

The Statue of Liberty is sailing out to sea

I heard someone on a podcast joke about being a Communist for believing that for-profit healthcare in the US is a bad thing. Actually I believe that they should be placed among the many Democratic Socialist's in this country for having this belief. I personally believe that our grandchildren and their children will be ashamed of us for allowing corporations to profit from the pain and suffering of other people under this system that allows for the maximizing of shareholder value at the expense of our injured, disabled, frail, and elderly.

Democratic Socialism as many are not fully aware of, surrounds us Americans every day from the city, village, town, county, state, and Interstate roads we drive on, the places where we send our children to school, the government buildings we visit for services, the schools and libraries where we check out books, (that are not now banned) the water and sanitation services, the trash and recycling collections, the non-profit agencies that serve the public, non-profit hospitals and elder care facilities, and the postal mail we have delivered to us every day. We provide publically funded (socialist) services to the elderly, handicapped, disabled, and children via Medicare, Medicaid, SSDI, SSI, Social Security, WIC, Supplemental Nutrition or SNAP (@\$6 per day), housings FPHA, heating assistance, school lunch and breakfast for children, tribal TANF for historically decimated Native Americans, hospital and medical services for veterans, and Internet connection assistance or ACP.

After seeing the impact of four years of MAGA, the illegalities, the amoral behaviors, the grift and graft, the political corruption, and the coin-operated transactional nature of these people, Americans know exactly what they are voting for. Then you can add to that what Republican local and state legislators have done and continue to do to terrorize and oppress people.

Anyone who now votes for *_any_* Republican politician expose themselves as being morally bankrupt in my view.

The Republican party has become nothing more than a dime store front on a sociopathic, fascist, terrorist organization.

There is so much more, but first some definition of terms from Dictionary.com:

Communist (a person who is regarded as supporting politically leftist or subversive causes)

Very few Americans favor this approach, now or in the past, and those are typically referred to as anarchists. Or in the case of the MAGA/QAnon followers, insurrectionists.

Democratic Socialist (a modified form of socialism, *common in the United States, achieved by a gradual transition by and under democratic political processes*)

These are largely those who see their government as their only hedge (protection) against the corporate eminent domain and manifest destiny personal data harvesting, surveillance capitalism, environment destroying, and economic warfare (price fixing and gouging) of the vulture capitalist monopolies.

Corporations have become like great vampire squids wrapped around the face of humanity, relentlessly jamming their blood-funnels into anything that smells like profitable personal data.

They also believe in stopping the privatization of public resources through government and industry collusion. “They want to know how much you will pay for what you used to get for free” (Tom Petty)

They are however somewhat wary of excessive government power, but also recognize that government has provided the roads for commerce to thrive, rural electrification, urban and rural free mail delivery, weather forecasting, the Internet, investments in green energy solutions, educational grants PELL, and benefits, space exploration funding, agricultural subsidies, job training, housing assistance HUD, Title IX funding, the promotion of both civil and human rights, utility funding, death benefits, and many other significant benefits to its citizens and to all of mankind.

1. This is also a government however who punishes whistleblowers for revealing war crimes, accusing them of having blood on their hands, while not punishing the actual war criminals who actually do have blood on their hands.
2. A government whose foreign policies include meddling in other countries governments to obtain imperialist powers and ambitions. And then starting wars to profit from the extraction of critical resources.
3. A government who stations young men at nearly 800 military bases in more than 70 countries around the world that ensure the undemocratic government policies and moral decay of those societies. They teach S. Korean soldiers to kill their N. Korean cousins rather than helping them to improve their rice paper houses and open sewers and all the disease and misery that comes with that.
4. A government who send young idealistic men and women for foreign countries, to assist with infrastructure projects, only to make them part of a continuing corporate colonization and oppression regime.
5. A government who's FBI historically and consistently violates the privacy of Americans and ignores court required mandates. (300k times just recently) <https://www.forbes.com/sites/brianbushard/2023/05/19/fbi-misused-foreign-spy-database-to-target-jan-6-suspects-and-blm-protesters/?sh=6518962867c3>
6. A government who's NSA collects “all the data, all the time” from Americans, despite this being against many laws and our Constitutional afforded rights.
7. A government that separates refugee families (without keeping records) and puts refugee babies in cages.
8. A government that provides massive subsidies (corporate welfare to oil companies despite their record profits.
9. A government that now guts the Clean Air and Water Acts of the 1970's.
10. A government whose' FTC, FCC, EPA, and CPA have become feckless and ineffective governmental agencies.

