

San Francisco Merchants to Withhold Taxes Unless City Helps with Homelessness and Crime

written by GEG | August 29, 2022



The Castro Merchants Association sent a letter to San Francisco city officials saying they plan to stop paying taxes if The City doesn't do more to address burglaries, vandalism, people with behavioral problems and homeless people camping in front of businesses and residences. The association wants the city to set aside 35 shelter beds for people in the Castro district who need a place to stay in addition to offering services to people who decline help and keep monthly records of how many people have been offered services and shelter. The *American Thinker* pointed out that leftists incentivize criminality and drug use, in addition to electing District Attorneys who despise law and order, which must change to solve the homeless and skyrocketing crime issues.

San Francisco has an established reputation as a capital for fringe culture and leftism, much of which converges in the enclave of Castro. The first "Drag Queen Story Hour" event ever took place in the Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library in the neighborhood and was "well received."

Now, under Democrat leadership, the iconically left community is ready to take drastic measures toward radical American patriotism. Three days ago, the San Francisco Chronicle [reported](#):

For years, business owners in San Francisco's Castro district have complained to city officials that homeless people struggling with mental illness and drug addiction have wreaked havoc on the neighborhood. Now, merchants say the situation has gotten so bad that they're threatening to possibly stop paying city taxes and fees [emphasis added].

The threat arises from a letter drafted and sent to city officials by the Castro Merchants Association on August 8. According to co-president Dave Karraker, if the calls are neglected, the response will be civil disobedience, including refusal to pay taxes.

Karraker said:

If the city can't provide the basic services for them [businesses] to become a successful business, then what are we paying for? You can't have a vibrant, successful business corridor when you have people passed out high on drugs, littering your sidewalk.

No, no, you can't, which is why conservatives suggest *not* incentivizing criminality and drug use, nor electing D.A.s who hail from domestic terrorists and despise law and order like Chesa Boudin.

Needless to say, it's likely the irony is lost upon the residents and proprietors of Castro. The very spirit they oppose in policy – revolutionary freedom from the yoke of taxation and anti-tyrannical government – is the very spirit they're on the verge of embracing.

The leftists in Castro appear to be halfway there. The government exists for one purpose, and that is to secure unalienable rights. One of those rights is property ownership, and between 2019 and 2020, storeowners saw a distinct rise in "burglaries and vandalism", and in Castro, "the merchants association recorded more than 90 incidents totaling over \$170,000 in repair costs since 2020[.]" When the government fails to safeguard our rights, it forfeits its legitimacy and authority to govern.

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