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## **Another freedom taken away**

Once upon a time, Canadians had a strange right called freedom of choice.

Little by little, the nanny state exemplified by Premier Dad McGuinty, the county, municipality and assorted do-gooders decided that they knew better than individuals what was good for them.

Wednesday's (Nov. 10) Burlington Post revealed the latest decision that the city has assumed on my behalf.

It has been decreed that I can no longer buy bottled water at the concessions in Burlington arenas and recreation centres. This latest enforcement ignores the fact that I may not like the taste of the public water supply or simply prefer to choose for myself. However, our civic watchdogs know better than I what course I must follow.

As usual, there are a handful of exemptions for the privileged few just as there was for golf courses when I had my right to use herbicides and insecticides on my lawn removed not so long ago. I still am permitted to grow my weed of choice regardless of whether my neighbours wish to share this or not.

If others care to count their remaining freedoms in Burlington they might conclude, as I have, that these are few.

Even in schools, parents cannot let their children bring peanut products for lunch because a small number might be allergic.

In other words, the majority's wishes count for nothing — the state decides!

Nowadays, I must sort my garbage as the county decrees, thus reducing their costs to separate it, yet taxes never were reduced correspondingly.

May I suggest that city hall issue a short list of permitted activities so the public isn't left with the problem of making individual decisions.

What has Canada come to?

Graham Gilmour, Burlington