



Episode 1,341: Young Americans for Liberty: A Dissenting Voice Amidst the Groupthink

Guest: Cliff Maloney

WOODS: All right, let's get a little bit of background, the history of YAL. I remember the origins of YAL back when I was — let's say, I was myself a younger American than I am now. And I got to know the person I guess was the founder and was president for some time, Jeff Frazee, and that was when I was most involved. That was when I had more hair, maybe more pounds on me, and the Ron Paul movement was alive and well at that time. Give us a little bit of background of where the whole thing came from.

MALONEY: Yeah, well, you're spot on there. The organization was founded back in 2008, after this old guy in Texas, who we all love, Ron Paul, decided that he was going to run for president and really do it in a big way and got all these young people excited. I mean, here's a gentleman — I believe at that point, he was in his 70s, and had this huge following, as you and I know, of people who cared about the principles of liberty and the Constitution. And so his youth director during the 2008 campaign was a gentleman named Jeff Frazee. And Jeff decided after the campaign was over, Ron's presidential race, there was all this excitement, all this support amongst young people, we had to keep this thing going. And so he decided to launch Young Americans for Liberty as a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization. And so Jeff was at the helm until 2016. We built from 2008 to 2012, and obviously, 2012 was a huge year for the movement. And in 2016, I was able to be honored, honestly, with the opportunity to take over what was the continuation of Students for Ron Paul back in '08, and now trying to take Young Americans for Liberty to new heights and trying to really instill that message of really individual liberty with young people across America.

WOODS: So that's exactly what you folks have been doing ever since then. And you had tremendous growth out of the gate. You had chapters all over the country. And so you started doing a lot of activities on the campuses. So let's now go to the next chapter in that. Actually, you know what? There's another chapter that I don't want to skip over, and that's the Cliff Maloney life chapter, because you are also a young American, let's say, and you obviously had some something — you don't just fall into the Ron Paul movement. Something happens to you. Something grabs you. Something strikes you, and you're never the same. So give us a little bit of your story, where you're from, and what that moment was, if there was one.

MALONEY: Sure. So yeah, when Young Americans for Liberty was founded, I was in my junior year of high school, so I was no nowhere to be found. You know, I hadn't even heard of the individual Ron Paul, probably until late 2007, 2008. And so I come from Philadelphia, suburbs of Philadelphia, grew up a blue-collar, working family. And it was 2010. I was in college studying to be a math teacher. And I had stumbled upon a video, and the video was Ron Paul, one of those supercut clips of a new hope, 2008-type, all these different clips from the

debates and just these different moments with Ron Paul, and just showing his consistency for 40 years. And I kind of just sat there and said, "My gosh, how is this guy not the president? How are these ideas not mainstream? Why aren't people in the streets screaming about this and talking about Ron Paul?" And it was really the moment with Giuliani that kind of struck a chord with me to say, man, this is just some powerful stuff. And I'm sure most of the listeners remember the '07-'08 debate moment with Giuliani, lecturing him, who was kind of the poster child, if you will, for 9/11 about blowback, and just really understanding what foreign policy means. And I never heard this type of thinking from somebody who actually was going to lead the country or from a political thought leader to talk about the golden rule and treating people how you want them to be treated.

So, that was my big awakening, Tom, and it was I guess three or four months after that I applied for an internship. There is a gentleman named Jeff Deist and Norm Singleton, whom I'm sure you know, who took a chance on me, and they allowed me to intern for Dr. Paul in D.C. That was in 2011. And really, the rest is history. I went on to meet Jeff Frazee when I interned. He told me to start a YAL chapter. I did so on my campus in Pennsylvania. Did that for a year, then became the Pennsylvania State Chair for Young Americans for Liberty, and decided I was going to teach. And like I said, I was going to school to teach, and Jeff Frazee, he and Ed King had talked me into coming to YAL full time. I did that in the spring of 2014. Did that for a year, and then Rand Paul asked me to be his National Youth Director for the presidential cycle, so I hopped over to YAL. And then once that wrapped up, Jeff asked me to take the reins, and that was, once again, 2016 in May. And now I've been at the helm for about two years, and really, it's something I've got to pinch myself. You know, I get to crisscross the country, meet with students, engage students, and really try to get them to care about these principles and figure out how to take our ideas mainstream without watering them down. I think the one thing that Ron taught all of us is that there is power in bringing the message 200 proof and not trying to sugar coat it, but figuring out ways that we can reach people with that pure message. I think that's the name of the game and what I'm dedicated to.

