Robert,

Thanks again for a great reply. I wonder how much CostCo's growth has been lately? Advertising is part of a successful, long-range business model, and as such I support Papa John's growing. In base terms, he employs more people for entry-level work than CostCo, and doesn't provide unnatural incentive for them to stay underutilized, baited by being over-paid for the kind of work they are doing against competitors. My point is that if one wants to look at businesses as outlets for socialist support for the employees, the capitalist model suffices better than the "benevolent" model. On the other hand, maybe by conscripting its employees to a slightly higher wage, CostCo is a more ruthless Macchiavellian...

By the way, since the beginnings of America and for 200 years prior to the signing of The Declaration of Independence, it was politically-minded preachers teaching individualism and the fallibility of monarchy (Library of Congress) that made for the great nation we've served and in which we are blessed to be able to disagree. You are right. In the military, influence like that is illegal. When it is done on Wall Street, it is usually finessed but has the "play ball" mentality wherein traders know if they get on board, their candidate can win and they may then be deemed too big to fail. In the case of Papa John's, it was simply stating that the government was over-reaching by requiring a company to provide unearned benefits to their own employees as well as random welfare recipients, and making the company's business model untenable. He could have just dumbed-up and did a Hostess or a John Galt (Rand, 1999) and left, but he chose to stay and try to make it work in spite of the atrocious AFA/ObamaCare bill threatening to dismantle our nation's ability to get care and remain financially solvent. (Klein, 2013)

Speaking politics and religion and encouraging one another to vote one way or another are part of the great American heritage. (In our nation and context, we can do it without resorting to the sword, unlike collectivist and monarchical people.) It was Progressives who declared that speaking about politics and religion are not polite, primarily to keep people from discussing their Machiavellian schemes and from proliferating faith that works contrary to their secular humanist “state is god” religion. (Goldberg, 2007)

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