Sociopathic (a person with a psychopathic personality whose behavior is antisocial, often criminal, and who lacks a sense of moral responsibility or social conscience)

These Republicans continue to value property over people. On 9/11 Bush stood on the rubble and said “the people who knocked these buildings down are going to hear from us”. He didn’t say that those who killed almost **3000** innocent people are going to hear from us. Property over people. They don’t realize or care that you can rebuild property, but you cannot reincarnate people, or undo the hardships or grief inflicted on their families.

- Republican states have more crime and gun violence per capita
- Republican states have more per capita Covid deaths, like Florida. They also have the lowest vaccination rates (lowest educational attainment) because of no thought to other people. This could be seen as the perfect example of the intersection point of science and karma.
- They continue to feed the military contractor hogs (despite massive price gouging) at the expense of services for the poor (highest rates of poverty in the developed world).
- They continue to imprison the poor using a systematically racist judicial system (highest rates in the developed world)
- They continue to discriminate against minorities with systematically racist and bigoted, employment, education, housing, and legal systems.
- Their police (KKK derivatives) continue to kill unarmed black men at an unprecedented rate. “Half-cocked excuses for bullet abuses of anyone darker than tan” (Drive-by Truckers)
- The people gathering at our borders wanting in are not illegals, nor migrants, but are in fact refugees who we are required by law, both National and International, to accept and process. They are refugees escaping the horrific deadly consequences of the CIA meddling in South American and Central American governments, and the historical corruption of these governments. They are refugees escaping the effects of the Climate Crisis, largely created by the US. More will come each and every year, forever.
- They hide behind the flag, and “My country right or wrong” jingo’s, and “Proud to be an American” songs, but they don’t read the Pentagon Papers, the Iraq and Afghanistan War Logs, to see the duplicitous lies that have killed and continue to kill our young American men, including fifty thousand of my generation in Vietnam. They cheer the militarism of our society including professional sports. “Patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel.” Samuel Johnson
- The same is true of those who hide behind Evangelical morals and countenance and reward immoral behaviors.

Fascist (a person who is dictatorial or has extreme right-wing views)

They continue to create discriminatory laws against gays, trans, and other minorities.

They seek to erase and change history by banning certain education and books.

They seek to suppress voting rights by eliminating polling places, reducing days and hours, purging voter lists, Gerrymandering voting districts allowing politicians to pick voters and not the other way around.

They seek minority rule of the majority and support the cruel and ruthless dictators around the world

Their Supreme Court *_selected_* a President in 2000 (draft dodger and later war criminal) though the stoppage of vote counting in the Republican (brother of the candidate) controlled state of Florida. They did this with a standard majority vote. Hell, most important decisions on the school board I served on required a super majority vote (6 of 9).

Their current Supreme Court upends settled law, and sends us backward in time, because they cheated to obtain a right wing majority by not honoring Obama's legitimate appointment.

They plan to scrap birthright US citizenship, in the dying gasp of these mostly male, white dinosaurs.

Terrorist (a person or persons who terrorize or frightens others)

- They pass gun laws that allow anyone to publically carry guns in public, at stores, beaches, movie theaters and bars.
- They allow the mentally ill to purchase guns
- They seek to overturn all child labor laws
- They create and then deny responsibility for the homelessness crisis. Creating this problem is bad, but blaming the victims is pure evil.
- They threaten to crash the economy unless the poor sacrifice to the benefit of the rich
- They threaten the IRS budget because they don't want to pay taxes
- They threatened the justice system because they don't want to be held accountable for their crimes
- They are willing to sacrifice other people's children being dismembered by military bullets so that they can own machine guns and other man jewelry.
- They all now seem to be gathering in Florida and Texas now, where (in a case of cosmic karma) they will experience the worst gun violence, the worst effects of climate change, from the weather and from the influx of those escaping from further south. They will have their low taxes, but also the worst in the nation schools, roads, and healthcare that naturally comes along with that. These are also *_not_* safe spaces for racial or gender minorities or even female majorities.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alangassman/2023/04/07/sunshine-state-becomes-the-firearm-state-floridas-new-permitless-concealed-carry-law/?sh=6f6da820796b>

<https://www.austintexas.gov/departments/open-carry>

<https://naacp.org/articles/naacp-issues-travel-advisory-florida>

<https://www.nea.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/FL%20Dont%20Say%20Gay%20KYR%20-%20Updated2022.06.pdf>
<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/04/13/florida-6-week-abortion-ban-bill-00091965>

To be a Republican politician today is to be anti-government while serving under oath in elected public office. It is to violate, not only their oaths, but most all of the traditional norms, values, and traditions that have served us well for over 200 years. It is to actively feed and promote the worst of human instincts of cruelty, sadism, tribalism, dishonesty, and malice toward their fellow man. As it stands now, American Capitalism exists as too many people, making too much money, doing too many wrong things.

