

POLITICS

The original document titled "POLITICS" described the despicable state of our current federal government under Trump's stupid and destructive lack of leadership. After reading it, a person might have been left with feelings of despair and disgust. To lighten the mood, a humorous note titled "WHAT IS POLITICS?" was added. The result is 2 sections; POLITICS (ORIGINAL) and WHA IS POLITICS.

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A. PLITICS (ORIGINAL)

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ABBREVIATIONS: TBD = to be determined, to be defined, SS= social security.

I am a 92 year old white male who is appalled by the unbelievably stupid and destructive behavior of our current leadership of the U S federal government. The Georgia state government is nearly as bad. The current leadership is the #1 item that must be changed in the next election. Its effect on the following subjects are items to think about: Economy, Taxes, Voting procedure, Health care, Social security, Environment, Equal rights and opportunity, Immigration, Gun regulations, Education, White supremacy, Male supremacy, and the Covid 19 pandemic.

DUMP TRUMP, DITCH MITCH, KILL BILL

President Donald J. Trump, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and Attorney General Bill Barr have destroyed the Republican party and are trying to destroy our democratic form of government. They should be sentenced to death for their treasonous and treacherous behavior. Their male and white supremacist cronies, Vice President Mike Pence, and all Republican Senators should receive prison sentences for their support and approval of the 3 traitors. Trump is a close friend of Russian leader Vladimir Putin, our major adversary. Also, Trump can be compared to Adolph Hitler. Hitler was responsible for the deaths of many thousands of German citizens in WW II (a duration of 3 to 5+ years). Trump is responsible for the deaths of many thousands of U S citizens in the last 3+ years. Most of the deaths have occurred in the last 6 months because of Trump's denial of the covid 19 viral pandemic.

Other Trump cronies who need to be removed from office are: David Perdue, Georgia Senator; Brian Kemp, Georgia Governor; Lindsey Graham, South Carolina Senator; and many more. Enough democratic senators need to replace Republican senators running for office to produce a democratic majority senate.

These traitors have divided the American people into warring tribes. If they are not defeated in the election to be held in 4 months, our country will be engaged in a civil war which may end in our nuclear annihilation.

THE ECONOMY and TAXES

For the past 7 decades, the economy has operated under a "trickle down theory" which passes profits earned by a large corporation through its organization chart from the top down. Because of the greed of the leaders through which the profits pass, this theory does not work and has resulted in an extremely unfair distribution of wealth. Using an opposite theory may not be the best approach but can't be any worse than the existing one. Therefore, we should try a "trickle up approach" in which the federal government would give poor people (poor TBD) money (amount TBD) to buy items needed for a normal existence. A need to resupply these items will create jobs for others who will spend their wages on their needs (and so on up the line). The result should be a thriving economy.

Another opposite to consider is a maximum wage. Much effort has been applied to establish a minimum wage of \$15/hour. In the interest of a redistribution of wealth to correct our current lopsided distribution, a maximum wage (amount TBD) might be established. In the interest of simplifying our tax code and eliminating its loopholes, the number of tax rates should be greatly reduced; low or none for minimum wage earners up to 100% for earnings above the maximum wage. All earnings below the minimum would be illegal. All earnings should include: wages, interest, dividends, inheritance, and capital gains.

VOTING PROCEDURES

The method for electing a president currently uses an electoral college and electors. It was chosen at a time when communications between candidates and voters was non-existent. At that time the voters did not know who the candidates were, what they thought, or how they behaved. Today, with TV, cellphones, and the internet, the voters know the candidates and they don't know the electors. It is time to abolish the electoral college and elect the president by popular vote.

A non-political organization which collects and distributes the historical activities and accomplishments of candidates up for election would be helpful. Voters need to be informed of the behavior and views of the potential leaders of our three branches of government.

Since the Republican party has been nearly destroyed, the former Republicans may want to form a new party. This might be a good opportunity to form new parties. Converting from the 2 party system to multi-parties could provide a more diverse selection of causes, issues, approaches, and attitudes in an election. Small parties can form coalitions by merging and splitting to champion specific causes. Party names might include: Conservative, Liberal, Independent, Socialist, Capitalist, Environmental, Labor, Health, Arts, Educational, Science, Preservation, Farm, etc. Our bipartisan government could become a multi-partisan government.