WOODS: I've got to ask you: it's got to be frustrating that, here you are, armed with ideas that we all know are really, really good ones, and yet, it seems like this democratic socialist movement that's taking shape just came out of nowhere. Almost overnight, it had a huge, huge following. And frankly, I'm not saying everybody in it is stupid, but I would say that it's not because all of them are reading a lot of books and really knowledgeable about the subject matter. It's more that the simplicity of the message: look, this guy has this stuff; you want it; we're going to give it to you. I mean, anybody can understand that, and it appeals to the basest instincts of mankind. And there's no pause ever in any of these programs to think that there might be consequences that you yourself might not like. Nope, it's just going to work out the way we want. I get the stuff I want. No bad consequences. It must be frustrating that you have to struggle sometimes to get people's attention when it seems effortless on the other side.

MALONEY: Yeah, you're exactly right. And I'll tell you, I mean, I don't hide my frustration. It's definitely a time when you have people like Cortez in New York and some of these other individuals, that everything is kind of rhetoric. And it's not only just that it's the democratic socialists; I mean, it's rhetoric in general. And this is something that we've been trying to push for a while, which is talking ideas, talking solutions, and not just screaming identity politics, not just trying to group people and really just focus on emotion. But what's happened is the democratic socialists have gotten very good at, at least over the last, I would say, six months

to a year, really understanding how to message, really understanding how to — and even if they're not understanding, like you said, people are listening, just because of the platforms and the different biases in the media. People from that ideology, they're allowed to be able to speak and have a platform, when a lot of times, the people that we want to kind of highlight the ideas we want to amplify, it's very difficult.

But I will tell you this. I mean, I warn against it from everybody. Any time people just jump to these identity politics, I think that the left is going to have a problem over the next year when things like actual legislation come out. I mean, you look at this Green New Deal. I mean, we talked to students about it. People like the Green New Deal until they find out what's in it and when you start to have real conversations about your taxes going from 25% as somebody making \$40,000 a year, to the sky's the limit. And so, I think the challenge is there and the frustration is there, but for us, it's really about figuring out how you connect with students, get them to at least engage. And what we find is when they start to ask questions, when they actually analyze something, they're very much on our side. They believe in capitalism at their root; it's getting them away from the sound bites and the talking points and the free stuff, if you will, that the Democrats and the Bernies and Cortezes want to offer, and showing them what hard work looks like, what markets actually do, and how that benefits everybody, and how it creates a much more freer and more prosperous society. So I would say our number-one challenge is actually just getting people to engage.

And let me give you one little note here, Tom. Most people think that young people are so socialist and they leave college, they're ready to vote for Bernie and they're ready to vote us into this communist utopia. I actually find — and some people hear this and think that this is pretty cynical or think this is pretty sad, but this is what I find. I find that most people leave college pretty apathetic. If you're talking about a philosophical or political belief, most people leave apathetic. I mean, most people are apathetic. Most people are trying to make ends meet. They're trying to pay their mortgage. They're trying to pay off their student loan debt. So when we're talking to college students, it's that same type of apathy. It's trying to get people to at least engage.

And that's why the work we do on campus, we don't focus it around a political party. We don't even focus it around a political campaign. When we're on campus, we focus it around ideas. We focus it on — you know, whether we're talking about monetary policy and the Federal Reserve, we're talking about debt, we're talking about civil liberties, free speech, the right to defend yourself, privacy. Those are the things that if you can connect with somebody and get them to engage, that's how we start to holistically get people to really understand what the role of government is. And that is the question. Ron always used to say that, and that's a lot of what we are aiming to do, is get people to ask that question. Because if somebody asks themselves, "What is the proper role of government?" we've already won the argument, because that's the debate we need to have. When you have that debate, then we can actually talk about ideas and where government should be involved and shouldn't be involved. Whereas if the debate is, you know, "Should we have socialist health care or full communism?" that's not going to lead us to real liberty or to real free markets.

