

## A commentary From the Desk of P. David Perry An Independent perspective

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## Identifying Intolerant Idealism

The presidential election for 2020 has occurred and there are now more questions than answers. We now are seeing the myriad of differences in ideology and messaging from each of the politicians as they become more open in sharing their true ideology. Each candidate for political office advocates a platform of ideas, an ideology representing their view of American culture and their future vision for humankind. Their platform represents a view of their ideology and sociopolitical program for the future. They have made numerous public appearances, kissed babies, shook many hands, debated, attacked their opponents and made speeches about their vision for the future. We have been bombarded by countless campaign promises; some making good sense while others falling far and wide from the important issues we face. In some cases, many of the promises will be broken or forgotten along with the flow of many deceptions and follies. Many of the ideas put forth lack little or no merit at all while others will have little or no chance for attainment. Politicians will threaten and bribe for your vote and government agencies will continue to be lobbied while the community at large becomes more obfuscated, distracted and divided.

A political contest will always bring to the surface far reaching economic and social issues. Discussions will center around what they believe matters to the voter and not necessarily what matters for the good of the community since the objective is to win votes and gain political power. The campaigns promulgate their thoughts and ideas which are amplified by the many political consultants and strategists and their hired guns. They are then magnified through the prism and bias of the 24-hour cable networks and the main stream media. As the polls shift and change back and forth, so does the political rhetoric which will create further deceptions and misinformation. It is no wonder that there is confusion and misdirection resulting from these conflicting and high-jacked campaign messages. Money pushes the messages and big technology has the money to apply the forces of change. For the ordinary citizen, who is at the bottom of the ladder, we wonder what the affect will be on our daily lives. What matters to the ordinary citizen and do these conflicting ideologies make a difference?

The candidate's success is directly tied to the money it can raise and most presidential campaigns will raise hundreds of millions. Donations are used to implement giant marketing and public relations campaigns but also to influence or bribe the candidate once elected to office. It is the voter who should ultimately determine the fate of our country and not the lobbyist, big technology companies or false media. Anyways, that is the way it is supposed to work in a representative form of government such as ours. Unfortunately, there are many who will vote for their candidate of choice ignorant of the world around them. They have no understanding of the issues and will choose the candidate for reasons only based on a political affiliation. They vote row A or B only because that is what they have always done. There are others who watch Jeopardy and game shows and have no interest in politics and no interest in

taking the time to understand the positions of both sides and their effect will be on others. Few seek to become informed and interpret the dialogue and seek truth. Shame on them because while it is their right to vote for whoever they choose, it is also their responsibility to make an effort to become informed and to sift through the political rhetoric to learn the truth. Voting should not be viewed as a once-a-year right...it is a responsibility that should be assumed 365 days a year.

No folly is more costly than the folly of ignorance and intolerant idealism. Simply stated; a folly is an imprudent and foolish act or idea that lacks common sense. It is an ideology that is contrary to the culture and history which has made America great. And it is obvious that some, not all of the candidate's concepts and ideas are well off the mark and designed as deceptions only to win political office. Regardless of where you stand regarding the debate, our country could be heading in a very bad direction based on the election outcome. This is especially true for those who are galvanized to a particular party or candidate simply because they like his looks or what he says. And yet, there will be many voters who will support these follies and gladly and freely cast their vote in support of a candidate rather than the bad outcomes created by their policies.

