

Reply ID: 3ndu

Reply to Comments by Social Justice is Biblically Based

Thank you so much for your comments. You make a valid point: Profiteers are profiting off of the RIGHTS of prisoners.

Prisoners have a First Amendment right to communicate by mail. To exercise that right, prisoners pay inflated rates for pens, paper, postage, etc.

Although prison officials call visitation a "privilege", many Courts have recognized a limited RIGHT of prisoners to have visits. As you point out, there's no shortage of greedy companies seeking to profit from visits.

Although prison officials call phone access a "privilege", Courts have also said that prisoners have a RIGHT to reasonable telephone access. As we've discussed many times, corporations are really profiting off of that right.

Prisoners have a constitutional RIGHT to adequate medical care. In most states the so-called medical care is provided by a for-profit corporation that puts profits over patient care.

So now your very valid point has left me thinking: When does a "right" cease being a right?? Are we allowing rights to be slowly eroded without realizing it?? And if we must pay money - especially inflated prices - to exercise a right, is it still really a right??

You've just given me another major legal project.

Those interested in a campaign to end prison profiteering can visit: [\[www.StopPrisonProfiteers.org\]](http://www.StopPrisonProfiteers.org)