WOODS: I think you made a good point about trying to get specific about things, because, yeah, Green New Deal might sound superficially attractive to somebody. Then you spell out the specifics that are involved and just how radical the changes are — I was just reading a column today saying that the Green New Deal is like a suicide note for the Democrats. This is an unforced error. There's no reason all these candidates have to be latching on to this thing,

because all Trump has to do is just point to the absurdity of it through the whole campaign. But they're all afraid not to be on the side of Ocasio-Cortez, so they have to sign on. But the specifics are crazy. All you've got to do is hit them on the specifics. And I just saw a video — maybe you saw it — that the campus reform people put out, where they actually ran by the students the actual features of the plan, and then the students started saying, [laughing] "Now, whoa, hold on just a cotton-picking minute here. That is not what I thought was part of this."

All right, so you guys have been on the campuses for a long time. You've started chapters all over the place. What would you say you've learned from this? What works? What doesn't work? Your vibrant chapters, what are they doing?

MALONEY: Yeah, absolutely. Great question. So I think that what we found is being able to organize on college campuses, I think, is still the most effective tactic, because you have young people in a state of mind where they're still trying to, let's say, learn. They're developing. They're thinking. They're interested. And so I think it's still the best platform for us to build, let's say, the youth army for liberty — no pun intended — for peace.

But what I'm finding is we sat down, I guess it was probably two years ago, to try to understand — you know, we have these huge races for president. You get involved in these huge Senate races and congressional races, and as a movement that cares about ideas and as an organization that is trying to reach young people and figure out how we advance liberty, you have to analyze what you are doing. And I told you at the top of the show, I mean, I'm a math teacher by trade. I like to keep the numbers simple, and this is why the monetary policy interests me and the debt. But we looked at the numbers, and the numbers show we're spending millions of dollars as a movement on some of these huge races, but we're missing kind of the basics. I like to say that we're penny-smart and dollar-dumb, and that we don't really have a bench out there. We don't really have a way of showing that the movement is growing or to try to build on some of the things that Ron taught us.

And so I sat down with the team to kind of analyze where would the best impact be to take our youth activists from campus and try to bring them out in the community. Is it to just partner with local nonprofits? Is it to get involved in electoral politics? What is it that we could do to kind of not just demonstrate impact, but create even more impact off campus in the communities? I jokingly — rest in peace to Congressman Walter Jones, who just passed, but at one YAL con, he said, "You know what it's time to do if you really want to advance liberty? It's time to get in the streets. We need to be in the streets for liberty." And I will tell you that that was kind of where my head was, was how do we figure out how we take Ron's message, Ron's entire youth organization, how do we take what we're trying to put together and make a difference and reach people?

And so we looked at different options, and as we as we looked at the electoral process, I will tell you — I'm getting in the weeds here, Tom, so feel free to cut me off, but I think some of these details are important — we looked at how you can actually reach people. And when you look at electorally, people send mail, people do digital ads, radio, they're on TV, they knock doors. And all those things I just listed except for knocking doors, you really could do if somebody gave you a million bucks. And we've learned in the liberty movement that we can't expect money — as a grassroots movement that believes in ideas, you can't expect to go toe to toe with the establishment when it comes to money. So we have to look critically at what is our competitive advantage. And for us, it was so glaringly obvious. We have these young

people who care about ideas. They're energetic. They're passionate. Let's go out and talk to the American people. And so we landed on door knocking.

But then an even more important decision was, well, okay, if we're going to go out and door knock and we're going to talk to individuals, do we want to do the presidential races? Do we want to do these big-time Senate races where we don't have much of an impact? We looked at everything from dog catchers, city council, state legislative, congressional, senatorial, all way up to president. I mean, we analyzed all of them, and we assigned point values to it. You know, what is the value of getting somebody elected to this office? And more importantly, how can you educate the voters? How can you get the message out? How can you get more people to open their ideas to liberty through the campaigns? Because winning, that's not the end game. Ron Paul, so many people woke up because of Ron's message in '08 and 2012.

And so we analyzed this, and we came down to the conclusion that there is this gaping hole at the state legislative level not just for liberty, but how accessible it is to get somebody to run. You want to run for Congress. You need to raise a half a million dollars, and you've got to be very well known. You've got to have name ID. You've got to do a lot of things that are not easy to do overnight. If you want to run for state house in many of the states in this country, if you can get name ID, if you could be a local, and you can raise 50,000 bucks, I mean, you could be a viable candidate.