HEALTH CARE

Medicare for older people seems to be working. Expanding Medicare coverage for everyone should be an option. Coverage for people with pre-existing conditions is mandatory. People who like their existing coverage should have the option of refusing to convert to Medicare. Drug sources (both prescription and over the counter) should be expanded to include drugs made in Canada. This would create competition for U. S. pharmaceutical companies.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security (SS) should be self-sustaining to provide coverage for future generations. The irresponsible practice by congressional lawbreakers of stealing SS funds and replacing them with worthless IOU's must be stopped immediately. Additional funds could be provided by continuing payroll deductions for the entire year. The retirement age can be slowly increased. Find a way to increase contributions from wealthy individuals while decreasing their payments at retirement.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Our planet is being destroyed by giant cartels and bad governments around the world. Our president is ignoring scientists and contributing to this destruction. We must reduce the use of fossil fuels and stop big oil companies from desecrating our wilderness areas. We should practice energy and resource conservation and reforestation. We should stop the practice of fracking. Clean air and clean water are essential for good health. The environment is global but our control is limited to our

country. We can lead the world in pollution reduction but only if our leaders believe that a clean environment is a necessity.

IMMIGRATION

Past experience reveals that more than 95% of immigrants are an asset to the U. S. which means that less than 5% are undesirables. These percentages are my views and may not be accurate. If true, why penalize the desirable 95+% because of the 5-% bad apples? It seems that the real problem is identifying the people in the 95+% and 5-% groups and dealing with each appropriately. That said, what is needed is a way to track the activities of all immigrants. When a person is born in the U. S., he/she is assigned a social security (SS) number and issued a SS card. I propose that when an immigrant enters the U. S., he/she be assigned an immigrant information (II) number and issued an II card. When the immigrant passes a citizenship test and is declared a U. S. citizen, their identification should be changed from II to SS. The information associated with each II number is fluid and changes with time. Information updates could be a problem. Ten year updates could coincide with the census. More frequent updates are desirable. How does the SSA maintain current information associated with SS numbers? If immigrant quotas are still deemed necessary, they should include provisions for people fleeing dangerous conditions and repressive regimes.

GUN REGULATIONS

Instead of regulating guns that people buy, why not regulate the ammunition they use? I propose an extremely high tax rate on ammunition; a 400% tax rate would result in a 5x increase in the cost of ammunition. However, firearms designed for use by an army to kill the enemy should not be available to the general public. Background checks should be required. The requirement of a license to purchase guns and ammo. might be useful.

EQUAL RIGHTS

All people should be treated equally without regard to gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, color, class, creed, or origin. White supremacists are undesirables and those inciting trouble should be prosecuted. Male supremacists are undesirables and should be voted out of office. Why do white male legislators think they can dictate a woman's reproductive choices? Laws against family planning should be repealed. Why are blacks imprisoned disproportionately? The right of free speech is not a license to divide and hate.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The difference in the education of blacks and whites since World War II is a glaring example of unequal opportunity. Other examples are in jobs, housing, and social acceptance. The attitude of whites on blacks is improving but still needs much work.

ACCOUNTABILITY

All government employees, leaders included, should be accountable for their actions. No leader should be immune from investigation, prosecution, conviction, or incarceration for committing a felony. This particularly applies to the President and Vice President, the Attorney General, (and other Cabinet members), and the House and Senate leaders.

Improved communications and cooperation between government agencies would be helpful. Civil discourse during discussions and/or disagreements must be encouraged.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

FDA, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION:

EPA, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:

HHS, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT.:

FEM A, FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

ICE, IMMIGRATION CONTROL(?) AND ENFORCEMENT:

All of the above government agencies have gradually been taken over by rich people, big corporations, and contributors to the republican party. A massive change of leadership and a major personnel housecleaning must be undertaken following the democratic victory in the November election.

Recently, Trump replaced the postmaster general with one of his inept cronies. Before the change, the USPS, US POST OFFICE had remained independent and free of undue influence. After the change, the postal service has deteriorated in a deliberate attempt by Trump to sabotage the delivery of mail in ballots in the upcoming election. Other agencies may need personnel changes next year.

COVID 19

Any federal, state, or local government leader who forbids the use of face masks or of safe distance separation should be found guilty of attempted murder.

B. WHAT IS POLITICS INQUIRY

A little boy goes to his dad and asks, "What is politics?" Dad says, "Well son let me try to explain it this way: I'm the breadwinner of the family, so let's call me Capitalism. Your mom, she's the administrator of the money, so we'll call her the Government. We're here to take care of your needs, so we'll call you the People. The nanny, we'll call her the Working Class. And your baby brother, we'll call him the Future. Now think about that and see if that makes sense."

INVESTIGATION

So the little boy goes off to bed thinking about what his dad had said. Later that night, he hears his baby brother crying, so he gets up to check on him. He finds that the baby has severely soiled his diaper. So the little boy goes to his parents room and finds his mother sound asleep. Not wanting to wake her, he goes to the nanny's room. Finding the door locked, he peeks in the keyhole and sees his father in bed with the nanny. He gives up and goes back to bed.

CONCLUSION

The next morning, the little boy says to his father, "Dad, I think I understand the concept of politics now." The father says. "Good son, tell me in your own words what you think politics is all about." The little boy replies, "Well, while Capitalism is screwing the Working Class, the Government is sound asleep, the People are being ignored, and the Future is in deep shit."