

## Hypocrites, whiners and ingrates

I've always accepted the fact that politicians are rarely what they seem to be, that they frequently play to their audiences, pander and put on airs. It is part of the job, and for many part of their nature. In times past, I always appreciated that there was an unspoken pact among actors and athletes that they would concentrate on doing what they did best - act or perform on the field or court - and left their politics in their makeup kits or their gym bags.

This last year has seen the dissolution of that pact and the floodgates have opened to allow every pampered multi-million dollar athlete or actor become activists. The athletes have knelt in disrespect of our national anthem. They have emblazoned their jerseys with BLM slogans and their actor celebrity friends have used every media outlet and platform to denounce our President and our country - the same country that has provided all of them with an opportunity to become rich and famous.

What once was one of America's strengths - the ability to market, promote and sell - has become our undoing. We have forgotten that we only exist in harmony with one another as people, organizations, political parties and ideologies because we exercise good judgment and observe the unwritten rules of social appropriateness. Put plainly, there is a time and a place for everything, and that while freedom of speech is a precious right we should all defend, there is no requirement for us to say literally anything to literally anybody on literally any occasion for literally any reason.

I'm proud to be part of one of the last two generations (the 'Baby Boomers' and the 'Silent Generation') who were brought up at a time when mutual respect ranked high on everybody's list of preferential attributes. It pains me to say that we are part of a vanishing breed and to quote the 'Book of Origins' we're all going to Hell in a hand basket. (By the way, that phrase referred to the gold rush where men were lowered by hand in baskets down mining shafts to set off dynamite. If the miners didn't get out quickly enough, it was referred to as 'going to Hell in a hand basket.')

I can hear younger readers say, "Typical older generation complaint." I do believe, however, that there are many younger people who are feeling that this great country of ours which includes politicians, actors, athletes, corporations and special interest groups is not respecting them as well and they are wondering how to push back.

There's a tidal wave coming. I'm referring to a possible wave of Progressivism that will be created by a rejection of Donald Trump and his Conservative politics in three short weeks' time. A Joe Biden/Kamala Harris win will give permission to a pent-up wave of change that will sweep over our country and drown the last vestiges of free speech along with our prized American individuality.

The 'Progressive States of America' will bankrupt our treasury and drain the reservoir of our traditional American values. It will usher in the militarization of political correctness that will manifest itself through peer pressure (to abide by the 'right' government-mandated guidelines), and through phony patriotism (mask-up or get out, for example). No longer would the teaching of American history be confined to the facts; it would be the equivalent of the Democrats' view of interpreting our Constitution as a 'work in progress' and we will all be expected to take on the burden of guilt for the 'sins of our fathers.'

The victim class will be expanded to include criminals, lay-a-bouts, the homeless, illegal aliens and anyone with the slightest tinge of color to their skins. And let's not forget those poor non-binary people who see their gender as something fluid - something they can use to their advantage in moving up the corporate or academic ladder. Oh, and speaking of ladders, they will be considered racist as ladders represent White repression and barriers to progress, not the actual means to the end in a vibrant meritocracy.

Yes, we are living on borrowed time. The millennials are nipping at our heels and counting the days to our demise. "Get out of the way, grandpa and grandma. It's our turn to re-make America, and you had better take your antiquated notions with you. We want EQUALITY, not that old fashioned brand of equality but REAL equality, the kind that comes from getting something for nothing."

Millennials scare the Hell out of me, and they should. Why? Because they are the most liberal-leaning generation and because they are expected to surpass the Baby Boom generation in sheer numbers (75 million) by 2033. Right now, more millennial households are living in poverty than any other generation and they're angry about it. They're also angry that while they represent 35% of the U.S. workforce and 40% of all White voters, millions of them are out of work and they are still deeply in debt to greedy colleges.

If Biden becomes President you can be sure that they will be standing in line to get repaid for giving him their votes (in 2008 millennials turned out in record numbers to vote the first half-Black President into office). They know that they are a force to be reckoned with and so do the campaigns. Unfortunately for the Trump campaign, only about 16% of millennials identify with conservative ideals while 57% of them like bigger government. Granted, millennials aren't the only big voter demographic, but they do wield power...if they show up on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Back to respect and civility and all the celebrity and athlete activists. By buying into the Black Lives Matter movement and tacitly agreeing with all the revolutionaries that are destroying our shops and streets, these people are driving away even the most hard-core sports enthusiasts and creating animosity among the very people that they depend on for their mega-salaries. This goes for all the nut job actors who suffer from terminal 'TDS' (Trump Derangement Syndrome). We oldsters may forget what we had for breakfast, but many of us have great memories when it comes to smart aleck actors and media personalities who revel in taking pot shots at our President. (You all know who they are so I don't have to go down the list for you.)

While these spoiled brats anger me and I bemoan the sad state of affairs they are creating by not keeping their traps shut and just concentrating on their jobs, I'm not worried about myself. I'm concerned for my grandchildren and the kind of country they will be left with when the Progressives have distributed all the wealth and they still can't pay the nation's bills. At that point, I'll be speeding towards my expiration date, but my grandchildren will just be finishing their education and building their careers and lives. The Left will be coming for them and their cash. THEY will be paying the piper for his tunes, not me. That is, unless, somehow we experience another miracle like 2016 and pull ourselves back from the edge of the cliff.

We still have a fighting chance, so let's show those young whippersnappers that we still have a little juice left. VOTE.

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