So what we decided to do in 2018 was to spend a lot of our time focusing in, and we launched the program called Operation Win at the Door to try to build a bench of 250 Ron Pauls across the country at the state legislative level by the end of 2022. And what we think that would do is it would actually give the ideas of liberty a microphone. It would be a bench, because, look, out of those 250, if we can get them elected, politicians run for higher office. And so if we can keep them accountable to liberty, and if 100 of them run for Congress and we can get 50 more Ron Pauls in, we think that that's a real step in the right direction. And the third thing is it gives us some credibility, not only a platform for the ideas and it builds the bench, but really, we can pass actual liberty-minded legislation, which then serves as a training ground, if you will, or a test ground for federal policy.

So all of these things put together is what led us to launch this Operation Win at the Door. The tactic is taking our students – we typically put ten students on the ground for a state house race. We'll put them there for a month. They'll knock 30,000 doors. We pay them a small stipend. We pay for their housing. We pay for their gas money. And we're trying to reach voters and mobilize them for the next Ron Paul. We did 76 races in 2018 as a test case, and we elected 37 liberty legislators across the country. So it's an exciting time for the organization, but I think what's even more exciting is it's a measurable way for us to get out and educate people on the principles of liberty while electing future Ron Pauls and doing it in a way where we're actually able to scale this up and potentially win 250 races by the end of 2022. That's where we're at today.

WOODS: All right, so I don't know how you could quantify it. But how can you estimate for us, let's say, the fraction of your activities that are aimed at politics and races as opposed to: we're going to have a conference or we're going to bring in some speaker or host a debate or whatever?

MALONEY: Yeah, that's a very good question. So I mean, we run things – there's a breakdown of educational activities versus political. And we knocked about a million doors in 2018 with

under a, let's say, \$2 million budget. Our total spent as an organization to build what we're building, to educate students, to work on campus, to host our different training events, we spent about \$5.5 million in 2018. So the idea is that – and let me be really clear about this, Tom, because some people say, "Well, are you guys moving away from the education? You can't lose your principles. That's everything." That is the only way any of this works. Because the way that we are able to energize and mobilize our students is because we have these core set of principles that we're able to recruit on; that we are able to educate on; that we are able to host speakers on, that our chapters are able to meet, discuss debate, and really have a dialogue about. That is the whole energy. We have to double down on what we've been doing on campus for the last ten years. I mean, we have to continue to kind of – those ideas are what build the pipeline. And so that pipeline has to continue to grow. And then from that pipeline, it's about taking our message out in the community.

So the 37 people we got elected, it's not just about getting them elected. We have staff members that work directly with them to, A) hold them accountable, to B) give them model legislation they can propose, and really to C) prepare them to be better messengers for the cause, to be out there with that platform. But what people miss or what people can kind of glance over that I think has even more value than getting the folks elected is the million doors that we knocked on. Think of the people that we talked to and the conversations we had with everyday Americans about the ideas that they should care about. Think about the experience you'd have as a college student – let's say you're 20 years old, you're on the ground in Georgia, supporting Matt Gertler, known as Ron Paul 2.0 in Georgia, the only Republican to vote against the Republican budget down there. And you're there for 30 days with 10 other people, and you look around, and you just got this guy elected by a 20-point margin. You start to experience those things as a student. That's the real value here, is showing our activists they can make a difference, they can go out, they can reach people, and they can actually move the needle to help our ideas advance.

But I really like to clarify and really like to make sure I make a point of that, that if we ever lose the ideas, we've lost the whole purpose of building this. Ron's whole message was based on these principles and ideas of liberty. And that is what we're focused on, is how do we advance them both on campus by attracting new students, getting them involved, but then enhancing their experience and enhancing our message by taking them out in the community and reaching everyday Americans and showing our students: hey, look, if we work hard enough – which it's not that hard to outwork the Republican neocon establishment or the left, quite frankly – then we can actually make a difference. And that's what's happening through this program.

WOODS: Now, of course, back when I was in school, let's just say there wasn't yet a Young Americans for Liberty, but we had our little groups and we did the best we could. And at that time – and when I say "that time," I'm talking about 1990 to '94. Those were my college years. And I recall plenty of political correctness and intimidation of people who had dissenting views. But I would take 1993, let's say, over 2019 on a college campus any day of the week. I can't imagine what it's like to be on a college campus now, especially if I were part of, let's say, a non-mainstream student group. So what are you seeing out there? And to what extent has YAL run into this?

