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# Weeding out government



[Brian Lilley](#) - May 14th, 2012



Do you hate dandelions?

I do and right now my lawn is infested with them. Unfortunately there is little that I can do about this because our overlords have decided that something that has been tested and deemed safe has been banned by local and provincial governments.

The end result, lawns and roadways that look like crap.

I was talking about this with a friend the other day when he suggested that the laws against pesticide use would likely be struck down if there was ever a court challenge. He was surprised when I told him they had been challenged all the way to the Supreme Court.

In a landmark ruling authored by Madame Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé, one of the most liberal and ideological judges ever to sit on the bench, a local town's ban on pesticides was upheld by the flimsiest of reasons.

The Town of Hudson, Quebec had passed a bylaw saying that it was illegal to use any herbicide or pesticide for aesthetic purposes. No nice looking lawn for you Buddy.

When the law was challenged, L'Heureux-Dubé upheld it based on part of Quebec's Cities and Towns Act which gave municipalities the power to pass by-laws for the "general welfare" of the population. Now you can bet that if the by-law had been to ban brothels or heroin shooting galleries that this flimsy provision of law would not have been enough to uphold a ban. But on a federally tested and approved – and legal – product, ban away. Despite their claims, liberals don't like science.

Since that court decision more bans have been passed. Now, lawns and roadways everywhere look like crap.

This is what you get when you combine badly worded laws, liberal politicians and liberal judges.

The same sort of thing is going on in the fight over the back door gun registry right now.

Parliament made its intention to do away with the registry quite clear when it passed C-19. Now a liberal politician in the form of Dalton McGuinty and liberal police officer cum politician in Supt. Chris Wyatt have decided that they will ignore the clear intentions of Parliament and challenge this in the court.

They base their misguided belief on section 58.1 of the Firearms Act.

58. (1) A chief firearms officer who issues a licence, an authorization to carry or an authorization to transport may attach any reasonable condition to it that the chief firearms officer considers desirable in the particular circumstances and in the interests of the safety of the holder or any other person.

It's that phrase, reasonable condition, that they think they can do this under. Except that read together with bill C-19 it becomes clear that a new registry is not a reasonable condition. Will this matter? Likely not.

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty acknowledges that the federal government has jurisdiction here but he's still directing his cops to go against orders.

The feds have jurisdiction but he'll use federal law and direct his cops to use federal law to enforce something the feds have called for an end to. He uses weasel words like ledger or point of sale system.

Let's be clear, it is a registry.

Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines registry as "an official record book" or something recorded in a register. It defines register as "a written record containing regular entries of items or details."

The ledger is a registry, McGuinty is pushing the bounds constitutionally and if he can find a liberal judge – of which there are many he will win.

This is why the push for limited government is so important. No one in their right mind would have written an act that told Quebec's cities and towns that they can pass any legislation for the general welfare. No one in their right mind would have passed legislation saying that a chief firearms officer could attach "any reasonable condition" to a gun licence.

These seemingly innocuous phrases can have real impact and power, that's why they need to be weeded out wherever they are. That's why we need to fight for and elect politicians at every level that actually understand what the term limited government means.

And that's the Byline.



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Brian has been covering politics for the last 10 years. Five of those years were spent as Ottawa Bureau Chief. [More about Brian here.](#)

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