigating The Socorro UFO Sighting with me.

This summer I have a special treat for you. For the entire summer of 2025, on every Friday in June, July, and August, I will release a 25 minute, down and dirty episode, in a series I'm calling "Renegade Files Short Drives."

Many listeners tell me they listen to the show while driving, and the majority of people who don't listen to an entire episode at once, listen to half of it. Then they listen to the second half another time. Maybe on their next drive.

25 minutes is about the average half-length of an episode, so I decided to create this series of 13 episodes, to be released every Friday over this summer, just for you.

These episodes do not and will not replace the main, longer, Renegade Files programming, which I will continue to produce. The Renegade Files Short Drives are In Addition To the regular episodes, and you can think of them as my present to you for being a fan of the show. Look for the first one on Friday June, 6th which is just a few days from now.

And subscribe to or follow the show now, so together we can meet here next time to explore the deepest covert stories where logic clashes with the official narrative. I'm so happy that you are a part of the Renegade Files Crew.

Until our next adventure I'm your host Lex Gordon...

Stay Wild, Diversified Child!