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**FREE**

## Gary Johnson's Seven Principles of Good Government



- 1- Seek reality and base all decisions and actions upon it.
- 2- Be honest to all people all of the time.
- 3- Acknowledge your critics, but do what's right.
- 4- Determine your goal, develop a plan and then execute it.

- 5- Communicate.
- 6- Anything that could be revealed eventually, should be revealed immediately.
- 7- Find a job you love and make a difference.

## America Needs to Know Gary Johnson

**An advocate for smaller, more effective, less intrusive government**

STEPHEN THOMPSON

I first meet Gary Johnson in Albuquerque, New Mexico before he was elected Governor. It was a handshake I'll never forget, as he asked for my vote. This man was genuine, sincere and the Black Sheep candidate who no one had heard of, because he had "no political experience." I had just moved to Santa Fe and had little idea what the political dynamic of New Mexico was like. I did hear from the people I knew and met in New Mexico, including some very long-time, multi-generational residents, that the state was in turmoil, and that this guy I had met would never have a chance to win as a Republican in a largely Democratic state--especially a candidate that the Republican party itself wasn't necessarily endorsing at that time. Even back in the 1990's, the Black Sheep were demonized and laughed at by the establishment parties--wasted votes they still say.

When they tallied up the "wasted votes," Gary Johnson went on to win the election as Governor, as well as an easy reelection for a second term. At the time, I was a business owner in New Mexico who appreciated his perspective, hard work and honesty. I worked with many other high-profile business owners who were very skeptical of who Gary was and how he would govern. We grew to realize how important his contributions and "work with everyone" attitude was, and that it was working. He held no agenda other than serving the best interest of the citizens of New Mexico.

During his second term in office I was invited to attend a few luncheons Gary hosted at the Governor's Mansion. I was being recognized for my charitable contributions along with the work of many others. I found a man there who had not changed since the first time I met him--the same handshake, and he meant it--still gracious, genuine, honest! Who was this man? I have been to the White House, shook the hands of more than one President, along with a few other members of Congress and other Governors. Never have I met someone like Gary Johnson.

Governor Johnson has been getting around again lately. He's been on many of the talking-head shows of all the networks and touted as a possible Black Sheep Candidate for President. A Republican with Libertarian leanings, he is popular with many Independents, Moderate Democrats, Libertarians and many Conservatives and Tea Partiers. The more they know him, the more they like his message; Gary Johnson backs it up with experience, common sense, honesty and dialog. He has a track record of actionable and positive results. He works hard.

The Our America Initiative is his current project. He chairs this 501(c)(4) non-profit, and he has authored a book, The Seven Principals of Good Government. He outlines his seven principles on the website and advocates for smaller, more effective, less intrusive government. Mission Statement: OUR America Initiative seeks to broaden the parameters of the public policy debate of current topics in the national arena. We look to enlighten the population about civil liberties, free enterprise, limited government, and traditional American values. It is our aim to increase the amount of discussion and involvement regarding all-important issues.

A consistent talking point that comes up on many of the talk shows is his position on the legalization of drugs--the hot-button issue he talks about openly. He says what many people are thinking but most are unwilling to freely talk about. I, personally, detest drugs and have no respect for the people who have little respect for themselves by using drugs. Like the Mexican border issue and many other agencies, the "drug war" has been viewed as something the general public is skeptical about and that the effectiveness has not been a government success. Drug problems have gotten worse, and another giant government program keeps getting bigger. I remember when Reagan declared the "war on drugs." Honestly, like so many others, I haven't seen results that I am happy with. I think I'm like many who question the direction we have gone and the overall results for our money, time, and blood invested.

Johnson merely poses the question, "Do you think that the war on drugs is working?" He, like most of us, says, "No," and he backs it up with facts. He has the courage to talk about it, and openly advocates for change in the form of reasonable legalization to solve the majority of the problems we currently have. You can't change minds overnight, and laws take a long time to enact even when you have a majority of backers. Like Johnson, I think it's time to have a harder look at the issues surrounding drugs and start an accountable, new solution.

I had the pleasure of having a phone interview with Governor Johnson for this article. Like an old friend, it was like we shook hands, and the conversation continued from the past. I do not know him on a personal level; he would not recognize me on the street. But he has that personable, likable presence that makes you feel comfortable enough to have constructive dialog even when you disagree. He is a man I would be proud to vote for again to restore pride and respect for America. A man of the people--E pluribus unum, "Out of many, one." He will unite America; we will become one again.

Who is he? Someone you should know. Someone who could be one of the most significant people contributing to liberty and freedom of this great country: unassuming, professional, very humble and a competitor, over-achiever and the Black Sheep we should all listen to. His handshake is his word--a man of genuine ethical integrity. America needs to know Gary Johnson.

For the Our America Initiative go to: <http://ouramericainitiative.com>

*The OUR America Initiative is a 501(c)(4) political advocacy committee and may receive unlimited donations from both individual and corporate donors. Gary Johnson is not a current candidate for any federal political office.*

## INDEPENDENT THINKERS: WELCOME

### PROSPER

People and Businesses that are Prospering and Creating Wealth for Themselves and their Communities.

- Small Business Strategy Success
- Editorials, Local Business-Owners
- Business & Organization Openings

### THINK/LIVE

Independent Thinking about Important Topics Affecting the Lives of Our Citizens and Community

- Sustainable Living
- This is Your Constitution
- Honored Veterans

### FOOD

Feeding the People. Soil, Water, Seeds & Sun - From the Farm to the Fork - Your National & Local Food Systems

- National Food/Agricultural Topics
- Restaurant Reviews
- Farmer Highlights
- How-To Series of Articles

### RESOURCES

Our Power is in Our Resources. How Green is Green - Sustainability means saving and making green (and gold) for our pocketbooks!

- Free-Market-Green
- Sustainability Organizations
- Energy, Water, Land, & Air Quality

### ARTS/CULTURE/ TRAVEL

The Arts & Culture tell us the History and Future of a Community & Nation

- Road Trips to Local Towns' Art and Cultural Get-Aways
- Artist News & Profiles
- How the Arts Affect an Economy

### ACT

We Control the Future of Our Communities & Our Economies - So Act!

- National Events & Organizations
- Ways to Get Involved
- Featured Activists

### NEXT

Our Kids and Our Students - The Next Generation & How They Are Making a Positive Difference For All of Us

- Featured Student Projects
- Featured Kids Making a Difference



**Supporting Local Communities, Building Local Economies.**

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