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UNDERSTANDING TRUMP SUPPORTERS

By Stephen L. Bakke 🏁 July 17, 2017



Here's what provoked me:

What is it that motivates Trump supporters? Sometimes it feels good and often it defies logic. I made an honest but feeble attempt to find an explanation.

Here's my response:

Understanding Trump Supporters

Trump is often crude, course, and lacks dignity. He's delivering on promises and can successfully exploit his "bad boy charm." His detractors' heads spin in confusion, and I find some humor in that. But when asked to fully explain my continued support of Trump, I've been at a loss. Then an article ("He Fights") by Evan Sayet inspired me to look in a different direction when analyzing Trump supporters. Here are some of his thoughts and also my own.

The "Alinsky method" was the subject of Hillary's senior thesis. And Obama taught the "Alinsky method" to community organizers in Chicago. Alinsky believed in: *Ridiculing the opposition and making it personal.* The democrats did that in recent years and Trump seems to be borrowing that playbook.

Paraphrasing Evan Sayet: We tried dignity with Bush; we tried collegiality with McCain; we tried propriety with Romney. And the results were always the same. Republicans haven't been effective at fighting back. So, I think many conservatives are supportive of Trump's inclination to fight back in his own way. We chose a fighter, and he gets to choose his tactics. While not all of his tactics are popular, perhaps they are subliminally satisfying.