

## ***How President Biden Could Win Another Term***

Pardon Trump! Joe Biden would win another term in the White House, assuming he makes to the election in good health, by pardoning Donald Trump and his allies. It would be a bold move reminiscent of Gerald Ford who pardoned Richard Nixon, and then went on to lose the election to Jimmy Carter. However, Richard Nixon was no threat to run for President again, regardless of whether he was pardoned. At the time of the Nixon pardon, there were plenty of people, including myself, who thought that Ford had made a big mistake. Nixon was not only a crook, but he countenanced an illegal break-in to the Watergate Complex which housed Democratic headquarters. The evidence was not absolutely clear against Richard Nixon, but impeachment was smoking down the Senate tracks and Ford wanted to bring the bloodletting to a halt.

President Ford showed a profile in courage, worthy of the John Kennedy book by the same name.

Does Joe Biden have the political stamina, courage, and wisdom to pardon Trump, who behaved badly and may very well have broken some laws? A pardoned Trump loses his ace in the playing deck. Donald Trump, in his latest race for the presidency, has had pitifully little to say about foreign policy, domestic economics, or anything else of interest to the electorate. The Donald, is running against the establishment. Big bad government, the IRS, and the cops in general are easy punching bags for bad boys. Donald Trump smartly has tapped into the discontent which is endemic to a large bureaucratic state like ours.

Americans have to deal with the IRS, administrative agencies, bureaucracies, and government obstacles on local, state, and federal level. Just dealing with the layers of taxation from municipal taxes all the way up the ladder is enough to make anybody crazy.

Donald Trump has opened the spigot to angry and depressed Americans fed up with being bullied, overtaxed, and pushed around. The cascade of criminal cases filed against Donald Trump by Democratic prosecutors is well played by the man who could easily be a Borscht Belt comedian. For those who do not know what the Borscht Belt was, please allow me to remind you.

Borscht is Russian beet soup. It was largely consumed by immigrants to the United States who did not have a lot of money for vacations. In those days, they went to the Catskill and Pocono Mountains, which was the equivalent of a trip to France, the Virgin Islands, or Cancun. At those lovely old hotels, the aging parents of baby boomers would eat, drink, and be merry. One of their favorite dishes was Borscht soup. It was cold, chopped up beet soup. Sounds disgusting? Well, the people who slurped it down, swore by it.

Those Borscht Belt hotels had entertainment every Saturday night. The comedians, opera singers, mimes, and magicians who performed at those now closed down locales were sometimes funny, crude, and other times pathetic. However, they knew how to get the attention of the audience. I remember sitting next to my grandmother at the National Hotel in Swan Lake, New York. Every once in a while she would cover my ears when the comedians became too explicit for my delicate sensibilities. Fortunately, I did not understand what they were saying anyway.

What made the Borscht Belt so much fun is that it was outrageous. The food was over the top. The Tummelers (social directors), who ran the activities for the hotel, were full of energy and verve.

Donald Trump is not far off the mark of those totally outrageous, barely funny, and socially focused entertainers. Donald Trump is an entertainer. How many people would think of making a weird face for a police mugshot and then selling it on coffee cups, a real mug; what we used to call a double entendre.

If Joe Biden had the good common sense to pardon Donald Trump and his allies, Trump would have to talk about what he did, why he did it, and the Democrats would not have to prove anything in court. They would not have to worry about one of those silly juries that just might follow the law and refuse to convict based upon a lack of intent or simply that there was not enough proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Perish the thought that the Democrats may lose some of the cases against Donald Trump. They have enough litigation in the queue that they are likely to get a conviction somewhere, sometime. As the law proved with Jimmy Hoffa, if the government goes after someone enough times, in enough jurisdictions, and with enough charges, sooner or later they are going to get a conviction for something.

Donald Trump is likely to get convicted, but will just become an even bigger martyr than he is today.

I remember when a political opponent of mine tried to get me kicked off the Patient Safety Authority, which I was a major founder of. My politics and demand for safer healthcare systems was simply too much for the hospital community, which really controlled the Patient Safety Authority. The CEO emeritus, I think was his title, of one of Pennsylvania's major healthcare systems defended me by saying: "Don't make a martyr out of Cliff Rieders." I was not removed from the Patient Safety Authority, and there was no way that the chair had the political acumen, votes, or even ability to make it happen.

The Democrats seem hell bound and determined to not only defeat Donald Trump at the polls, but to make sure that he can never hold office again. The punishment of an unforgiven cretin, who deserves to rot in hell is the goal of the Trump prosecutors.

A pardon of the ex-president and his buds may hurt the attack dogs, and may even be philosophically unpleasant, given some of the awful things Trump has done, but it would help to heal America and it would prevent Donald Trump from ever holding

important office again. It would take the wind out of his rapidly rising helium balloon and open up the field to other good Republican candidates. Perhaps that is what the Democrats are afraid of. Could it be that the prosecutors realize that absent the prosecutions against Trump, they may actually face a candidate who could win a general election? The hope of the anti-Trump forces, through the criminal prosecutions, is to make sure he gets nominated by the Republican Party and that the Party gets crushed at the polls. It is for that reason that Joe Biden would never consider a pardon. He realizes that with a pardon in place, Trump is less likely to win the nomination which makes the Republican Party more dangerous to Democratic control of the White House and Congress.

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