

Sanity is in short supply

Today was the last straw. After watching the House Judiciary Committee's Democrat members grill our Attorney General, William (Bill) Barr, I have concluded that there is something worse than the deadly Coronavirus that is infecting America. It's called the *arrogance of privilege* and it is running rampant in Washington, DC. After waiting a year to get the AG to appear before their committee, largely because of the Covid-19 virus' spread these last few months, Democrat Congressmen and women treated him to a taste of DC gone crazy as they peppered him with non-stop 'yes or no' questions and then refused to listen to his answers.

I'll give CongRep Nadler and his minions credit; they were well-rehearsed and seemed to speak with one voice. Unfortunately, that voice was accusatory and caustic. Each time the AG tried to answer their rapid-fire anger-laced inquiries, he was cut off by the inquiring member and told, "I'm reclaiming my time" which is DC code for "Shut the Hell up. I have the floor. I'm a protected species - a Congressman - and I don't have to be civil or courteous or respectful. You have to sit there and take everything I'm going to hit you with."

This was a despicable spectacle that played out on nationwide television, and every single American who watched it ought to be incensed over the actions of the Democrat members of what is supposed to be a highly respectable body whose singular goal has always been to be a watchdog for Americans' freedoms. Instead, these duly elected officials checked their good manners and civility at the door and became a pack of rabid attack dogs bent on turning the Attorney General into a co-conspirator of government-sponsored violence against 'peaceful protesters' and puppet of the President by their scurrilous accusations. I don't mind telling you that I wanted to get up off the sofa and strangle the lot of them, and had I been there in the hearing room, someone would have had to restrain me from standing up and calling them all a bunch of low-lives.

I think this hearing has made one thing abundantly clear to all of us...it's high time we need to make some changes in how we conduct our hearings if we are really looking for honest answers to important questions. Maybe one place we can start is by requiring all members of key committees like Nadler's House Judiciary Committee take a public oath before the committee's proceedings begin. It could go something like this: "I (state your name) do solemnly swear that I will only ask questions germane to the issues at hand, will formulate them respectfully and avoid speech-making. Furthermore, I resolve to conduct myself at all times in a manner that reflects honor to the office I hold. Finally, I waive my right to immunity from prosecution for possible slanderous statements I may utter during these proceedings."

Now THAT'S something that might make a difference and help bring back the civility that's been missing since the Republicans lost the majority in the House. We could also take a page from hockey's playbook and construct a penalty box where Congressional Representatives who violate their oath would have to sit until the hearing concludes. In addition to suffering the ignominy of sitting apart from their colleagues, they would not be permitted to go on the regularly-scheduled committee breaks.

I realize that we're deep into an election year and that the Democrats are running scared of President Trump winning re-election, and that could account for their actions today, but something must be done and done, quickly or this abhorrent behavior could become the norm for future committees. Finally, there is one more thing that could disabuse rogue Congressmen from misbehaving. It is quite simply, television.

The offenders would be subjected to having their filmed performances replayed on large-screen television screens set up throughout the capitol building for a thirty-day period as punishment for their transgressions.

If you have any good ideas, please forward them on to the Attorney General. After today's disgraceful performance by the Nadlerites I'm sure he'll be pleased to get them.

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