In a free and healthy society such as ours, follies which lean towards vice will incur resistance. They will encounter at every stage enormous checks from the inherent goodness and sanity of human nature. But follies sustained by lofty ideas will go far. For example, if one takes on the cause for preservation, environmental purity and social justice, then it will surely gain traction far and wide. Even to the extent far beyond practicality and reasonableness regardless of its lack of normal prudence. We can site many examples such as; the war on women, Ferguson, The Keystone Pipeline and more recently, Seattle, Portland, Baltimore, Dayton Ohio and Chicago. In these cities, there has been a rally around the cause of racism and social injustice, yet the facts bear out that the news media has portrayed a series of lies and misinformation claiming it is the policemen and the guns, not the shooters pulling the trigger. When mobs are allowed to riot in the streets of our cities as they tear down statutes, loot and destroy personal property and neighborhoods, I do not see how freedom of speech can justify such behavior. I see criminal behavior and anarchy. Any fair minded person must see this for what it is, mobs that are destroying our culture and history as they attempt to rewrite history and rewrite our constitution which will eventually lead to a greater concentration of pollitical power that destroys individual freedom. Anything goes when people ignore the facts, ignore criminal behavior and blame law enforcement; bad outcomes will result. It is a perfect example when individuals band together and submit themselves to a standard of conduct beyond any practical reason, the results can be devastating to the community...and invariably lead to hypocrisy. In this case, a folly that fails to recognize the facts can result in the destruction of the community itself.

While there will always be groups who will oppose one another, false claims will continue to be made based not on fact but myths created strictly for that group to gain power and control over others. It is your right to choose but your responsibility to question and become informed. You can either support an issue or oppose it but shouldn't you make your choice in the voting booth based on an accurate and true interpretation of the political message. Shouldn't it be based on the reporting of news that is truthful and unbiased and not on an opinion or political ideology.

To some, improving women's' rights and improving the environment are worthy goals. To others, there are more important issues such as; the economy, the national debt, the rising costs of energy, illegal

immigration and national security. However, for others it may be to simply improve the school lunch program. For some politicians, their quest may be to gain power and control over our lives. In order to win your vote, they would hitch their wagon to another lofty fence post...another worthy yet unworkable idea...another abstract issue that would create controversy and confusion...another intolerant ideology.

We must demand unbiased coverage and truthful reporting from the media and become more informed concerning the issues. Knowledge is power and the informed and knowledgeable voter will examine the outcomes that are produced from the facts before them and what matters to them and to the community at large. Freedom of speech opens up the pathways for knowledge. Big technology is conspiring with big government and as they claim to oppress the false messaging within social media. What is next on their agenda as they more power is shifted from those on the bottom to those with all the money and the power.

The world is spinning at close to 1,000 miles per hour and with it comes a constant maelstrom of change...whether we like it or not. The role of women, our expectations for our children and grandchildren, the increasing demands of our work, the leaps forward in technology, the dramatically shifting political structures of the world here and abroad...everything is rapidly changing and becoming increasingly more complex. There will be a continual flow of new and lofty ideas that politicians will embrace. We will be faced with new and complex issues and difficult choices.

Ideology represent a system of ideas, especially political ideas. One recent issue which is Breaking news for most of the networks is...Face Masks. What is the truth? Do they really prevent the spread of the virus? No church services and no Turkey dinners or family gatherings. What next, no kissing and no loving? Progress and change that reveal truth and uncover imprudent follies which are born within an ideology are inevitable. To ignore the truth or abstain from the truth because one does not like it is bad manners. To abstain in order to set an example may be acceptable. To compel others to ignore the truth because one fails to accept the truth is, to say the least, bad manners; but to indulge one-self in an imprudent folly or act of ignorance while compelling others to ignore the facts and the outcomes they may produce is contemptible. A perfect example is those politicians who order you prohibit you to gather in public places and order you to wear a face mask at all times and then violate their own rules.

In the end some may think that the voter is likely to get what they want. I tend to think that people wil,l eventually get what they deserve. The ignorant will become more ignorant. For those who want something for nothing, they will get more of nothing since there is always a cost to bear. I remain hopeful for th future and hope the voter will choose based on real and attainable outcomes as they search for the truth. We must demand honest coverage and unbiased and truthful reporting from the media and the big technology. Only then will we ever have a chance to make those choices in the voting booth that will preserve our culture and history. Only then will we be able to provide liberty and freedom for future generations. Sooner or later, good or bad, future generations will eventually get what they deserve. Where are we headed? Think about the outcomes...No flag, no statutes, no history, no walls, no books, no rules, no constitution, no enforcement of laws, no freedoms, no personal property, no cites...no country.

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