Privilege Tramples Worker Rights, Regardless of How It's Obtained

Union Monopoly Bargaining Is the Real Evil

Much that is written about American labor unions is misleading because it assumes they operate like other private, nonprofit organizations.

In almost all respects, this assumption is false. For example, affiliation with private organizations is, the vast majority of the time, a purely personal decision. But under federal labor law, union affiliation is primarily a collective, rather than a personal, decision.

Under American traditions of limited government, your decision to contribute your household's money to a charity, a political campaign, or a single-issue lobbying organization is made individually, or together with your spouse or solicitor.

Your neighbors, fellow employees, or business associates may offer advice, but do not get a chance to vote on which private groups you support or don't support.

U.S. labor laws empower pro-union employees who constitute a majority within a government-delineated "bargaining unit" to force other employees who don't want a union to accept a particular union as their "exclusive" (monopoly) bargaining agent in their dealings with their employer.

Furthermore, once a monopoly-bargaining agent is in place, under federal law it and the employer are legally authorized to agree to fire employees who refuse to pay dues or fees to the union.

Public Overwhelmingly Opposes Union Monopoly Bargaining

Apologists for current labor laws typically cite "majority rule" as the rationale for forcing unwanted union monopoly bargaining and forced dues or fees on employees who don't wish to join a union.

Under our constitutional system, majority rule normally controls only the affairs of government or the internal affairs of a private association. The invocation of majority rule to force unwilling persons into membership in or financial support for a private organization is not normally accepted.

For example, the decision by the majority of businesses based in a small town to join and pay dues to the Chamber of Commerce doesn't give them the legal power, under any federal or state statute, to force the remaining businesses to join or pay dues.

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