

# Editorial / Opinion

# Family and Marriage

## A Divided Nation

There is no question that the United States is today a deeply divided nation. The vast majority of at least half of the electorate is absolutely convinced that the election which resulted in Joe Biden's becoming President was won by theft and fraud. The side which won is in full "see we told ya" so" mode. This is flavored with "Trump caused a riot in the Capitol Building and fomented INSURRECTION," he must be permanently barred from future political activity. Forever. Maybe he should go to jail. Soon to be a private citizen again, Trump will be officially hounded night and day in retirement. The self-appointed guardians of Constitutional government (that's new) have decreed it. But maybe, they should think about that a bit. Perhaps they should ponder the meaning of Article I, Section 9 in the Constitution which prohibits "bills of attainder." And then think about how attempting to criminalize actions he took while in office after the fact would violate the prohibition in the same Article, same section which bars ex post facto laws. But then what are mere Constitutional restraints to a possibly illegitimate "majority" in full cry of high dudgeon and virtue signaling? Trump delenda est!

All of this is simply a recitation of the most recent blatherings of the dishonest portion (which is most of it) of the Trump Derangement Syndrome Chorus. It is the beginning of the culmination of the five-year-long effort to deride, discredit and delegitimize Donald John Trump, candidate-to-be and then President of the United States of America. His enemies have ranged from outraged yet feckless Never Trump Republicans to virtually all Democrats, 92% of "the press" to the Grandees of the Permanent Government and the associated Rent Seekers of America who both support and benefit from all-of-the-above.

Frequent readers of this column have encountered these points before in other contexts. Nothing new here except the specific conditions the current Democrat/cancellation culture purposes to subject the outgoing President to cancellation thereby rendering his supporters temporarily leaderless. Having thus disenfranchised roughly half of the United States with a stolen election it seems they now intend to expunge us. This is dangerous stuff. When the current, temporary wielders of political power (and in a republican democracy all political power is temporary, witness the passing of President Trump from the White House) tell roughly half of the nation, "your leader was illegitimate" and therefore is removed from the body politic forever, you untether them from the political and civil institutions that bind everyone to the same understanding of citizenship. You are telling them that in the world which they inhabit and which you now control, their concerns don't matter. As a part of the polity "you don't exist." Nothing good comes of this. To take a gross example, when the French Revolution was deprived of a legitimate leader by intrigue in The Directorate and the guillotine, the result was Napoleon Bonaparte, the man on a white horse in Jaques-Louis David's portrait. Do I see the rise of Bonapartism here? No. Our middle class, while put upon and weary is too civil, too large, too committed to our national myth, our heritage, our institutions. Thank God. If they ever (we ever) become as disaffected as ANTIFA or BLM last Summer will seem a day at the beach by comparison.

The fraying of the American political fabric is already apparent. People I know are now passing around with breathless glee fantasies about incriminating evidence found on Speaker Pelosi's laptop and others' when they were taken during the chaos in the Capitol building on January 6. Rumors of



Ed Scanlon has his opinions

prison barges transported to Guantanamo to hold those arrested by the military for their roles in election fraud. This is of course nonsense, but the sentiment itself is not. It is the direct result of perceived disenfranchisement of "the people" by an illegitimate election result. The victors are calling for "unity" while expressing their own fantasies of retribution towards President Trump and his supporters. Aggrieved Trump supporters and other conservatives are not likely to seek rapprochement with those who are denigrating them every turn and threatening retribution on President Trump for crimes they cannot define or support with evidence. The most recent charge of "inciting violence" is absurd on its face. I heard and saw the address. There was no incitement. There was a call for a peaceful move from the Ellipse to Capitol Hill to show support for those Republican lawmakers who were challenging the suspect slates of electors. Democrats had better hope that their "impeachment" never gets to the trial phase. Great lawyers with superb Constitutional credentials, liberal ones at that, would shred that charge like confetti. And have already indicated a willingness to do so. That kind of legal talent might not even be necessary. An Eagle Scout with a desktop Constitution in his pocket could make Pelosi's charges look foolish and Pelosi herself look like a clownish version of The Wicked Witch of the West.

If there is going to be any move toward political healing after the last five years, the first gestures will have to come from Democrats. Failing that, Pelosi, Schumer, Biden and co. will learn what it means to be on the receiving end of RESISTANCE.

## I am really not worth loving.

"Loving ourselves works miracles in our lives." - Louise L. Hay

"... honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." - Bible (Matthew 19:19)

Two holidays are coming Dr. Henry Cloud, in his book "Changes That Heal," tells of a man who was attending a support group. One of his main problems was that he felt unlovable. This man said to Dr. Cloud: "I don't deserve their love." Dr. Cloud's response was a message we all need to take to heart. "I told him he was right. None of us deserves love that comes our way; we don't earn love. It is given to us. Approval can be earned, but love can't."

Dr. Cloud tells the man that he cannot earn love; it must be given freely and without condition. Most of us struggle with that statement. We live in a world that tells us "There is no such thing as a free lunch." If someone tries to give us something free, we are immediately suspicious: "What do they want from me?"