MALONEY: Yeah, so it's an epidemic, Tom. I mean, I used to try to stay positive about it, but I think our activists deserve for me to use the right terminology, and that is: it is an epidemic. What you have right now is you have really an overzealous – I don't necessarily blame leftist

activists for being the root of it. What I actually blame — I mean, believe me, they're out there, and they're the reason that it's ongoing. But what's happened is really the student affairs offices and these administrators and bureaucrats on campus that have kind of paired up with each other. Over the last decade, different schools have kind of use these free speech zones or these unconstitutional speech codes to either shut student groups down, shut speakers down they bring to campus. And it's become a problem because groups have realized they can use it as a political weapon — or student affairs offices have realized. But they can use this facade of protecting the student. Or even better, saying that they're pro-free speech, and because of that, you have to do your activism on this one corner of the campus where there's no foot traffic in on the other side of the quad — which is just preposterous. But bureaucrats are bureaucrats, and they realize — I mean, it's literally a regulation on ideas. It's a regulation on student groups that they're using and that they've tested at certain campuses, and then they say, "Hey, we can use this."

Now, some people argue it's not ideologically base, but let me share with you some of our stories, because I think the listeners out there — you know, it can become a very two-sided or it can become a very— people think, *Oh, it can't be that bad*, but let me let me share some stories with you to kind of show why I think it's bad, and then I want to talk about what we're doing to change it. So the only way Young Americans for Liberty can succeed in our mission of reaching young people and getting them involved and making an impact is by being able to message to students on campus.

Now, you have two different opportunities when you talk about academia, when you talk about a college campus, brick-and-mortar university setting. You've got the in-classroom experience and then the on-campus experience. The in-classroom experience — I probably don't have to tell your listeners twice, Tom — there's a lot of work that needs to be done there. The ideological bent of the classroom is not going to be towards free markets, civil liberties, and the Constitution. But that's not my bag. That is not where Young Americans for Liberty is working. I think that is something that's going to need to be alternatives to higher education, things like Praxis and some of these just different paths that students are taking or more conservative universities. But the on-campus experience is where YAL can touch. The on-campus experience is where YAL can do campus activism. We can do events on campus and host speakers and engage students in a way that they're actually going to open up and be exposed to the ideas and to be lifelong advocates for liberty.

So when you talk about that on-campus experience, the only way that the YAL pipeline works is if we have the ability to do outreach, to recruit students. And one of the problems is when these bureaucrats and these overzealous administrators start to dictate what can be said, what can't be said, where it can be said, who can say it, that is where you run into problems, because they typically aren't going to not only agree with us, but they're probably going to passionately disagree and not like that we're pushing things like capitalism on a liberal college campus.

So let me share just some of the different tactics that we've run into from the administrators. The first is they build into the codes what they call a free speech zone. Okay, these are tiny little areas on campus that they try to say are the areas you can speak freely. Now, we had three activists in Michigan who were out and they were on a campus, and our chapter president, Shelley Grigori, she's a young female, she's less than five feet tall — I'm telling you this for a reason, because when you hear the story, I don't want to hear that she was intimidating any police officers. So the college bureaucrat comes out and tells these three

activists they have to go into a free speech zone and that they're not allowed to hand out – guess what they were handing out, Tom. I'll give you one guess. It's a very controversial document. Any guesses as to what they might be handing out on a college campus?

WOODS: Is it a pocket Constitution?

MALONEY: [laughing] Exactly. So they're handing out the pocket Constitutions – I'm being funny here. It's not supposed to be controversial, but unfortunately, on college campuses today, it is. They're handing out a pocket Constitution. The administrator says, "You have to go into the free speech zone." And they politely, very cordially and on camera, say, "We're not going to do that. We have a right to be here. And, oh, if you need to know where that right is, let me hand you one of these pocket Constitutions. You can look at the First Amendment. I'm literally handing out what gives me the right to be here." Doesn't get much more ironic than that. So long story short, the bureaucrat tells them they have to go. He ends up calling campus police. The students politely say, "Look, we are not going to be pulled away from where we are." They're in a public place. This is a public taxpayer-funded school in Michigan, which is in America. They're supposed to be abiding by the Constitution of the United States, which gives them the right to be there to speak freely. They're not soliciting. They're literally handing this out. They are arrested, and they are placed in jail overnight.

