## Fighting back is the only option

There are many of us who are asking the question, "How can I fight back against the Liberal Left and return to an America First agenda?" Matter of fact, it's probably THE biggest question I get asked when I'm in the company of Conservatives and one I'm only too happy to answer. In 2019, I wrote a whole book on the subject. It was called, "The 11th Hour: What YOU can do to push back the Liberal Left." The book was meant to be a catalyst for personal change and a call to arms <u>and</u> a warning of what could happen if the Democrats won in 2020. Well, the worst has come to pass. We now have a senile, weak and cognitively-challenged President that has surrounded himself with lean and hungry men and women who are intent on reversing all the gains made during the Trump Administration.

And make no mistake; these people are serious, <u>deadly</u> serious about it. They are a human pandemic of hate of America and all of its traditions and freedoms. Why? Because those freedoms stand in the way of their radical agenda. Take away our ability to dissent or disagree and they win. By marginalizing and shaming us, they win. By convincing us that our ancestors were criminals and that because you're White, YOU are an oppressor, they win. By rigging our election system or making it a nationalized enterprise, they win. By indoctrinating our children in critical race theory and turning them against us, they win. By co-opting the media, social media and corporate America into believing that we are a systemically racist nation and that the only way to correct the problem is to pay reparations to millions of fourth generation *victims*; use reverse racism against the White population; demand affirmative action 'diversity' quotas on school boards, corporate boards and in literally every organization, and they win.

They will win IF we don't take them seriously and don't do anything. Oh, we can shake our heads in disbelief at the statements of people like Rashida Tlaib, Ilhan Omar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Nancy Pelosi, Maxine Waters, and a host of governors who talk as if they've ALREADY won, but stopping them will require more than simple head-shaking.

Whether you know it or not...you have the power to change America.

It's not only your vote that is critical to our success. It's the power that resides within you I'm talking about. You have skills, experience, friends, influence, energy, passion and time - all the makings of a successful activist. Yes, I said, activist. Somewhere along the way we allowed that word to become synonymous with destruction. We associated it with torchlight protests, Molotov cocktail-throwing and the moralizing Left that railed at the status quo. No more. If like me you believe that freedom is fragile and now under severe threat you have three choices. You can try to physically move away, somewhere off the grid to one of the freedom-loving Red states where you are protected by reasonable common sense Conservative leaders or you can bury your head in the sand and try to ride out the storm until 2022 or 2024 and hope that the Liberals haven't totally destroyed our economy and our culture in the meantime. The third alternative is to become a Conservative ACTIVIST and stand up, lean in and push back against the Left and their onslaught of false equivalencies and failed ideologies like Marxism and socialism.

Conservative activism is grounded in fairness, opportunity and reward for achievement. We stand for something that is greater than ourselves. It isn't wrapped up in a Socialist or Communist slogan that purports to take "from each according to his abilities (and give) to each according to his needs." But that, my friends, is the basis for the Left's arguments. Simply put, they feel that too many Americans have succeeded at the expense of others. In other words the system is corrupt and doesn't work for everybody. Theirs is the 'gimme' philosophy of government, and you are the ones they've singled out to give...to them. The Liberals are clever and they're devious. They are also not above using any tactic that will win them the brass ring of absolute power and that includes lies, character assassination, de-platforming, ridicule, gas-lighting, doxxing, shaming, destruction of property and using a crisis, any crisis, to their advantage. They are willing to burn down the village, your village, if it gets them what they want.

We needn't look any further than the violent demonstrations in Portland and Seattle and the resultant officially-sanctioned lawlessness and the *defund the police* movement, spearheaded by organizations like 'Black Lives Matter' as proof of that willingness to suspend YOUR liberties. Liberals will point to the January 6th 'insurrection' at our nation's capital as proof that the *real* enemies of America are those of us on the political Right. They are busy spinning their narrative that supporters of Donald Trump are a bunch of White supremacists and 'domestic terrorists-inwaiting,' and if the Left accomplishes that goal, they win. Perhaps their greatest victory to date during these last four months is their stranglehold on our national economy and our society during the Coronavirus pandemic. They have succeeded in scaring an entire country into accepting mask-wearing despite the fact that there is no scientific evidence to support the contention that it protects against the virus. They have managed to turn vaccine-objectors into a new underclass like the 'untouchables' of India and conferred 'Red Badge of Courage' status on those who've acquiesced to the Federal government's (and some state governments') demands to vaxx-up for the 'good of the country.'

Perhaps the most insidious and destructive Democrat tactic is that of implementing identity politics as a means to realize total political domination, and one of their principal goals is to achieve *equity*. Simply put, *equity* is <u>ownership</u>, and the Progressives believe that America's wealth ownership mix is skewed, unbalanced, unfair and advantages only those oppressive Whites who have succeeded <u>because of slavery</u>. If we allow identity politics to continue unchallenged, the Left will win.

## How WE can win!

Our treasured American values are constantly under attack by the Left. To repel this attack will require courage and commitment. There are several things we, the average citizen, can do. But first, we must be willing to **stand up. lean in and push back** at the treachery and lies of the Left. We must realize that they count on our weakness and good naturedness to win THEIR arguments for them. In the past, Republicans and Conservatives have used more civil more *forgiving* rules of engagement when attacked by the Left. We have listened all-too-readily when they have lambasted us with their arguments that were not rooted in facts. We have given them the 'benefit of the doubt' that they were patriotic Americans who simply disagreed with the rest of us...and we've given them the floor to push their ideas on the rest of us. In order for times to change and to return to those values, it is up to us to shed those one-sided rules of engagement and adopt new ones that use incrementalism to OUR advantage. We start by not letting the Left move to point 'B' until we have thoroughly discussed and held them accountable for point 'A.' We must set up a conversational roadblock and hold their feet to the fire when it comes to proving their statements with irrefutable facts - not personal opinions masquerading as facts.

We must also **expand** our circle of like-minded individuals, **band** together and then **stand** together at public gatherings like school board meetings, city council meetings and the like. We'll need to protest when necessary, use the media and any other mass communication that will keep our numbers strong and avoid political in-fighting. The Left would like nothing better than to drive a stake into the heart of our solidarity. We must NOT give them any opportunity to divide and conquer us. If this all sounds like wartime talk it's because we ARE fighting a war for the very survival of our American way of life, one that has served us - all of us, Black, White and all other races - well for over two centuries. It's time to stand up, lean in and push back.

Stephan Helgesen is a retired career U.S. diplomat who lived and worked in 30 countries for 25 years during the Reagan, G.H.W. Bush, Clinton, and G.W. Bush Administrations. He is the author of ten books, four of which are on American politics and has written over 1,100 articles on politics, economics and social trends. He operates a political news story aggregator website, www.projectpushback.com. He can be reached at: stephan@stephanhelgesen.com