

Trump Seals His Fate!

This has been a wacky day. Started with plans to finish writing this newsletter. Then chaos ensued. First it appeared that the state of Georgia was going to make history by electing two Democrats to the US Senate (it happened). Then Congress was supposed to meet to ratify the Electoral College vote for US President. The vote, which happens every four years and ignored by most, gets a one sentence announcement from news media (unless someone makes a wise crack about the stupidity that the electoral college still exists).

This year promised to be different as about a dozen senators and about a hundred members of the House of Representatives vowed to protest the results from the states that produced close victories for Joe Biden. This was going to be enough to make it a long day for the members of Congress, but unlikely to change the vote, which was in favor of Biden.

A large crowd of Trump-supporters formed in Washington. The crowd said they wanted to support election transparency and prevent (taking a cue from Trump) voter fraud. Shortly after Congress convened and the Trump supporters in Congress had forced a debate concerning the State of Arizona, the pro-Trumpers stormed the Capital, breaking windows, leaving bombs in some offices and terrorizing the members of Congress, who had to leave and hide in other parts of the building. Trump spoke to the crowd and kept on his message of voter -fraud and a stolen election. After a few hours and the death of one woman, Trump again addressed the crowd suggesting they be peaceful and maybe leave, but finished with his message of an election being stolen and that he admired their efforts and spirit.

The incident proved several things, first (most of us knew for a long time) that Trump was only out for himself and could care less about governing. Second, that Trump is incompetent. Third, Trump lies and can not be trusted. The conclusion is that Trump is incapable of holding and functioning as President of the USA!

Fixing Our Democracy!

The establishment media (among others) were quick to label the Trump followers as hooligans, a mob, vandals, a riot, thugs and many other names. There is no question the actions of the Trump supporters was violent and mob-like. Advocates of non-violence

are right to criticize the violent actions! However, the quick dismissal of the crowd because of their violent actions shows disrespect and arrogance.

The crowd felt they had a number of grievances that were ignored. This frustration has been a backbone of Trump's political support. Failure to recognize the problems and the failure to listen to them is the root cause of their existence. A good democracy provides for a diverse platform of political expression! The actions and existence of the crowd on January 6 reflects a failure of our democracy.

A major flaw of the USA's democratic system is the two-party system excludes many voices and usually favors well-funded candidates with close ties to the ruling economic interests. Violence never produces lasting reforms. Nonviolent action has a much better record, but democracy requires constant efforts to promote achieved goals.

The super-rich Trump provided a voice (even if it was one of deception and lies) for his followers, who certainly were not part of the political establishment. While Biden will offer a respite from Trump's deceptions, Biden will only provide modest support for much needed social reforms.

This is the nature of the 2-party political system. We need reforms (for example: multi-member districts, proportional representation, multi-party political system, and other opportunities for all voices to be heard in governing bodies). Those of us with socialist ideas may also become angry mobs!

Removing Trump!

There are calls to impeach Trump. Impeachment might work this time around, but impeachment is a slow process which requires hearings and a trial. The president is free to act as s/he wants to while the process takes place. With only two weeks to go before the inauguration of Joseph Biden, this is not a realistic solution!

One of our members, Eric Beaumont, is circulating a petition to support this using the 25th Amendment and would like some signatures. **Please sign and share it:**

<http://chnq.it/LhDT8cSscf>

