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ANTITRUST, HEALTH CARE and CAP AND TRADE?

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Over the last 100 years, the Antitrust Laws have done serious damage to our economy, but economic damage is not the greatest danger to the Republic posed by the Antitrust Laws. The greatest danger to our freedom is the use of the Antitrust Laws to persecute the entrepreneur for political dissent, coerce political support and reward political cronies at your expense.

The Antitrust Laws are non-objective laws. The violation of these laws depend upon the Judge's or jury's opinion of the reasons that the victim took specific actions, not the specific actions of the victim. No successful entrepreneur can know in advance when an action taken to improve the business will be declared illegal because of the interpretation of the intent of the victim. The cost of defense and the uncertainty on the outcome in any Antitrust Law prosecution is a powerful force to coerce political support and allow the politicians to reward the victim's competitors. The defense against an antitrust prosecution involves huge legal expense and years of disruption of the victim's business. The mere threat of antitrust prosecution applies tremendous pressure to the successful entrepreneur. In the end, a guilty or innocent verdict is almost irrelevant, just the prosecution is a devastating penalty. In the real world, the victim must decide between supporting a program or politician and financial suicide. Of course, few will chose financial suicide.

Political support loses its value when the public learns that it is coercion instead of conviction that has created that support. If the political support is to have any value, the coercion must be applied covertly and with the utmost discretion. Apparently, the Senate Democrats have developed so much confidence in their control of the "preponderance of propaganda" that they can dispense with the discretion and openly threaten the dissenters with retaliation.

The Senate Democrats openly threaten the Insurance Industry with loss of their Antitrust Law exemption to punish the industry for criticism of health care reform and extort support for the program. See the October 21, 2009 the Associated Press article "*Dems Eye Insurance Industry's Antitrust Protection*" by David Espo.

<http://apnews.myway.com/article/20091021/D9BFEN3G0.html>

Do you need more evidence that the successful politicians use the government's monopoly on force to punish political dissent and extort political support from the entrepreneur?

Now you know why there is so little opposition from the business community against the "Cap and Trade" legislation, even though "Cap and Trade" legislation will be devastating to most industries and offers no advantages to the environment.