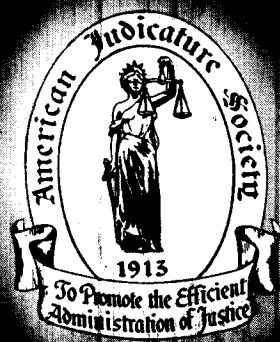


Journal
of the American
JUDICATURE
Society



★ *Law, Liberty and Weightlessness*

Editorial

★ *Science in Court*

by Jonathan Karas

★ *The Responsibility of the Lawyer
to His Profession*

by Robert F. Drinan, S.J.

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Law, Liberty and Weightlessness

IN civilized society the force of law, like the force of gravity, is everywhere. The law with us whether we park the car, buy a newspaper or cash a check. Gravity is there whether we climb the stairs, carry a pail of water, or throw a baseball.

When laws get burdensome we may think of liberty as freedom from law. But literal freedom from law would substitute the chaos of anarchy for the ordered pattern of community life, just as literal freedom from gravity would substitute physical chaos for the order of the universe.

Since the launching of the satellites we have been hearing a new word, "weightlessness." A weightless body appears to be free of gravity. Satellites in orbit are weightless. Weightlessness is achieved not by defying or doing away with gravity, but by moving in obedience to it. And human liberty is achieved not by defying or doing away with the law, but by living in obedience to it.

Weightlessness is possible because the force of gravity is so constant, universal, predictable and dependable that the motion of the satellite can be made to match it exactly. Two requirements for liberty are a desire to live in obedience to the law, and a law that is consistent, predictable and dependable enough to make that possible. It is the duty of lawyers, judges and lawmakers to strive constantly to make that possible.

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