



## BY THE NUMBERS

### THE FIRST AMENDMENT MATTERS TO PEOPLE...

#### In Wisconsin

Since Act 10 in 2011

**120,000 workers** have left public sector unions

**A 64% decrease** in public sector union membership  
(From 187,064 members in 2011 to 67,330 members in 2017)

#### Across America

After the *Janus v. AFSCME* Supreme Court Decision

**5M workers in 22 states** now have the freedom to leave public sector unions

### AND IT MATTERS IN POLITICS...

Since 1990, **public sector unions have contributed \$399 million** in election year giving to political parties and outside spending groups.

**94%** (\$374 million) to **Democratic candidates & "liberal" groups**

**6%** (\$25 million) to **Republican candidates & "conservative" groups**

Sources: UnionState.com, OpenSecrets.org, State Policy Network

## FROM THE DESK OF JESSICA DEAN

Dear Friends,

Our Labor Day issue highlights the importance and dignity of work. Inside you'll find context for the recent *Janus* decision—a powerful and unique opportunity for us to expand workplace freedom that has its roots in more than 30 years of hard work and unwavering commitment to empower workers and expand individual liberty and free markets. The concept of a “permanent freedom infrastructure” is gaining strength as advocacy, education, and research organizations collaborate to renew American federalism and enhance workplace freedom.

I had the chance to visit the Freedom Foundation a few days ago in Olympia, Washington. It's housed in a modest, unassuming building that belies the incredible passion and success of the staff. I met with Tom McCabe, the Freedom Foundation's President, and his whip-smart team to chat about their work. If you don't know them, you'll have a chance to meet Tom at our upcoming Bradley Impact Conference. Their drive leading up to the *Janus* Supreme Court decision and their efforts to take advantage of that monumental verdict are astounding.

Other Bradley-supported organizations like the Foundation for Government Accountability (FGA) are helping citizens move from government dependence to independence. A job is the starting point for self-worth, a family's financial stability, and ultimately, the American Dream. The dignity of work cannot be underestimated as both salve and solution to so many of the challenges our nation faces today.

At Bradley, we believe in good policy that empowers volunteer solutions to community problems. We find and fund leaders and organizations that work for change that fosters freedom and empowers citizens to move from welfare to work. These are the kinds of leaders gathering with us in Lake Geneva on September 20 and 21 to discuss viable strategies for strengthening American institutions, principles, and values.

I hope the news and stories inside will engage your mind and excite your spirit as they have for us at Bradley. When you reach page 4, please take a moment to register (if you haven't already done so) for the Bradley Impact Conference. Your support of conservative ideals and action is needed now more than ever, and we'd love to see you there.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica F. Dean".

Jessica F. Dean  
President  
The Bradley Impact Fund



# Expanding Workplace Freedom



In June 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court restored First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and association in workplaces across the country in the landmark case, *Janus vs. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees union (AFSCME)*. The ruling empowers five million workers in 22 states to decide for themselves whether or not to join a union.

The Bradley Foundation and the Bradley Impact Fund community are committed to investing in organizations advancing workplace freedom. These dynamic nonprofit organizations provided

critical support for the *Janus* case, as well as previous work-related initiatives like the passage of Act 10 in Wisconsin. These nonprofits are now expanding their educational, legal, and research efforts to ensure public workers know their rights and the new legal precedent is enforced.

At this year's Bradley Impact Conference, leading advocates for workplace freedom will discuss how to empower workers and open more doors for reform. Panelists from the **Buckeye Institute** in Ohio, the **Freedom Foundation** in Washington state, the **Illinois Policy Institute**, the **Mackinac Center** in Michigan, and the **State Policy Network** will discuss next steps in the effort to help 1 million workers exercise workplace freedom over the next three years. Achieving this goal will require tremendous collaboration and cooperation as nonprofit organizations stretch to fill new roles and build new programs. It also requires strategic investing, and Bradley is committed to being a leader in advising our community about the critical role philanthropists can play.

## PROGRAM CORNER

The struggle for workplace freedom is a great example of what is possible when a national community of donors, educators, researchers, and concerned citizens are ready and willing to mobilize on behalf of liberty.

The *Janus* decision is a culmination of more than two generations of hard work, trial and error, and strategic thinking to create a durable strategy aimed at reclaiming the American Dream. This “permanent freedom infrastructure” grows stronger each year, offering new philanthropic opportunities to invest in:

- **Policy:** develop and deploy sound intellectual arguments for freedom and free enterprise
- **Journalism:** encourage high-quality investigative journalism
- **Media:** research and develop constructive media tactics to inform concerned citizens
- **Education:** educate principled candidates who articulate and implement free market policies
- **Mobilization:** educate and mobilize grassroots advocates
- **Legal Strategy:** engage in strategic litigation to make policy wins permanent

The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation has been involved in this movement for 30 years, founding the Wisconsin Policy Research Institute, now the Badger Institute, in 1987 and through ongoing investment in other pro-freedom efforts across the country.

