

## The Hopes of Socialism: Liberty, Equality, Solidarity

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## DR. MURRAY BESSETTE

VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



Socialist revolutionaries have claimed that overcoming the bourgeois system would usher in a new way of life wherein the free development of each was a condition for the free development of all. Life in this classless society would be marked by liberty, equality, and solidarity. The appeal of these universally recognized ends both captured the imagination of those who believe there must be final political solution to all human ills and justified whatever actions were deemed necessary for bringing this situation into existence. And yet, in each and every instance, politically empowered socialism has produced a system of servitude, inequality, and suspicion, where the life of a dissenter is solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short. Socialism's inevitable failure makes a critical re-examination of the means appropriate to the pursuit of these ends all the more important today.

