

John (Jack) R. Venrick

From: "Jack Venrick" <jacksranch@skynetbb.com>
To: "AJack R. Venrick" <jacksranch@skynetbb.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2008 1:41 PM
Subject: Fw: Common Sense: Good Property Rights Make Good Neighbors

There is no evidence either from ethnographic accounts or archaeological excavations to suggest that rates of accidental trauma or interpersonal violence declined substantially with the adoption of more civilized forms of political organization. In fact, some evidence from archaeological sites and from historical sources suggests the opposite.

Mark Nathan Cohen

----- Original Message -----

From: [Common Sense](#)
To: propertyrightspeople@skynetbb.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2008 1:45 PM
Subject: Common Sense: Good Property Rights Make Good Neighbors

	
<p>December 17, 2008</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Good Property Rights Make Good Neighbors</h2> <p>The California Coastal Commission sought to tear down a fence on private property. The fence, on the property of Martin and Janis Burke in Torrance, California, marks the boundary between public land and private land.</p> <p>This seems like a benign enough purpose. The "private" part of "private property" means you get to keep people off your property, no?</p>	<p>Click here to visit our new website, which has archives of Paul's commentary since 1999!</p>  <p>For more information —</p>

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The fence also serves a wider public purpose. It stops hikers from climbing to an unstable bluff at which two people have actually died. Remove the fence and it become easier to veer off public property, easier to reach the unstable bluff, easier to die.

The story appears to be another case of bureaucrats with too much time on their hands, too eager to interfere in the lives of others in the name of some value allegedly superior to individual rights. In this case, even to individual lives.

Fortunately, the Pacific Legal Foundation, representing the Burkes, recently won a victory over the commission. A California court says the commission lacks the authority to force the fence down.

J. David Breemer, Principal Attorney for the Pacific Legal Foundation, notes that the foundation has a track record of deflecting the excesses of the California Coastal Commission.

One moral of the story: Property rights are a “good fence” against the predations of abusive government. They, too, should be allowed to stand.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.

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Paul Jacob is President of [Citizens in Charge](#) and a Senior Advisor to the Sam Adams Alliance, which sponsors both Paul’s weekly [Townhall](#) column and [Common Sense](#), a short radio commentary featured in over 100 radio stations throughout the

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