Now, since then, we have – and I share that with you, because that is one of the most egregious cases we've had, and I applaud the three activists for actually standing their ground. We don't encourage our students to get arrested, but it shows you just how insane some of these universities have gotten to kind of shut people down.

Another one I'll quickly share. We have a Navy veteran named Jeff Lions, chapter president at Bunker Hill Community College in Massachusetts, handing out Constitutions. This guy took an oath to put his life on the line to defend the Constitution, being somebody who's from the Navy. They tell him that he is not allowed to hand out that document, because it has not been approved by the student affairs office. And I've got to laugh when I hear that, but talk about just this nanny state of approving what documentation you can hand out to students, at a public taxpayer-funded school telling a Navy veteran that he needs to get every document he hands out approved, and the one he's handing out is the pocket Constitution, America's founding document, telling him to he has to get that approved.

Now, there are tons of other cases I could share with you about free speech events they've shut down, speakers they've shut down because of security fees and these different tactics. But we actually launched a campaign, Tom, called the National Fight for Free Speech campaign to not just talk about these ideas, but to put these administrators on notice by going after them with a lawsuit, a threatening letter, and really even petitioning on campus to go after the codes. They hide behind these unconstitutional speech codes, and we have overturned 51 different campus speech codes across the country at different colleges. And what that has done is impacted over 1 million students, giving them the ability to hear all ideologies because we've stripped all of the unconstitutional BS that these administrators have implemented that really allows them to dictate what students can and can't hear. And we've got to do this, because if we don't have the ability to talk to students, Young Americans for Liberty can't expose students to these ideas. And so that is why we have kind of made this a priority of the organization to fight back. And like I said, not just talk about it, but to have real, principled reform to say: look, we're going to go after you guys. And we have 51

victories, which has now allowed a million students to hear different viewpoints and gives us the opportunity to do outreach to those students.

WOODS: All right, this is all great, and I'm thrilled to hear about it. And first of all, well, of course, I'm sorry about the bad parts, but let me just say one little thing, a slight bit of pushback here. I think when you hand things out to people, my sense is a lot of them just go in the garbage. So if I'm going to hand something out, I would want it to be something, I'm sorry to say, a little more thrilling than the US Constitution. Because even if somebody gets a pocket Constitution, the pocket Constitution is like a Rorschach test, right? They'll look at it, and they'll see in it everything they think they need to see. *Okay, I see general welfare, interstate commerce, necessary and proper. Yep, I'm good.* It's not so much the words of the document as it is the interpretation of the document. That's the problem.

But secondly, even if you didn't even know all these clauses, I think if you just glance at the Constitution, you don't immediately say, "Oh, wait a minute. This establishes a strictly limited government where all" — I think you'd have to really, really study it and pay close attention. And I think most people aren't. So if I'm going to hand something out that most people probably won't read or might throw away, I want it to be a lot hotter than just, "Here's the document that your sixth grade teacher gave you. Well, I'm also giving you a new one in college." I don't know, I want to give them some a little bit more on fire. That's my view of it.

MALONEY: Yeah, and I totally agree. So let me share this with you; I think you'll understand why we do it. We typically handout pocket Constitutions when we are trying to do free speech reform challenge. So what I'm getting at here is, of course, there is some value in giving out the Constitution, but really, what we're trying to do is prove some of the irony. So when we target a campus to do an event outside of the free speech zone, to give us legal standing to sue the school, we will legitimately be handing out pocket Constitutions to show, hey, look, here's the First Amendment.

The way we reach students on campus, you're spot on in that, if you hit a student a Constitution, you're not going to awaken them overnight. Maybe 1 out of 10 reads a piece of it, 1 out of 100 actually sits there and analyzes it, and that's on a good day. So when we do events on campus, we focus in, we do what I call street theater. It's called campus activism, but we're trying to really get people to be interested, and then give them some good takeaways.

So last semester, I'll share with you, we did one called "Bring Them Home," and it's about our foreign policy. And it's really just talking about ending nation building, ending this idea of policing the world, and really getting students to analyze that, hey, maybe we shouldn't have troops in 120 or 130+ countries, 800 or 900 bases around the world, having those conversations with students. And we have these big spin wheels that we send out with pretty much the last seven countries that we've bombed, and the students get an opportunity to spin them. Now, this might seem a little in-your-face or it might seem a little radical, but I mean, we like to think that our foreign policy right now is pretty radical and that we're spreading ourselves too thin.

