

Freedom Isn't the Danger

February 24, 2023

After reading the Honorable Justice Paul Rouleau's "[Report of the Public Inquiry into the 2022 Public Order Emergency](#)," you may demand a palette cleanser.

Matt Taibbi wrote a full [article](#), "The West's Betrayal of Freedom."

I'm going to quote an *anarchist*.

For both Taibbi and me, Justice Rouleau's bizarre defense of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's leveraging of emergency powers to freeze truckers' bank accounts during last year's lockdown protests leaves a bad taste in the mouth.

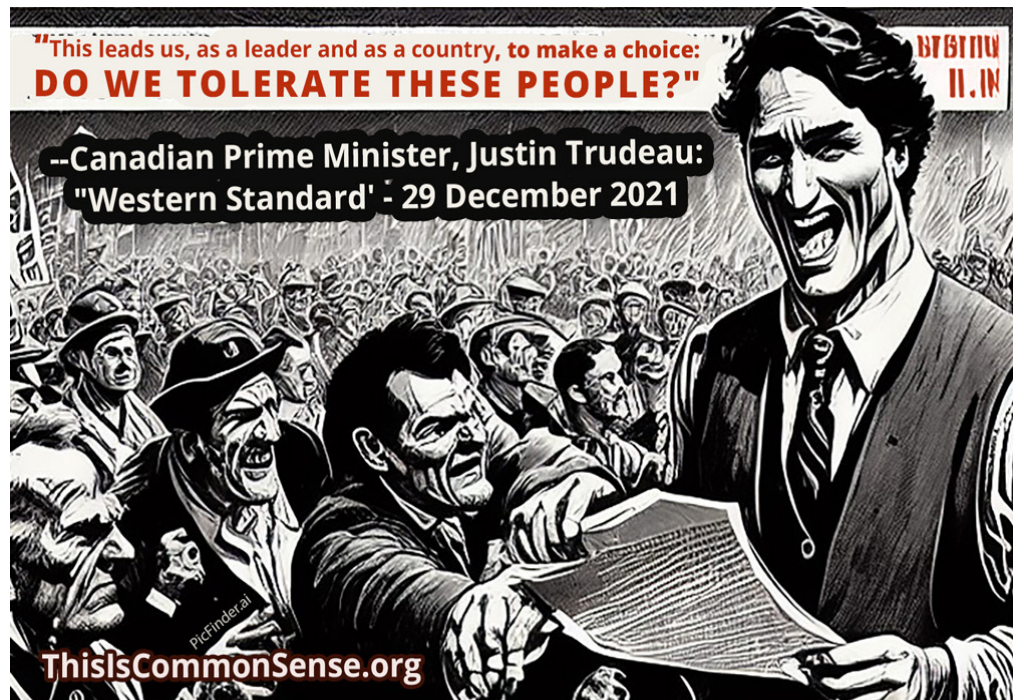
If you have a taste for freedom.

Which people in the news media, as well as in government (but do I repeat myself?), decreasingly demonstrate. Mr.

Freedom creates order: when neither you nor I infringe upon the other's sphere of life, that is an epitome of orderliness.

Taibbi, reacting to both Rouleau's report and mainstream journalistic coverage, notes the general tenor of both, which he says read "like all the *tsk*-tsking editorials in the West you've read since Trump, which used every crisis to hype the idea that *freedom* = *danger*."

Rouleau excuses the tyrannical (anti-protest, anti-free-



speech, anti-due-process) Canadian government's attack upon the truckers because it "met a threshold." You see, "Freedom cannot exist without order."

But that's placing the matter downside up. *Freedom provides its own order.*

It just so often happens to be an order that tyrants don't like.

Freedom *creates* order: when neither you nor I infringe upon the other's sphere of life, that is an epitome of orderliness. Crime and government (but do I repeat myself?) upset that harmony.

"Liberty," explained P. J. Proudhon, is "not the daughter but the mother of order."*

When politicians forget that freedom provides the order we need, they make anarchists look good.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

* Proudhon, the first major writer to treat "anarchist" as a non-pejorative, was arguably not an Antifa-type anarchist — and the full quotation, [presented here on Tuesday](#), talks about a Republic. Make of that what you will.