

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Club President, Mary Lou Ambrose

I have often wondered, even when I was a child, just what it took to turn the German people into Fascists. I don't wonder anymore. I just watch it happening here in the United States and throughout the world.

I know I have said this before, but when Donald Trump won the election in 2016, several experts noted that it would be difficult to have him as President but we could handle it if he did not damage our Democracy. At the time I thought that was impossible. How could this not-very-smart, creepy real estate tycoon, and host of a weird TV Show destroy a system that had lasted and improved for 247 years? I now see how.

So here we sit three weeks from the mid-term elections with well over 100 candidates on ballots all over the country who plan to destroy that Democracy. They were put into place by a sociopath and his followers who will do whatever they can to stay in power.

The Founding Fathers made a few mistakes. One was to assume that the people (men) elected to the US Senate would be upstanding citizens who understood the Position and would always put their duty to the Constitution first. The second big mistake was similar. They did nothing to rein in the Supreme Court. There is no way to force Justice Alito to use the Constitution as his basis for a decision rather than his personal feelings. We cannot require Justice Thomas to even recuse himself, much less resign, from a case that likely had input from his wife. I doubt that the Founding Fathers even considered the likelihood of those things happening. The third, of course, was to make a deal to keep slavery alive and well in the new Republic.

The last of the three is actually the underpinning for the current failure of the other two. A large segment of the white population of this country fears what they have come to realize - that very soon minorities, the people of color, will be the dominant population of this country. They fear that other races will replace them. Their fears are actual, if unacceptable.

So, how do they solve the problem? First, they try to stop immigration. All of us know that this is a country of immigrants. All of us can trace our families back to immigrants. Some had ancestors arrive soon after Columbus "discovered" America. Tucker Carlson calls them "Legacy Americans." Others came later, but, only those descended from Native Americans, often called American Indians, are the First Americans. The rest of us are all here because someone traveled from another country to get here. (Even Tucker.)

Next, they put barriers in the way of the voters they do not want to be included. Trump already tried having the votes from ethnic communities thrown out but was not successful. However, people smarter than Trump could well be successful. The Supreme Court has already taken away the protections of the Voting Rights Bill. They will go further. The plan is to stop those whom they do not want to vote, so they alone will elect the leaders. We could find ourselves voting like a third-world country.

Next, they offer candidates for election who are loyal to the loser of the 2020 Presidential election. Many of these candidates will back recent state laws that bypass voters' choices and put the political Legislatures in the position of choosing the winner of State Elections if they disagree with the voters' choices. When that happens, we no longer have a Democracy. And their first step in that direction will be taken in 2024 if they are successful in this mid-term. The plan is that those electors will choose the next President - a Donald Trump, a Ron DeSantis, or a Doug Mastriano. What we do not know is how our Courts will respond.

But all that is based on what could happen. I still have faith in the Appellate Court system but am unsure how far the current Supreme Court will go toward negating parts of the vote.

There are reasons to hope for a Democratic result. I hope the voters will realize that the Republican plan is to get rid of Social Security, Medicare, and Health Insurance. Remember how often they said they would replace Obama Care? They came up with nothing. Actually, that is what they would replace it with - Nothing! I hope people will look realistically at the Republican Candidates. I hope voters will remember that the Supreme Court sent Roe vs Wade to the States and that there are plans to make banning Abortion a Federal Law. I hope they will realize that Contraception, Gay Rights, and Marriage equality, be that a gay couple or a multi-racial couple, will all be banned.

I hope they will vote for our Democracy.

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