

Revolution By Consciousness

Vol. 2 No 3

The words we speak become the house we live in - Hafiz, Persian Poet (1325-90)

A Painful Lesson

The November election is not about saving democracy. It is about taking the first step to rebuilding the democracy we have lost.

If I have to select a date when democracy came to an end, I'd choose the 2000 election when the Supreme Court, not the American people, decided who would be president.¹ That legal decision came in a long line of Republican skullduggery for manipulating presidential elections. We have Nixon undermining peace talks that would have brought the Vietnam War to an end.² That delay, brokered by Henry Kissinger, assured that there would be no announcement of a peace deal that could help Humphrey win. But because of Kissinger's perfidy, the Vietnam War lasted several more years, giving us more dead American soldiers, and the secret bombing of Cambodia (another Kissinger gift) which opened the door for the Khmer Rouge who went on to kill over one million Cambodians.³ Then in 1972 Nixon, worried that he wouldn't be re-elected, gave the green light to the Watergate break in. In 1980, Reagan worked a backdoor deal with the Iranians to hold onto the American hostages until after he was elected president.⁴ That killed the potential second term of Jimmy Carter. That brings us to the Supreme Court's nullification of the voters' choice in 2000, thereby giving (yes...GIVING!) the

¹ Who really won the 2000 election? Well...it depends on how you define "a vote." See: <https://www.cnn.com/2015/10/31/politics/bush-gore-2000-election-results-studies/index.html>

² Source: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/notes-indicate-nixon-interfered-1968-peace-talks-180961627/>

³ "Many also say that another consequence of Nixon and Kissinger's bombing campaign was that it helped pave the way for one of the worst genocides of the 20th century. Around 1.7 million people died at the hands of the Pol Pot-led Khmer Rouge between 1975 and 1979 - almost a quarter of the population." Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-67582813>

⁴ Source: <https://newrepublic.com/article/172324/its-settled-reagan-campaign-delayed-release-iranian-hostages>

presidency to Bush the Dumber. Then in 2016, Russian asset Donald Trump⁵ became president and, in 2021, came very close to toppling the government and making himself President-For-Life, which happens to be his current goal. None of this was possible without thousands of enablers who have been working a lifetime to destroy democracy while claiming to save it. Worse, some who have been at this for decades are still at it, such as Roger Stone⁶, Paul Manafort⁷, Newt Gingrich⁸, and Mitch McConnell⁹.

To Live A Lie

The 2016 election and subsequent Trump presidency made it obvious that we have been lied to our entire lives. Everything we were told about our country was bullshit. We were told that the Electoral College, that still-active vestige of our slave-holding past, had the ability to stop a Russian asset from becoming President. Wrong! We were told that the system of checks and balances would keep Hair Füror in check. Wrong! We were told that the power of the purse lies in the legislative branch. Wrong! (Trump successfully moved funds to build the Mexican-financed wall.) We saw the Department of Justice being run by a wannabe slave-owner, Jeff Sessions, then by one of the greatest liars, William Barr who, ironically, had a connection with Jeffrey Epstein through the Dalton School¹⁰ and was called by William Safire (former speechwriter for Tricky Dicky) “Coverup-General Barr,” a talent which came in handy when covering up the real findings of the Mueller Report. But wait!! There’s more! We have witnessed how

⁵ Bi-partisan Senate Panel Concludes Russia Interfered in 2016 Election. Source:

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/senate-panel-finds-russia-interfered-in-the-2016-us-election>

⁶ Master of the dirty trick. See:

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/jan/25/roger-stone-a-master-of-the-political-dirty-trick>

⁷ Paul Manafort has been a long-time business partner of Roger Stone. In 2016 Manafort shared election data with the Russians. See:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/paul-manafort-exclusive-interview-trump-campaign-polling-data-russia-ki-limnik-2022-8>

⁸ An historian explains how Gingrich broke the Republican Party and gave us our dysfunctional Congress. See:

<https://history.princeton.edu/about/publications/burning-down-house-newt-gingrich-fall-speaker-and-rise-nw-republican-party>

⁹ How McConnell Paved the Way for Trump. See:

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/mitch-mcconnell-donald-trump-scalia-supreme-court-documentary-excerpt-watch/>

¹⁰ See:

<https://www.npr.org/2019/07/19/742725946/a-young-jeffrey-epstein-made-an-impression-on-his-high-school-students>

the court system, from the lowest level to the Supreme Court, can be reshaped with devastating results.

The great lesson we learned from Trump was that on every level of government, and on every level of society, the criminal class was alive and well, and waiting for its opportunity, cicada-like, to reappear. We also learned that for many years there has been a political party specializing in dishonesty and shamelessness, and that when they acquire power, chaos and destruction is their governing principle, and when they say they'll "drain the swamp," what that really means is that they will push out anyone who has a modicum of honesty.

