## Volunteers Against Volunteerism

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The Ayn Rand Institute

## Press Release

## Attention Students: How to Protest Service Programs

The Ayn Rand Institute Opposes Volunteerism with its New Intern Program

Los Angeles, Sept. 2—The Ayn Rand Institute (ARI) is continuing its campaign to abolish volunteerism by offering students a unique way to fulfill school service requirements.

ARI's Anti-Servitude Internships are designed for students who object to the forced sacrifice of their time, interests and values. These students can fulfill their volunteerism graduation require fighting against volunteerism.

High school students can apply to ARI to work on projects the underlying service programs and inste raue one's own happiness.

"Volunteerism is immoral. The Founding Fathers wrote a declaration of independen declaration of servitude," said Dr. Michael S. Berliner, executive director of the Ayn Rand Institute. "Volunteerism is an inversion of the principles on which this country was established: an individual" right to his own life, liberty and pursuit of happiness."

A perfect world, according to Ayn Rand, would be ruled by rational selfinterest. The pursuit of one's own happiness would be the highest moral principle. Altruistic acts would be immoral. So her philosophical heirs at the Ayn

Rand Institute in Marina del Ray, Calif., were not thrilled last year when President Clinton called for "a renewed sense of obligation, a new sense of duty" in connection with his summit on volunteerism. Nor did they appreciate the Idea that

various high schools were making some form of volunteer service a graduation requirement. Hence the institute's Anti-Servitude Internships, in which students may volunteer to fight volunteerism—and still get credit. Yes, these in-

terns are donating their time and energy, but that's okay. "Our view," says Michael S. Berliner, the Institute's executive director, "is that volunteering is okay as long as It's in your self-interest and not considered to be a moral duty."

The Fine Print appears monthly. Contributions of authentic documents from readers are strongly encouraged. We seek memoranda, proposed pork, evidence of official or commercial hypocrisy, bizarre consumer caveats, etc. Send your plain brown envelopes to: The Fine Print, The Washington Post Magazine, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 2007L