

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC":**
REPUBLICAN
PRESIDENTIAL
CHOICES:
HOW WILL
IT HAPPEN?



By Stephen L. Bakke  September 22, 2015

Here's what provoked me:

A letter writer wisely celebrated the contrast of choices offered by having many republican candidates. She also suggested we should now be able to eliminate "all but five." I felt like enhancing and extending her analysis by predicting the dynamics influencing the inevitable reduction of candidates.

Here's my response:

Republican Presidential Choices: How Will it Happen?

On 9-22, Barbara Bellino celebrated the opportunities of "our most precious gift – the future." She applauded the contrast of choices offered by having many republican candidates. Then she suggested we should now be able to eliminate "all but five." I've done just that, but that disclosure isn't my message. Rather, I'll suggest what will be the dynamics going into the inevitable reduction of candidates.

Trump's chances are soon to be significantly reduced – then eliminated. Trump's lead has "topped out" for a very simple reason: he's made too many enemies among his competition, and that emotion extends to their supporters.

As these weaker candidates inevitably withdraw, Trump will receive very few supporters from those vanquished challengers. Trump has talked about their looks, their stupidity, their cowardice, their lack of experience, and their negotiating ability. And most of it has been little more than indefensible "trash-talk."

The number of candidates will gradually thin and their supporters will go to "anybody but Trump." Trump will also lose some of his existing support – it's already happening. He'll eventually get the hint that he can't win. He'll then declare "victory" and move on to "a new game."

My message: Trump is toast!