And the students will spin it, and let's say they land on Afghanistan. So it's a mock draft, if you will. That's what we're doing on campus. And students from all different backgrounds, ideologically different, apathetic, they'll spin it, they land on Afghanistan, and we're going to talk to them. We'll give them a really quick fact sheet, something sexy and short and to the

point, talking about why we're in Afghanistan, and the need to bring them home. And that's why we call it "Bring Them Home."

But to start that dialogue with students based on an idea — because you're right, the Constitution and some of the more in-depth works in literature and the long-form books, it's tough to penetrate with students. And so what we like to do, if we can get them to show some interest in our foreign policy and have a real discussion, even if it's for 60 seconds, Tom, on campus, then we'll bring them to our Young Americans for Liberty meeting. We can watch a more long-form, let's say documentary. The students will have a debate or a discussion. But it's about getting them to just take a little nugget, take a little nibble, show some interest, be exposed to the ideas, and then get them to a meeting, they can hear a speaker. That's when we want to start getting them interested in understanding the Constitution, the principles, and I think you're right that the Constitution is a little too in-depth for people on the street corner, but I think that getting people engaged, that's why we do the street theater, to reach them where they're at and get them at least exposed and hopefully to garner interest.

WOODS: Cliff, what is something that older Americans for liberty can do to help Young Americans for Liberty?

MALONEY: Yeah, so as I like to put it, there's three major things that we look for as an organization to succeed. The first is students. So obviously that is who we are impacting. We're trying to recruit students, and so if anyone has college-aged individuals in their lives — whether it's kids, whether it's nieces, nephews, grandkids — connect them with us. YALiberty.org, you can see what we're up to, and you can get them involved, get them to sign up. The second thing is, if there are different people who are looking to get involved, whether it's to run for office, whether it's to do something as a professional career or to start a local group, maybe not a YAL group, but to get involved and spread liberty, they can always reach out to us. So if there are people that are looking to take the next step in a much more direct way as a professional, we'd love to help them look at opportunities and strategize with them.

And the third way is funding. We're always looking for ways that we can provide more materials for our students, more literature, more activism, just cool gear and swag, and to train our students. We're doing five major training events this year. We're going to train at least 400 students in each of them. And that's a way for students to get exposed to the ideas, to learn the tactics, to message. And I don't mean just politically; I mean, just in general. How do you reach other people with the principles of liberty? So funding is the big thing we ask from a lot of supporters and older Americans, if you will, to help us continue to reach people, to pay for the trainings, to pay for the supplies.

But there are tons of ways to get involved, and like I said, YALiberty.org and on Twitter at @YALiberty, we're always looking to kind of grow and figure out how we can be more effective. And that's the word I love to use with our team and with our activists: how do we become more effective at reaching people with the principles of liberty? Because that's the name of the game here. We've got to get more people in the door, and we've got to do it without watering down the message. That's one of my biggest pet peeves, is people are always trying to tell me how if you just tone it down on this or tone it down on that — no, we've got to figure out how to tone it and tune it in so that it connects with people, but doing so without losing the core message of what we're trying to do.

WOODS: Well, sounds very good. So it's YALiberty.org, just to repeat?

MALONEY: Yes, YALiberty.org and on Twitter, @YALiberty.

WOODS: Okay, so I'll also have those links at TomWoods.com/341. So if folks want to help you out, and when they darn well should because you've been doing important work for — I guess it's about ten years, right? Was it after 2009 that it was started?

MALONEY: Yeah, so it was December of 2008. So we just passed our —

WOODS: Just passed ten years. How about that?

MALONEY: Yeah, so we're having a good old time, and as Ron always taught us: you want to spread liberty, you need young people and you need music. So we're working on it.

WOODS: Well, listen, if also anybody listening to this — I have plenty of people listening who are young and who are college students. If you'd like to start a chapter on campus, I'm sure if you go to YALiberty.org, you can find instructions on how to do that. So by all means, check that out. Thanks so much, Cliff.

MALONEY: Thanks again, Tom. I appreciate everything you do.