

# Editorial / Opinion

# Family and Marriage

## Campaign 2020

Fifty days out and it seems the actual campaign is on. The four year long effort to de legitimize and then overthrow President Trump continues, of course, but it has shown itself to be anemic and ineffective. What began as a virtual charge of treasonous conspiracy with Vladimir Putin and company to place a puppet in the White House has evolved into un-sourced accusations of the President dissing WWI heroic dead in France two years ago. Now the author of that smear campaign has had to eat his words ("maybe my sources were incorrect") {not with a bang but a whimper} so the Trump haters are pinning their hopes on the latest multi-hundred page screed from the Deep State's hitman-in-chief Bob Woodward who states that the President's less than apocalyptically candid statements about the Wuhan (COVID19) virus was dishonest. The President admits to avoiding "hair on fire" psychosis in his public utterances about the threat China's virological warfare posed, "Didn't want to cause panic", but his all of government effort and mobilization of the private sector to fill the gaping holes in our preparedness cuts no ice with Hitman Bob. The President's early rhetorical restraint means, "He's the wrong man for the job". Seems the anti-Trump, anti-electoral outcome crowd is reduced to "he didn't use the right language!"

So from the permanent character assassination chorus we now turn, sort of, to the actual election campaign. The tactics of the Resistance will not, have not, cannot change much. Character assassination based upon distortions and outright lies will be the bedrock of the Democrats' efforts. That and outright bribery in the form of promises of government support and subsidies to a motley collection of grievance and interest groups will form the foundation, in fact already are the foundation of Democrat appeals to voters. If you can claim victimhood at the hands of majoritarian culture by virtue of membership in some definable minority or even some inchoate minority of like grievances then you are the target of Democrat get-out-the-vote efforts. All of this is largely financed by an opportunistic band of billionaires whose eco-entrepreneurship relies on government subsidies and approved bilking of consumers with higher priced goods and services. Which see California: highest priced utilities in the nation based on heavily subsidized "sustainable energy" programs which have left the electrical power grid in a hazardous state of disrepair and resulted in rolling blackouts at the hottest time of the year.

If you want to understand the future promised by the Democrat Party look no further than California and, maybe, Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington in this "Summer of Love". They spare no words of praise for the "right to peaceably assemble" but have only in the past few days, egged on by focus groups and polls, found words to express outrage at attacks on police, innocents who may have different beliefs than they, and sympathy for the small business owners, often minorities themselves, whose livelihoods have been damaged or destroyed by those "peaceful demonstrators" and their friends.

There is full support from the Pelosi/Schumer crowd in Congress to promote your economic health in this time of COVID as long as it does not involve Federal assistance to places of employment or a helping hand to those who have not been able to return to work yet. Such assistance from that noble crowd would be readily forthcoming if attached to a couple of TRILLION DOLLARS to bail out

forty years of Democrat mal-administration at the state and local level. TRILLIONS for hacks and their bloated pension funds and then maybe some help for you.

Of course grievance group bribery, bailouts of Democrat local governments and obsequies direct at billionaire eco-entrepreneurs may not be enough to carry the day in November, so there's always the ballot pollution card to play. Mass mailings of un-requested ballots, unverified and unverifiable, utterly unlike requested Absentee Ballots, sent to every name on the voter rolls, some several times. Voters move. Voters die. Some have several addresses in different locations. Generally Democrats who resist utterly any effort to cleanse voter rolls of duplications and dead people (voter suppression they call it) will happily, avidly send "ballot harvesters" to collect any and all ballots they can. Special emphasis will be placed on orphan ballots (duplicates, ballots sent to no one now existing) and they will be cast. Then the largest army of election lawyers ever seen will enter the courts to qualify as many unqualifiable ballots as the can. It will only take a few dozen "politicians in robes" in a few dozen counties to swing enough votes to alter an outcome.

Identity politics, the bread and butter of Democrat campaigns for decades, supported by limitless funds from the Billionaires Boys' Clubs resting on a foundation of ballot box stuffing the modern way may be enough to bring victory to the Biden/Harris/Sanders/AOC ticket. But if I were in their shoes I wouldn't count on it. Given a few more weeks of faux campaigning by former Senator, former Vice President, and current puppet-for-hire Joe Biden, the American public may awaken to the contempt the Democrats actually hold for them. Joe Biden was once a noteworthy if not very accomplished politician. Watch him today, on those rare occasions when his handlers allow him out. I can't say out in public because that never happens. Once in a while they do create the illusion of a public setting, but it's not very persuasive or effective. This is what today the party of Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy, Humphrey presents as its best. You decide. Meanwhile the Republican/Trump campaign. The President criss crosses the nation prompting his fellow Republicans and shows himself to all, even his enemies in the media (92% anyway). He tells of the economy he produced with lower taxes, lower regulatory burdens, more aggressive trade policy and reminds us all he did in three years what the NO BIDEN