Bradley was a principal investor in the “permanent freedom infrastructure” concept in 2008, helping to develop strategic educational and research capabilities to support Governor Walker’s bold plan for workers’ rights. Local, state, and national organizations collaborated to help deliver a historic victory for freedom and free enterprise in Wisconsin that continues to provide insights and inspiration for citizen engagement in similar efforts like *Janus* even a decade later.

These wins, from Act 10 to *Janus*, are part of the long-term vision for a permanent freedom infrastructure—collaborative and state-based—that can achieve measurable results for constitutional government, individual liberty, and free markets nationwide.

The more we thoughtfully invest in this infrastructure across America, the more we will be ready to take advantage of great opportunities like *Janus* whenever and wherever they arise.

# HELPING PEOPLE MOVE FROM *Welfare to Work*

The American economy is booming, but beneath the surface lies a major problem. Despite an all-time high number of open jobs, near-record numbers of able-bodied people remain on welfare. Even worse, more than half are not working at all.

**Work is critical.** A job moves people from dependence to independence. It provides new meaning, self-worth, and changes family trajectories for generations to come. With the proper state and federal reforms, millions of Americans can move from welfare to work, transforming their lives in the process.

The value of work cannot be underestimated, especially as a path to purpose, dignity, and financial independence. The Bradley Foundation and Bradley Impact Fund donors support programs that provide able-bodied individuals of limited economic means with the tools, training, and support needed to better prepare for, and transition into, the workforce.

The **Foundation for Government Accountability (FGA)**, a Bradley grantee, is an excellent example of an organization which not only furthers public policy that promotes personal responsibility and self-sufficiency, but also seeks to truly understand the needs of the people it helps. For example, foster care as it traditionally operates is known to feed the

cycle of poverty. In many situations, parents or guardians may be incapable of providing a safe and caring environment for their children while they try to get back on their feet, putting their children at risk of abuse and neglect. In the past, extended family or neighbors stepped in to help families in crisis by caring for their children for short periods of time. Today, however, many families are socially isolated, and reliable help is costly or unavailable.

FGA recognized that voluntary alternatives to state-run foster care will help families stay together while parents overcome setbacks, so they partnered with **Safe Families** (also a Bradley grantee). But, many states bar volunteers from providing care for children, so FGA and Safe Families teamed up to propose and pass laws in 14 states to legalize alternatives to government-run foster care. The impact is life-changing, since children in foster care historically become adults who are dependent on government programs. Both groups are helping to break this cycle while removing barriers to work that many poor parents, especially single parents, face as they seek to move from welfare to work. Bradley is committed to finding and funding innovators like FGA and Safe Families that can solve our hardest societal problems by thinking both creatively and tactically.



# Join us for the 8th Annual Bradley Impact Conference

Thursday & Friday, September 20–21, 2018  
Grand Geneva Resort | Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

**Collusion. Opioid crisis. 4% GDP growth and unemployment rate.  
Janus. Kavanaugh. Free speech. Youthquake.**

These words define America in 2018. What are conservatives to make of the ever-changing fabric of American society? How can we influence change while remaining true to our founding principles? This year's Bradley Impact Conference will ask conservative thought leaders these questions and seek guidance on how to capitalize and shape change through philanthropy, while providing the opportunity for engaging conversations with like-minded friends.



## 2018 Featured Speakers include:

**Lou Holtz**, *Legendary Football Coach and Analyst*  
**Dr. Allen Guelzo**, *Historian and Author*  
**Kay Coles James**, *President, The Heritage Foundation*  
**Dennis Prager**, *Radio Talk Show Host, Writer, and  
Founder, Prager University*  
**Adam Carolla**, *Comedian, Podcast Host, Actor, and Writer*

We will also feature an array of additional conservative leaders and practitioners in panel discussions on the following topics:

- *Focusing on Wisconsin*
- *The Changing Nature of Work*
- *Millennial Generation*
- *Moving Millions From Welfare to Work:  
Civil Society and Policy Reform*
- *All Philanthropy is Local*



**Please RSVP by September 7, 2018**

For more details and to register, contact Terri Famer at (414) 291-2500 or [tfamer@bradleyfdn.org](mailto:tfamer@bradleyfdn.org)  
or visit [www.bradleyimpactfund.org/geneva](http://www.bradleyimpactfund.org/geneva)

## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Save the Dates*

**November 15, 2018**

Lunch with Andrew Roberts  
Milwaukee Club, Milwaukee, WI

**May 7, 2019**

2019 Bradley Prizes & Bradley Symposium  
Washington, D.C.

Please contact [tfamer@bradleyfdn.org](mailto:tfamer@bradleyfdn.org) for event details.

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