



Taking Civil Disobedience to the Public Health Police State

Description

CANADA: Here's a reminder of Artur Pawlowsky's brave stand against Albertan police –



Pawlowski did get famously arrested on the freeway around Calgary during early May; both he and his brother were taken to jail for about 3 days, treated badly (and well) by some of the police.

How Far Should We Take Civil Disobedience to the Public Health Police State?

LOCKDOWN SCEPTICS



We're publishing another [original essay](#) today by Donald S. Siegel and Robert M. Sauer, two professors of social science, about **what ordinary people can do to push back against what they call "the public health police state"**. They believe a good role model is **Artur Pawlowsky**, the Polish-Canadian minister who saw off the police when they tried to shut down his Calgary church on Good Friday. Here is an extract:

Unfortunately, resistance to the Branch Covidians has been too passive. We are reminded of the famous scene from the *Godfather*, involving Johnny Fontane and Don Vito Corleone. Johnny Fontane was the godson of Don Vito Corleone and a famous singer.

In the scene, the whimpering Fontane is complaining to the Godfather about the studio head who will not give him a movie part that is ideally suited to him and will launch his film career. He whines to Don Corleone, stating: "Oh, Godfather, I don't know what to do." The exasperated Godfather takes him by the neck and screams the following: **"You can act like a man!"**

An example of such a real man is Artur Pawlowski, a Polish-Canadian minister based in Calgary, who has bravely defied the Government's COVID-19 public health orders. In Calgary, as in other parts of Canada, the severity of coronavirus restrictions is matched only by the paucity of the virus. Artur became a YouTube sensation when he openly defied the police and the public health inspector when they interrupted his religious service on Good Friday, referring to them as "Nazis" and "Gestapo" and belligerently demanded that they leave the church. He was ultimately arrested by the authorities.

In our view, Pastor Pawlowski is the modern-day equivalent of Cardinal József Mindszenty, leader of the Catholic Church in Hungary, who came to represent uncompromising opposition to fascism and communism in Hungary.

After WWII, Cardinal Mindszenty was jailed and tortured by the Communists and given a life sentence in a 1949 show trial that was widely condemned in the West. Mindszenty was ultimately freed and remains a potent symbol of opposition to Communism and a great example of resistance to the totalitarian repression of religious freedom. **We need more religious leaders like Pawlowski and Mindszenty to stand up to the public health police state.** We also deeply admire the courage of the ultra-orthodox Jewish leadership in the U.S. and Israel for their enlightened opposition and vigorous civil disobedience.

Date Created
06/04/2021