

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**
WHAT'S THE MESSAGE?
LISTEN TO NON-VOTERS! or
A REPUBLICAN MANDATE! –
Here's the message
I'm getting!

By Stephen L. Bakke  November 9, 2014



Here's what provoked me:

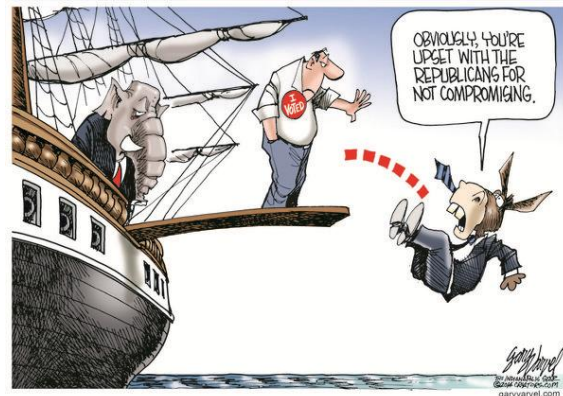
In a single edition I found numerous claims from both political extremes that I didn't agree with. I interpret these letters and other rhetoric I have heard as something quite different. So I penned this response.

Here's my response:

What's the Message? Listen to non-voters! vs. It's a Republican Mandate!
– Here's the message I'm getting!

The President and Democrats acknowledge they lost and are listening to the public – but they are also listening closely to the “non-voters.” In other words, Republicans won because Democrat voters stayed home out of frustration!

Some Republicans claim they have a “mandate.” In response to that I quote John Hawkins: “GOP leaders shouldn't forget that they won because Obama sucks, not because they're great.”



I'm seeing something quite different. Letters from both extremes (Sunday 11-9) demonstrate this! Concepts and descriptions used include: Republican mandate; “demon” democrats “exorcized”; impeachment; deep pocketed “One Percenters”; Republicans are racist, bigoted, saboteurs, haters; etc.

This results from class warfare and race bating by our President and many Democrats. They use the word “hate” too loosely in their rhetoric about Republicans, and many followers believe it. And the resulting resentment from Republicans is palpable.

(Continued)

I assure Democrats that my disagreement implies neither hatred nor racism. A recent survey evaluated what Democrats and Republicans really “feel about each other.” The strength of emotion was with the Democrats who saw Republicans as “evil.” Republican feelings were less venomous – describing Democrats as merely wrong and dangerous!

An important message is: **Be careful which side you accuse of hatred.**

Postscript:

“Remember,” said Ronald Reagan, “we have opponents; we don’t have enemies.” That’s why President Reagan was so successful in gaining the respect and affection of the American people. Even people who did not like his policies liked him.