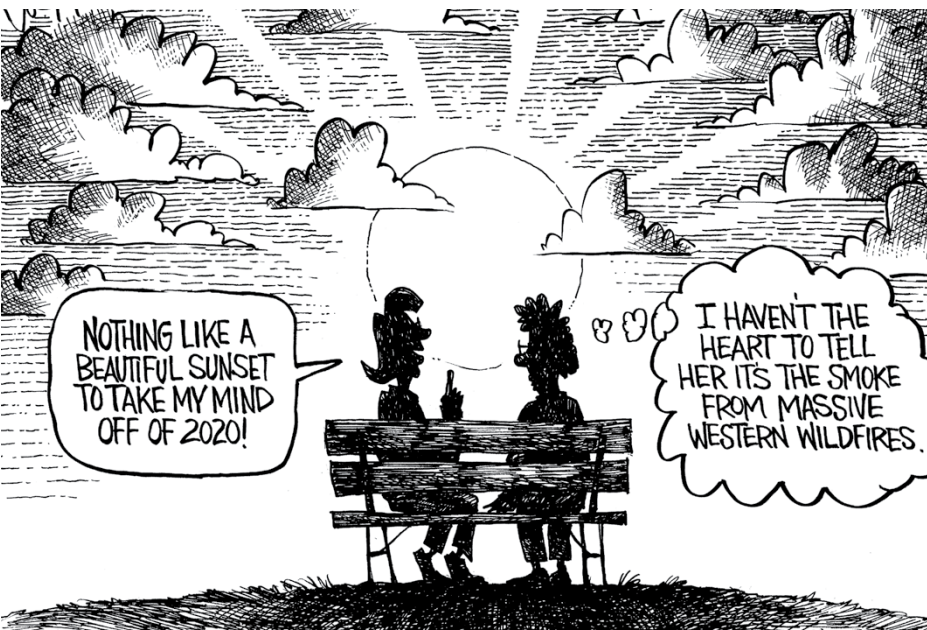
administration could not do in eight. The lowest unemployment levels among all definable groups including African Americans, Latinos, Asians and women in HISTORY. That economy also produced the greatest income growth among the bottom three quintiles of the population in HISTORY. By reminding our allies, sometimes force-



Ed Scanlon has his opinions

fully, of their responsibilities for their own security he has revitalized a NATO that was openly floundering and looking for a renewed mission. By following his own instincts and path rather than a half century of tired diplomatic Kabuki he has brought Arab nations and Israel to a new recognition of mutual interest. Two Arab countries in the past two weeks have opened diplomatic and trade relations with Israel and it did not require genuflection at the altar of a thoroughly corrupt Palestinian Authority. More successful Arab/Israeli/US diplomacy to follow. Trump has quietly but firmly rebuilt our military readiness and capability after more than a decade of political neglect, and even inaugurated a new military branch, the Space Force. As some before him had, he noted the aggressive space activities of China and Russia. He acted to keep us safe.

He is building the wall as a first step toward a more rational immigration policy. A



policy based on laws enacted and followed. This is a work in progress that will not likely be completed with a Pelosi/Schumer Congress, so vote accordingly. Nevertheless, the wall is nearly complete.

Yes, the Democrats have grievances, character assassination and billionaires. Trump and the Republicans have a record of achievement in the face of the Resistance, the other parts of the Deep State and the near universal opposition of the media. In 50 days "The People" will have their say.

## Unity is Strength, Division is Weakness

"In order to impact our society, we need to first model unity in the church." – Tony Evans

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" – Bible (Psalms 133:1)

Tom and Tanya had been married for three years and were struggling. Before marriage their times together seemed so wonderful. Tom enjoyed fishing and Tanya would go with him on dates and toss in her line as well. Tanya was a fan of classical music and before their marriage she and Tom would go to concerts together. A year or so after their wedding Tanya no longer wanted to go fishing, and she found she was attending the concerts alone.

As time progressed Tom and Tanya found they had a few other differences that hadn't surfaced during the dating period. Both admitted they had been trying to please each other, but now that they were married..... Somehow the differences began to surface as major points of contention.

Tom and Tanya are a microcosm of what's happening in the world today. There are many differences and rather than rejoicing in the fact that God has created each of us as unique creatures, all of whom He loves, we fight over our differences. Let's look at what Tom and Tanya

did.