Some amplification of Dr. Cloud's message would be of benefit here. Psychologists normally talk about four kinds of love, which we have discussed in this column before. Storge is love of family; parent/child, siblings, cousins, etc. Eros usually refers to sexual, passionate, romantic love. Phileo is love between friends; friendship. Finally, there is agapeo, defined as unconditional love, and usually in the context of the love of God.

Agapeo love is given unconditionally; it is not and cannot be earned. The other types of love have some

conditions attached. The conditions aren't usually undesirable, but they do put restrictions on the love. For example, phileo love is between friends. Friends come and go and friendships can be terminated for many reasons, or conditions.

The Bible refers to agape love over two-hundred times, all in the New Testament. Jesus' presence on earth brought agape love. He demonstrated it ultimately on the cross, and He enables us to love others unconditionally. If we fail to recognize the presence and purpose of Jesus, we do not have the ability to love others unconditionally. Our first love will be always be ourselves.

Back to Dr. Cloud. I believe he is calling the man's attention to the only kind of love that really matters. The others come and go, but agape love, when given, by definition cannot be recalled. It is truly unconditional. As I have noted before, boundaries may be necessary because we are dealing with fallible human beings, but the love is never withdrawn.

This is particularly true in the family. Most of the wedding vows today still say that the love will endure "until death do us part." Adherence to this commitment enables the marriage to survive during the storms as well as the sunny days. But it is very difficult to keep this commitment without God's help.

Agape love truly cannot be earned. Initially we are attracted to people for some particular reason, or condition. All of us experience phileo love. We have those friends we enjoy being with. Those friends we really appreciate, however,



Roger Rollins, Family and Marriage Coalition

are those who get to know us well, the goods and the bads, and still love us. They have moved on to agape love.

The only way we can encounter/demonstrate agape love is through the presence of God in our lives. "So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." - Bible (1John4:16)

Join us for a gala affair with a delicious meal, great fellowship, and an encouraging message celebrating marriage and the family. Our annual Marriage Celebration will be on January 29, 2021, 6:30PM, at the Woodside Plantation Country Club. Cost is \$70 per couple and \$35 for singles. Our guest speaker will be Michael E. Perry, Ph.D. Co-Founder, President/CEO Human Performance and Behavior Expert. Please let us know you will be with us (contact information below). You will be blessed.

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@gmail.com, http://www.aikenfamco.com

### LANCASTER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

County Council Chambers, County Administration Building, 101 North Main Street, Lancaster, SC 29720

- AGENDA
1. Call to Order Regular Meeting and Roll Call Vote
  2. Approval of the Agenda
  3. Citizen's Comments

[While in-person Citizens Comments are not currently suspended, due to public health and safety considerations and the need for continued social distancing, the County is strongly encouraging citizen input and comments be submitted in writing prior to the meeting. Comments may be submitted via mail to ATTN: Sherrie Simpson, Post Office Box 1809, Lancaster, SC, 29721, by email to Sherrie Simpson at [ssimpson@lancastersc.net](mailto:ssimpson@lancastersc.net) or by online submission by selecting the "Citizens Comments" quick link located on the County website homepage at <https://www.mylancastersc.org/> Comments must be no longer than approximately 3 minutes when read aloud. Comments received will be acknowledged during the Citizens Comments portion of the meeting. Comments will need to be received prior to 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please use the same link above in order to submit input/comments for Public Hearings.]

4. Approve Minutes
5. December 15, 2020 - Regular Minutes
- a. Public Items
- a. RZ-2020-2745 Tracey Griffin  
Application by Tracey Griffin to rezone approximately 0.46 acres.
- b. RZ-2020-2772 Annie Leak  
Application by Annie Leak to rezone approximately 2.3 acres of land.
- c. CU-2020-2906 iNetwork Auto  
Application by iNetwork Auto Group for a conditional use permit to allow Vehicle Rental, Leasing and Sales as well as Major Maintenance and Repair at 6686 Waxhaw Hwy. (0020-00-004.00). This project is associated with companion Conditional Use case CU-2020-2907.
- d. CU-2020-2907 iNetwork Auto  
Application by iNetwork Auto Group for a conditional use permit to allow Vehicle Rental, Leasing and Sales as well as Major Maintenance and Repair at 6711 Waxhaw Hwy. (0020-00-004.02). This project is associated with companion Conditional Use case CU-2020-2906.
- e. RZ-2020-2859 Poovey Property \*  
Request to rezone TM # 0044-00-008.00 from Low Density Residential (LDR) to Medium Density Residential (MDR) District. The property is located at 2862 Charlotte Highway and is approximately 278.9 acres in size.
- f. DA-2020-2859 Poovey Development Agreement \*  
Development Agreement to correspond with RZ-2020-2859 for 2862 Charlotte Highway (TM # 0044-00-008.00).
- g. UDO-TA-2020-2578 Landfill - Class One  
Application by Michael D. Wright, Savage, Royall & Sheheen, LLP, to amend Unified Development Ordinance Section 2.5.3, Use Table, Section 5.9, Industry/Wholesale/Storage Uses, and 10.3, Definitions, Use Type, to create and allow for the Landfill - Class

One Composting Facility use in the Heavy Industrial (HI) District as a Special Exception and provide for use specific standards.

h. UDO-TA-2020-0309 Home Occupation Amend Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Section 5.4.2 to modify the existing standards for Home Occupations.

