

Who speaks for you?

This last election pretty much foretold the future for us Conservatives. We're now marginalized on a local, state and federal level. Many of us have no elected state representatives that speak for us or our ideology. Here in New Mexico, we've essentially become a one-party state. I have no Congressman, no Senator and no Governor that espouses my political beliefs. We have a legislature that's 64% Democrat controlled. Our major cities have Left-wing mayors. Our City Councils are dominated by partisan Progressives or ultra-Leftist Liberals. Our school boards are in the pocket of teachers' unions. Our police forces are under pressure to go soft on criminals and our economy and even our churches are controlled by a power-hungry chief executive and whose decisions are rubber-stamped by her legislative minions.

We've just passed new laws in our state that will put all of us at risk by giving an official government imprimatur to 'recreational' (read: indiscriminate and unregulated) marijuana use. It seems that there is no one brave enough to speak up on behalf of those of us who prize reason, common sense and traditional American values. It can be disheartening when we see our newly-elected President lie to us on national television about what he falsely calls 'Jim Crow' voting laws, about our failed border policy, about what constitutes 'infrastructure' and about America's institutional racism. Add to that his blatant hypocrisy about wanting to 'unite us' while dismissing Republican Congressional and Senate representatives' opinions out of hand and tells them, effectively, to 'go pound sand.'

We on the Right and those of us in the Middle must not despair. We cannot throw in the towel and simply wait until the next election in 2022 to make our voices heard, for if we do, it will be too late. The Left is gaining strength and circling the wagons. It is co-opting corporate America into its web of 'cancel culture' and pressuring them to commit to more 'diversity' and 'equity' - for whom? For minorities that are characterized as 'oppressed.' They are playing to the fears of CEOs about being accused of racism. They are extorting money to bankroll their cause of de-funding the police, reducing criminal penalties for actual crimes while criminalizing ideological disagreement. They are Hell-bent on limiting our free speech, tearing down the USA and re-writing its history to prove their point. They are intent on indoctrinating our children from pre-K on up and pushing new-age genderism on them, and they will, given the opportunity, make them inform on any parent who dares disagree with their teachers.

The Left has seemingly won the battle for the media, the social media and corporate America. They have elected officials' control, government agencies' control and control of the bureaucrats' *deep state*. They now have the means, the motive and the opportunity to perpetrate any crime they choose on the rest of us.

The more optimistic among us will disagree with that statement. They will tell you that we still have a few radio and TV stations that are brave enough to go up against the Left. They will also say that we have a few powerful think tanks and political organizations and special interest and general interest groups that are waging a valiant war against the Progressives. They will point to the 50 Republican Senators and the slim three-vote Democrat majority in the House and say that THAT'S reason for optimism. The bald truth is, however, that we cannot rely solely on these people and organizations to carry ordinary Conservative Americans' water.

They need help - our help - to push back against the coming tidal wave of social engineering, economic and taxation malpractice, increased border chaos, escalation of crime and the harm that will be caused by the Left's implementation of a lethal cocktail of phony racism and 'White privilege' claims along with a push for diversity and equity brainwashing of the most vulnerable in our society. Whether we are willing to concede it or not, American Conservatives, Independents and Libertarians have reached the tipping point. It's time to put aside our minor policy differences and choose sides. Either we give in to the Left's phony cries to unify and find 'civil discourse' (translated: surrender to their demands) or we fight back, preferably non-violently, and most

certainly with a strong commitment to be willing to suffer even more discrimination, doxxing, name-calling, vilification and more government control like we've seen during the Coronavirus pandemic. Pushing back can take many forms, but one thing it requires more than anything else is something that Republicans have been weak at for decades...cooperation with all the special interest groups that have carved out protected economic fiefdoms for themselves and the various 'wings' of the Party.

In short, to succeed, we need to see the forest for the trees and concentrate on the long game rather than winning marginal one-off victories. Many pundits will say, "That's impossible. We have to win, incrementally." They're wrong. We cannot win BIG by thinking small. The political Right must build its resistance strategy on simple logic that everyman can understand along with support for our basic freedoms that are enshrined in our Bill of Rights and Constitution.

If we are to preserve those freedoms we must present our arguments simply and forcefully and in a way that resonates and strikes a chord with the *individual* whether that individual is a man or woman, is Black or White, young or old, rich or poor or who lives in a rural or urban environment. We need to call this argument what it is, something that is truly American to its core. It is THE proposition that attracted millions of immigrants to this country and continues to this very day (even though many on the Left will reject its existence or if they do acknowledge it will claim that it creates more victims than winners). It is called "enlightened self-interest" and is based on the principle of basic human nature, that each individual has an inherent wish (and right) to do his own personal best to succeed and that when he does, society as a whole benefits.

We can leave the details about how government and the private sector can help those who slip through the cracks in the system to quibble over later. I say that not to diminish the importance of helping those who cannot help themselves; I say it because time is not on our side and we cannot do both at the same time with the same intensity. If we fail to make this essential argument soon there will be no opportunity for discussion because the Left is reinforcing its numbers and is out to silence any opposition to the present Administration's plans to completely reverse the course taken by the Trump Administration over the last four years.

The choice is simple: pick your side now or sign over your lives to those who would remove that choice from you...permanently.

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