## Bring back the Liberty dollar Ian Hoffman, Concord

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http://www.cmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071128/OPINION/711280316/1029/OPINION 03

The Liberty dollar was shut down last week by the FBI and Secret Service on behalf of the U.S. Mint and Federal Reserve. I am concerned about what this illustrates about government control.

Imagine I were in the following situation: I am selling something for \$15 and am offered - by the purchaser - a choice of payment in U.S. notes, Canadian notes or an ounce of silver. Which should I choose? Since the Canadian dollar is stronger than the U.S. dollar, mathematically I ought to take the funny money but for two possible reasons: (1) Canadian notes are not as readily useful as U.S. notes and (2) I am not sufficiently familiar with Canadian money to know if it is counterfeit. Those same pros and cons could be given for accepting the silver. The Liberty dollar system wanted simply to remedy those two drawbacks to silver by producing silver coins of known weight and content and promoting their acceptance in society.

Since no one was in danger of mistaking for a quarter a pure silver coin 2 inches across, why did the government shut down the operation? It is because the government wants control of the economy and society, not only circular pieces of metal. The feds who confiscated the gold and silver from the Liberty dollar minting facilities are nostalgic for the bad old days under FDR when it was illegal to possess gold, let alone give it to somebody else.

I read that the confiscated coins were misleading the American public because part of the stamping included the words "liberty" and "trust in God." The current government monopoly on the money supply extends to neither liberty nor trust.

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