From The Ashes

The only way to rebuild what has been broken is for there to be a revolution by consciousness. This may sound pie-in-the-sky but we have already witnessed such revolutions which have changed the way we think. In 2011, the Occupy Movement gave us the ability to talk about student debt, wealth inequality, and more. Out of that movement came phrases like "the One Percent" and "the Ninety-Nine Percent." The student debt crisis moved from obscurity to, as of this writing in 2024, the elimination of much of that debt by President Biden. Are there more problems to tackle? Of course. Does change happen quickly? No it does not. However, the first step to fixing a problem is to acknowledge that it exists which requires creating the conceptual vocabulary to describe it. I believe that Harris-Walz, knowingly or not, has created the possibility of an Occupy-type revolution. Whether that happens or not is dependent on, not only electing Harris-Walz, but also on the American people educating themselves and educating their political representatives.

Random But Related

1. PROJECT 2025: The fatal error of Project 2025 was to put in plain language (it was written in a way that even Americans could understand) exactly what the Republicans want to do in America.¹¹ The election of Trump would

¹¹ There may have been a time when we could differentiate Republicans from its Trumpist-Christo-Fascist elements. That time has passed.

accelerate the implementation of this collection of crackpot ideas and Handmaiden theocracy. But if Trump is defeated, the ideas will not die. It will simply take a longer time to implement.

- a. A number of the ideas have already been implemented by the Supreme Court.
 - i. Religion trumps common sense. See: Hobby Lobby decision
 - ii. Rich men (almost exclusively white) can use money to dominate politics. See: Citizens United decision
 - iii. Stripping Federal agencies (EPA, FDA, etc.) of their power to interpret and enforce regulations. See: Loper Bright decision
 - iv. Converting a woman's body into a state-owned and supervised object.¹² See: Dobbs decision
- b. Never forget that ideas do not simply disappear. Socio-political conditions may push them into hibernation or into the general public discourse. Numerous commentators have pointed out that the reemergence of authoritarianism can be traced, in large measure, to the 2007-2008 economic crash, where the ninety-nine percent bailed out the one-percent that crashed the world's economy. We're still living with the effects of this lopsided economic rescue.

2. THE ELECTION

- a. If Harris wins, it will take a few decades to rebuild the democracy we lost.
- b. If Trump wins,

¹² Legal precedent for this goes back to the days of slavery. Slave owners had complete control of enslaved women, most especially their children. Enslaved people were intentionally "bred" much like cattle. The idea of breeding human beings took on renewed salience when social darwinism and sterilization in the late 1800s to early 1900s. Eventually the eugenics movement, which began in Europe, made its way to the United States (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York) where it was "perfected" and which had an enormous influence on Nazi racial laws.

A Bloodless War

To subdue the enemy without fighting is the acme of skill - Sun Tzu

The handwriting is on the wall. Without firing a single shot, the People's Republic of China will take control of Taiwan. The method is simple. They will do what they've already done several times. They will engage in a military exercise, surrounding the island with ships, flying into Taiwanese air space, and then...nothing. They will not leave. Their ships will prevent other ships from entering or leaving. Their planes will prevent other planes from entering or leaving. And just like that, Taiwan will be united with mainland China.

An Existential Threat

For years Hamas had one goal: destroy Israel. That opportunity came on October 7, 2023. What puzzles me is why did Benjamin Netanyahu allow Qatari money to flow into Gaza?

In interviews with more than two dozen current and former Israeli, American and Qatari officials, and officials from other Middle Eastern governments, *The New York Times* unearthed new details about the origins of the policy, the controversies that erupted inside the Israeli government and the lengths that Mr. Netanyahu went to in order to shield the Qataris from criticism and keep the money flowing.

The payments were part of a string of decisions by Israeli political leaders, military officers and intelligence officials — all based on the fundamentally flawed assessment that Hamas was neither interested in nor capable of a large-scale attack. The Times has previously reported on intelligence failures and other faulty assumptions that preceded the attacks.

Even as the Israeli military obtained battle plans for a Hamas invasion and analysts observed significant terrorism exercises just over the border in Gaza, the payments continued. For years, Israeli intelligence officers even

escorted a Qatari official into Gaza, where he doled out money from suitcases filled with millions of dollars.¹³

Things I Learned From Trump

1. When rapists are brought to justice, they are “schlonged.” (That’s a legal term.)
2. Arnold Palmer, the famous golfer, had a schlong that made others gasp.
3. To make love, one must overthrow a government.
4. Good music does not make you a good dancer.
5. China will gladly pay for child care in America.

Personal Note: I’m dedicating this issue of the newsletter to two very dear friends who are no longer with us. I had known D.G. for over 20 years. For the last ten years of his life, we spoke on a weekly basis, sometimes several times a week. We discussed politics, business, and cooking. I came to know A.C. during Covid. At that time, business networking took place via Zoom. Then sometime in 2021 we met in person. Like my relationship with D.G., there were weeks when I spoke to A.C. several times a week about politics, business, and cooking. Both D.G. and A.C. were models of kindness, fairness, and civility. I miss them both very much.

¹³ Source:

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/10/world/middleeast/israel-qatar-money-prop-up-hamas.html?unlocked_article_code=1.Tk4.gJC1.CjSLfLHKHHK&smid=url-share