

# THE POWER OF CITIZENS

Citizens ultimately hold the power — if they choose to exert it.

Power concedes to nothing without demand. You can only assert your power if you make a demand.

Freedom historically increases by the actions and direction of a few.

Never be intimidated. Remember, you are the employer and your elected officials are the employees.

Never sell out for fear of the unknown. The only power each of us ultimately has is derived from a higher source. To turn our backs on the laws of our Creator is to deny His ability to assist us.

Question authority in general and doubt politicians in particular.

Citizens can write bills and present them to legislators. Accountability Utah has a tremendous network of volunteer specialists who can assist you.

Begin to locate citizens who are willing to run against errant legislators and other officials.

Spend the bulk of your time holding your legislators accountable. Your legislators hold the purse string and the law in their hands. Bureaucrats and judges will fall into line once they do.

Be your own person. You don't have to be like Accountability Utah or any other group or personality.

Use fliers, e-mail, faxes, and phone calls to make your neighbors aware of the negative behavior of your elected officials.

Don't threaten officials with political action. Just go out and do it.

If you are partisan-oriented, begin the learning and action process to stack your party's caucuses. Keep your mind open to opportunities outside of your party structure that can increase the threat you pose to the political career the official you need to target.

Get on the e-mail list and monitor the sites of political organizations like Accountability Utah (and others), so that you can continue to collect the information you need to fight effectively.

Be wary of organizations that require dues or fees. Understand what the organization will do with your money. How much is spent on buildings, staff, and fancy mailers versus effective activism?