Both Tom and Tanya were Christians and they attended church together, but that was about it; there was no substantial involvement in the Christian community. Nevertheless they decided they would ask their pastor for some advice in dealing with their current problems.

One of the first questions their pastor asked them was how they went about resolving differences of opinion. They admitted they both approached discussions with self-protection in mind. Any opposing opinions were viewed as attacks and defenses immediately went up.

The pastor told Tom and Tanya there are really only two forces that drive our actions: fear and love. When we are in the defensive mode the driving force is fear; we will do whatever is necessary to protect ourselves. If we believe we are totally responsible for running our lives then promotion and protection of our self becomes our top priority.

Our selfish nature and the world around us drive us to the self-protection mode. We may try to resist because we sense something is wrong, but it's difficult to resist the pressures alone. Even in marriage when the two are supposed to become one the pull to separation and

protection is there.

The pastor pointed them to a verse in the Bible that he often uses when helping couples prepare for marriage. Ecclesiastes 4:12 says: "And if one can overpower him who is



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alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart." Although Tom and Tanya claimed to be Christians, they hadn't taken advantage of that third strand. The illustration that comes to mind is a triangle. A triangle is a geometric figure that cannot be forced into some other shape. Once the three lines are joined together the triangle shape is fixed. Two lines of course can be arranged in any fashion. Squares or rectangles and most other shapes can be distorted, but not triangles. Whether the three "lines" are braided together into a rope or placed in the shape of a triangle, the stability is greater than the two or the one.

The pastor suggested that Tom and Tanya take some time to pray together and ask God to be involved in their discussions. Many of their differences did not involve Biblical interpretations, but praying together enabled them to listen more closely, and to better understand each other. It also gave them a willingness to change some of their opinions to better accommodate their spouse's needs. Bringing that third party into the discussion made all the difference.

"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." John 16:3

The Family & Marriage Coalition of Aiken, Inc. (FAMCO) was created to provide resources for you to succeed in your marriage and families. Roger Rollins, Executive Director, FAMCO, 803-640-4689, rogerrollins@aikenfamco.com, <http://www.aikenfamco.com>

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- CLUES ACROSS**  
1. Greasy powder (abbr.)  
5. Rural Free Delivery (abbr.)  
8. Amount of time  
11. Greeting  
13. Form of "to be"  
14. Israeli diplomat  
15. Outfit  
16. The 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet  
17. Deceptive movement

18. Anxious  
20. Popular Letterman guest  
21. Saints' signal caller  
22. Intoxicate  
25. Relationship  
30. Ask for one's hand in marriage  
31. Popular Will Ferrell film  
32. Gargle  
33. Warning sensation before

60. Nellie \_\_\_\_\_ journalist  
61. Spiritual leader  
62. Doctor of Education  
63. Affirmative  
64. Cheek
- CLUES DOWN**  
1. Popular kids' game  
2. Away from wind  
3. Round water pot  
4. Drink quickly  
5. A simple type of

22. Inebriate  
25. Association  
30. Propose  
31. Elf  
9. Strong spirit distilled in Turkey  
10. Again  
12. Imitate  
14. Icelandic poems  
19. Jacob \_\_\_\_\_ American journalist  
23. No (Scottish)  
24. Newborn  
25. Credit term  
26. Nonprofit research group in CA  
27. Male offspring  
28. Important baseball stat  
29. A way to compel  
34. Fiddler crab  
35. Jewish equivalent of "Sir"  
36. Every  
37. Midway between east and southeast  
39. Anti-slavery treaty  
40. A friendly manner  
41. Military figure (abbr.)  
42. Area units  
44. Sudden incursions  
45. Expressed pleasure  
46. Covered with hoarfrost  
47. Job  
48. Donkey  
51. Swiss river  
52. Prejudice  
53. Actor Idris  
54. Light dry-gap bridge (abbr.)  
58. Criticize

59. Kaek  
60. Bly  
61. Rabbi  
62. EDD  
63. Yes  
64. Sass
- SOLUTIONS**  
1. Tag  
2. Alice  
3. Lots  
4. Chug  
5. Ramjet  
6. Freebie  
7. Demerol
8. Ebert  
9. Rakee  
10. Anew  
12. Ape  
14. Edda  
19. Riis  
23. Nae  
24. Infant  
25. APR  
26. SRI  
27. Son  
28. OPS  
29. Coerce  
34. Uca  
35. Reb  
36. All

**SOLUTIONS ACROSS**  
1. Tale  
5. RFD  
8. Era  
11. Alpha  
13. Are  
14. Eban  
15. Getup  
16. Mem  
17. Deke  
18. Eager  
20. Jee  
21. Drew