These Republicans who like to project Alpha Male strength and their disdain for woke ideologies (like climate change, fairness, an understanding of history, and compassion) are in the end just sad, frightened, maladjusted, and weak losers. Ones who need to wear four inch shoe lifts to try to stand strong and tall in the eyes of misinformed and duped voters. "Their minds have been mismanaged with great skill." Bob Dylan

The opposite of being woke, is to be asleep to their evil intentions and deeds. Their voters follow those whose heads don't turn with a great deal of velocity, but exhibit real stamina. They have tendency to make a lot of single and two syllable words but are rarely able to herd them toward any discernible meaning other than just another word salad.

Republicans, by and large, run for elected office not for the historic nobility of public service but for the gifted wealth it can provide them, and the power of inflicting the minority views of White Nationalism and Christian Nationalism onto the majority population.

They are by and large empty vessels when it comes to plans and ideas to improve the lives of Americans and enable a more perfect union. In matters of policy they seem to be consistently able to shoot themselves in the foot with impressive accuracy"

We should actually feel sorry for them and get them the mental health counselling that they so badly need. Redemption is a virtue most of us support.

This is very serious business for the future of our democracy and our civilization.

When the operating system of our democracy, the rule of law, breaks down, things turn animalistic really fast. (i.e. the Jan 6 insurrection)

This is as serious as the Statue of Liberty being towed out into the Atlantic and returned to France, or perhaps sunk in the Mariana Trench in the western Pacific.

Quotes to live by:

- "There can be freedom only when nobody owns it" Jackson Browne
- "In the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make." The Beatles (the last words, on the last song, on the last side, of their last album)
- "Privacy is about people knowing who you are but not knowing what you are doing."
- "Anonymity is about people knowing what you are doing but not knowing who you are."
- "All the knowledge in the world is of no use to fools" Don Henley
- "A man hears what he wants to hear and disregards the rest." Simon & Garfunkel
- "Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives." 1822, founding father James Madison
- "The human mind is like a boomerang, if you throw it too far, it won't come back" Unknown
- Corporations have become like great vampire squids wrapped around the face of humanity, relentlessly jamming its blood-funnel into anything that smells like resalable personal data.
- The point of modern propaganda isn't only to misinform or push an agenda. It is to exhaust your critical thinking, to annihilate truth. Garry Kasparov, Twitter, December 13, 2016
- "A time comes when silence is betrayal." Martin Luther King Jr., "Beyond Vietnam," a speech delivered at Riverside Church, New York City, April 4, 1967
- "Wherever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government."
- Thomas Jefferson – Paris – 1789
- "Know that every border you cross, every purchase you make, every call you dial, every cell phone tower you pass, friend you keep, article you write, website you visit, email subject line you type, and data packet your router sends, is in the hands of a system whose reach is unlimited but whose safeguards are not. " NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden's encrypted email to filmmaker Laura Poitras.
- For once telling the truth has become a crime, while the powerful enjoy impunity, it will be too late to correct the course. We will have surrendered our

voice to censorship and our fate to unrestrained tyranny.” UN Rapporteur on Torture Nils Melzer

- "I'd rather have questions that can't be answered than answers that can't be questioned" Dr Richard Feynman's
- “A country without a conscience is a country without a soul, and a country without a soul is a country that cannot survive.” Winston Churchill
- “Truth is treason in the empire of lies.” George Orwell
- "Arguing that you don't care about the right to privacy because you have nothing to hide is no different than saying you don't care about free speech because you have nothing to say." Ed Snowden
- "With Google and Facebook, we have legalized the abuse of the person, through the personal. We have entrenched a system that makes the population vulnerable for the benefit of the privileged. The only way to protect anyone, is to protect everyone." Ed Snowden
- “Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.” Martin Luther King Jr.
- “An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.” Ben Franklin
- The distance between governing and ruling is measured in the capacity to exercise power without accountability. The lies matter.— Edward Snowden
- "Good judgment comes from experience. Experience comes from bad judgment."
- "Those who would give up an essential liberty for temporary security, deserve neither liberty nor security." -- Benjamin Franklin
- It is hard to imagine a more stupid or more dangerous way of making decisions than by putting those decisions in the hands of people who pay no price for being wrong. - Thomas Sowell
- "I've never in my entire life seen any evidence that the competitive free market, unrestricted, will ever dispense decent medical care, sanitation, transportation, or education to the people. “educational writer Jonathan Kozol
- “I believe that we are measured not only by how much we love our own children, but also by how much we love other people's children”. Jonathon Kozol