

U.S. Supreme Court Affirms Cellphone Privacy Rights

In a landmark ruling on June 25th, the US Supreme Court held that when police officers make an arrest, they are not allowed to search the arrestee's cell phone without first obtaining a search warrant. The sweeping 9-0 decision, written by Chief Justice John Roberts, brought Fourth Amendment rights against illegal searches into the digital age.

The DKT Liberty Project filed an amicus (friend of the court)



brief in *Riley v. California*, one of two related cellphone cases before the Court.

Without this ruling, police could theoretically arrest a jaywalker and look through his

entire smart phone including personal correspondence, photos, videos, bank and medical records. Because of this decision, the police will not be able to search without getting a warrant that specifically lists what they are looking for. For the CBS news account, [click here](#).

The DKT Liberty Project is proud to have played its part in defending this basic constitutional right.

COMING SOON

New Book Assesses State of Welfare in the United States

“The Human Cost of Welfare,” a book in preparation by Phil Harvey and Lisa Conyers is an in-depth exploration of how our welfare system affects those who receive its benefits. Based on interviews with 150 welfare recipients, the book finds that welfare beneficiaries dislike the system and feel that it

impairs their ability to get jobs. A recurring theme is that work is important to a satisfying life and that our present system undermines the pathway to employment. The book also analyzes each current federal welfare government program and includes suggestions for reform. For more, [click here](#).

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Supporting Raisin Growers Who Oppose Government Program That Takes a Big Bite Out of Their Crops



Under a federal agricultural program that was started in 1937 in a move to control raisin prices, raisin growers can be required to turn over a portion of their crop each year to the US government. In 2002- 2003 and 2003-2004, Marvin and Laura Horne refused to relinquish the required 47% and 30% of their raisins, respectively, to the government, which then fined them \$700,000. The Hornes sued. Watch them tell their story [here](#).

This past March, the Ninth Circuit Federal Court of Appeals in California ruled in favor of the government, upholding the right of the government's right to seize crops under this program. We believe this program is a clear violation of the Fifth Amendment "takings" clause which says ("...nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.") We are preparing an amicus brief urging the US Supreme Court to take this important case.

Fighting for Golden Rice, a Crop That Can Save 1 Million Children Annually From an Early Death

Golden Rice is genetically modified rice developed by scientists at the non-profit Institute for International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. Golden Rice is identical to other rice except for the addition of a gene from corn which allows the plant to create beta-carotene, the substance in sweet potatoes, corn, and carrots that gives them their yellow-orange color and contains Vitamin A.

Why is this important? Because millions of people in the developing world, mostly in Asia, suffer from Vitamin A deficiency (VAD). This condition is responsible for the deaths each year of an estimated 2,000,000 people, including 1,000,000 young children. VAD also causes some an estimated 500,000 cases of irreversible blindness annually.

Most of these children subsist on as little as a bowl of rice per day. If those bowls contained Golden Rice, a great number of lives would be saved as a result.

Unfortunately, Golden Rice is still not available on the market as the final stages of testing are not yet complete. A two-year delay in testing was caused by the anti-GMO organization Greenpeace, which a year ago stormed the test fields in the Philippines, breaking down fences and tearing up the life-saving rice.

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The Liberty Project supports genetically engineered foods due to their proven safety and ability to increase crop yields and reduce pesticide use. There have been no known instances of problems resulting from the consumption of GMO foods, which have been in wide use in the US for decades.

We believe that even those who oppose genetically engineered foods should make a humanitarian exception in the case of Golden Rice. Most people would go to great lengths to save the life of a child. Why then would anyone deny life-saving Golden Rice to millions of children?

To assist with this humanitarian effort, we are supporting Allow Golden Rice Now, a Canadian-based non-profit group that is promoting Golden Rice around the world. See more at allowgoldenricenow.org.



Patrick Moore, president of Allow Golden Rice Now.

OTHER AREAS OF FOCUS FOR THE DKT LIBERTY PROJECT INCLUDE:

Cases on Womens' Reproductive Rights: Various states have now passed laws restricting access to health care clinics by legislating stringent requirements that prevent many clinics from offering abortion services to women. Other new laws make medical abortion increasingly difficult to obtain. We will help with these cases where we can. We have also supported the National Advocates for Pregnant Women as they fight against other laws which criminalize and punish women who have consumed even minor quantities of illicit drugs during pregnancy.

License Plate Profiling Cases: Since Colorado has legalized recreational marijuana, nearby states are now engaging in "license plate profiling" by targeting drivers with Colorado plates in Kansas, Utah and Idaho. In these increasingly common cases, state police stop these cars and often conduct illegal searches, hoping to find marijuana and money. We are working with attorneys to identify cases in which the DKT Liberty Project can help victims file lawsuits to assert their rights.

COMING SOON: Advocacy against Prosecutorial Misconduct and Abuse; Supporting Free Speech Rights at Public Universities; Documentary Feature on Free Speech.

We welcome your ideas and comments. Please contact us if you know of a case that could use our assistance: acbushnell@dktinternational.org