6. New Business
- a. Overview of next month's Agenda
- b. Other
7. Adjourn

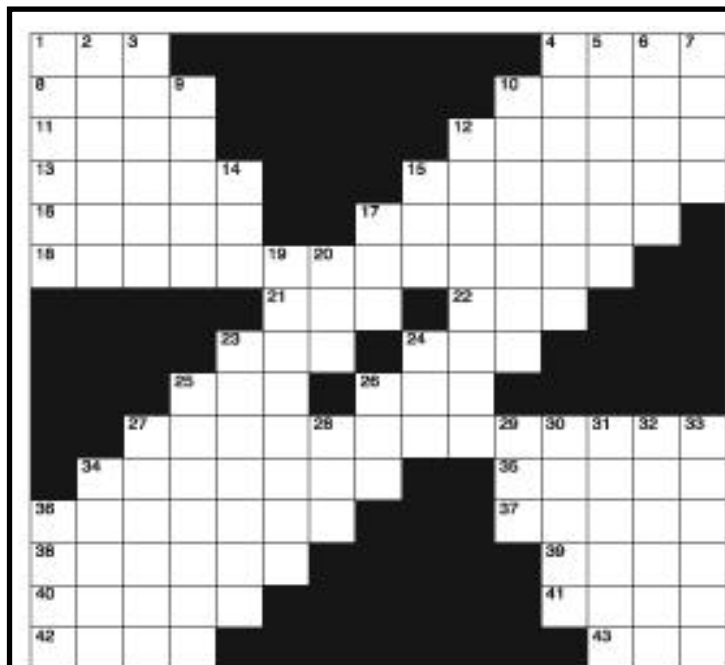
\*The Planning Commission makes a recommendation to County Council on these items. Recommendations made at this meeting are tentatively scheduled for consideration by County Council in the following month. County Council agendas are posted online at <https://lancastersc.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/meetingsresponsive.aspx>

\*\*The Planning Commission makes the final decision on these items.

Anyone requiring special services to attend this meeting should contact 285-1565 at least 24 hours in advance of this meeting. Lancaster County Planning Commission agendas are posted at the Lancaster County Administration Building and are available on the Website: [www.mylancastersc.org](http://www.mylancastersc.org)



## Advertise in the News-Era



- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Adequate yearly progress (abbr.)
  4. Silicon Valley's specialty
  8. Gather a harvest
  10. Famed mathematician
  11. No (slang)
  12. Students use one
  13. Type of molecule
  15. Play make-believe
  16. Large barrel-like

17. Touching
18. Treats allergies
21. Calendar month
22. Single
23. Cease to live
24. Brew
25. What ghosts say
26. Geological time
27. Focus
34. Discomfort
35. A citizen of Iran
36. Trip

37. Imitate
  38. Makes happy
  39. Double-reed instrument
  40. Body parts
  41. Transgressions
  42. One-time emperor of Russia
  43. Time zone
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Used in treating bruises
  2. One who

14. kosh, near Lake Winnebago
15. Popular veggie
17. Supervises interstate commerce
19. Foolish behaviors
20. Witness
23. Gives
24. Expression of creative skill
25. A way to prop up
26. Midway between northeast and east
27. Winter melon
28. Supernatural power
29. Target
30. Threes
31. A type of poetic verse
32. They make some people cry
33. Kindest
34. Forman and Ventimiglia are two
36. A way to liquefy

- SOLUTIONS ACROSS**
1. AYP
  4. TECH
  8. REAP
  10. BOOLE
  11. NOPE
  12. PENCIL
  13. IMINO
  15. PRETEND
  16. CASKS
  17. FEELING
  18. ANTIHISTAMINE
  21. DEC
  22. ONE
  23. DIE
  24. ALE
  25. BOO
  26. ERA
  27. CONCENTRATION
  34. MALAISE
  35. IRANI

- SOLUTIONS DOWN**
1. ARNICA
  2. YEOMAN
  3. PAPIST
  4. TONTINE
  5. EOCENE
  6. CLING
  7. HELD
  9. PENKI
  10. BEELINE
  12. PREMOLAR
  14. OSH
  15. PEA
  17. FTC
  19. IDIOCIES
  20. SEE
  23. ONIONS
  33. NICEST
  34. MILOS
  36. MELT

Suggestion for cheater temptations - So, it's pretty darn easy to fold the paper up at bottom right (triangle fashion) to cover the upside down answers, or simply put a "post-it" over them. Hope it works! for you and yours! :)

