

Impeachment overload

I don't know about you, but I'm about ready to turn in my membership to the human race or at least to the 2020 Presidential race. I've had it with the impeachment crusade. There are three principal reasons. The first is that it is nothing more than a transparent exercise on the part of the Democrats to remove a duly and fairly-elected President instead of working with him. The second is that the whole situation is becoming too complex to follow with way too many moving parts. Third, it's almost impossible to separate the lies from the truth.

That said, no matter how hard I try I just can't seem to shrug my shoulders, look the other way and tell myself that this is just the way politics is played in our day and age. I'm sure this is partly due to my upbringing and my parents' insistence that I should always treat people fairly and give them the benefit of the doubt and resist any attempt to destroy them without just cause. I'm perfectly willing to admit that that approach is regarded by people younger than myself as antiquated and irrelevant, but I still have hope that clearer heads will prevail before the hammer falls on a Congressional vote to actually open an impeachment investigation which could be an explosive Pandora's box for the Dems as well as for the Rs.

Unfortunately, what we have seen during the last few weeks by Chairman of the House' Intelligence Committee, Rep. Adam Schiff, is the blatant machinations of a hanging judge backed up by a calcified career politician. I'm speaking, of course, of the Speaker of the House, the veteran Congressional Representative, Nancy Pelosi, a permanent resident of the west coast land of Oz, who has held elected office since 1987.

I'm afraid that the Democrats' actions on impeaching Trump accurately reflect our times which demand that one's opponents be totally vanquished or banned rather than seek compromise solutions to even the tiniest problems. We must face facts. The new Democrat-dominated Congress has absolutely failed in its mandate to legislate anything of substance. Like unruly children, they have spit in the faces of their constituents and told them that nothing matters except removing Donald Trump from office...and are content with breaking with House protocol in doing it.

Impeachment should never be the solution to an ideological disagreement, but the House Dems believe it to be enough to put the country through another one, this time a year before the people themselves will decide if they want to keep their President or trade him in. This is what baffles me, their short memories of the Clinton impeachment and how it wounded the Republicans who were conducting it. Former Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, and many other Rs admit it. In light of those admissions you'd think that the Ds would choose another approach, but 'no' the venom in their veins has reached their brains and nothing else matters. "Throw the bum out" is their chant like angry baseball fans shouting at the umpire.

My personal opinion is that the Dems know they can't win at the November 2020 ballot box with radical candidates like Sanders and Warren so they are intent on inflicting as much pain as they can on the sitting President in the hopes of turning him into a lame duck for four years. Can this tactic work? Some will argue that it's worked up until now, but the Ds forget that there's another election for the House and Senate coming up in one year and they could lose big time with the voters if they choose gridlock over governance. I'm willing to concede that I may be attributing far more intelligence, forethought and battle-savvy to the Ds than they deserve, but I doubt it. They have shown themselves to be textbook zealots and clearly up to the task of waging Kamikaze-like warfare. The only trouble is that the rest of us are on the decks of the ship they're attacking...and that includes the people that elected them.

Stephan Helgesen is a retired career U.S. diplomat who lived and worked in 30 countries for 25 years. He is the author of three books on American politics and has written over 1,000 articles on politics, economics and social trends. He can be reached at: stephan@stephanhelgesen.com