

To the Editor December 16, 2019

A Sad Story

We humans are all flawed beings who make mistakes and sometimes do bad things, yet we are all entitled to the possibility of redemption. Please allow me to tell you a sad but true story of one of us who may be an exception to that rule.

Once upon a time, there was this city slicker who inherited millions of dollars from his father, starting as a teenager. These dollars were obtained in a dubious manner, and passed down as gifts to avoid taxes. He used this money to buy his way through life, fake his way through school, and learned little about empathy for others or about the larger world around him. He would buy his way out of military service and bully his way through businesses while his six bankruptcies left a wake of unpaid small businesses, and more than a thousand lawsuits against him. He never really did anything for anyone but himself or his family.

He married three times, sired four children, and had affairs with a porn star and a playboy model, one during the pregnancy of his third wife. He then sought political office since he had money but desired power. These affairs became a problem for his public image, so he secretly paid these women off and then conspired with a newspaper to make sure their stories were hidden from voters during the election.

He successfully gamed the electoral system and achieved political office, but broke campaign finance laws in the process. But since he couldn't be indicted while in office, he skated past this problem as well. He paid a \$25 million dollar settlement fine on a fraud charge related to his university, and misuse of his nonprofit funds resulted in an additional \$5 million dollar fine. But these settlements are fully tax deductible, so this really didn't matter that much to him.

If this person is unrepentant, would this be someone you would tolerate or embrace in your family, as a friend? As your mayor, congressman, or senator? Your President?

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