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An Election for the Ages

By Karen Mueller, Amos Center for Justice, Every Life Matters Educational Center

Complimentary Story

I am writing this the day after "Super Tuesday." As I watched the results of the primary elections coming in last night I shook my head and wondered what conservatives and evangelicals in these states were thinking. This morning it is clear that Trump is an even the bigger winner than expected with seven new states under his belt.

Even though there appears to be a three way race, this is really a two-way race between establishment and non-establishment candidates. Both Trump and Rubio are considered establishment candidates. Trump is the presumptive establishment candidate because he is the front-runner in a Republican race and Rubio is the actual establishment candidate by choice-because he is the epitome of what it means to be part of the Republican establishment. Cruz, however, is the orphan in this race-the unwanted constitutional conservative.

This morning, as a nation, we stand on the precipice of cutting the last tether to our United States Constitution. Whoever the GOP elects as their presidential candidate will determine whether our country continues to be a constitutional republic or deteriorates into a dictatorship. I assert that if you vote for any candidate other than Ted Cruz you will help to achieve the latter, either directly or indirectly depending upon your candidate.

In his latest statement after winning last night, Donald Trump, who has positioned himself as an establishment republican, said that he has now enlarged the Republican Party. This is somewhat deceptive because in actuality Trump's voters are made up of "blue-dog" democrats who don't have the stomach to vote for outright socialists, and independents who might naturally vote for a liberal, big government, pro-choice candidate such as himself. But Trump's voters are also made up of angry conservative evangelicals who under other circumstances would never vote for such a vulgar, sexist, bombastic bully who remains a staunch Planned Parenthood advocate. In fact, I believe that if Trump wins, someday these same people will be horrified at their actions.

A circus atmosphere now pervades the republican presidential debates and primary elections. Trump insults and degrades the other candidates like a petulant, spoiled child but still is not hurt in the polls. Those that support "The Donald" apparently overlook these boorish attacks on others and are adamant in their belief that he is the only candidate that will bring the change that they want. But we have been down this road before. As we found out with the election of Barack Hussein Obama, "Change" guarantees a new direction, not necessarily the best direction. The promise of "Change" without a roadmap is more dangerous now than it was eight years ago because the country has already been weakened by Obama's repeated fundamental transformation assaults on our constitution.

These normally conservative and evangelical voters have mistakenly identified Donald Trump as the anti-establishment candidate who will make their lives better. They believe he has the only path to security and safety and renewed prosperity. To these voters, may I suggest that your anger at the establishment is clouding your vision as to whom and what will make your life better, beyond this election cycle. You will punish the establishment by voting for Trump, but you will also punish yourselves and the rest of us, by



destroying the foundational documents of this country that have given you and me a free country to live in, to work in, to raise your children in and to worship your God in, without fear of governmental intrusion. You will do this by voting for Trump, because his words tell us that he is no more interested in preserving the constitution than Obama or Hillary or Bernie.

Trump's own statements indicate that the future holds tyranny for those who disagree with him or cross his purposes. It is likely, in fact, that the task that Obama and Hillary began in their attempts to destroy the rights secured by the Bill of Rights, will be completed by Trump, if he is elected. The Donald recently stated that he will "fix" the libel laws so that he can sue news organizations that write *negative things* about him. That would mean the end of freedom of the press and would require the repeal of the 1st Amendment, so that he can exact revenge on his enemies. But it won't stop there. The "net" will have to be enlarged to include regulating bloggers and other columnists who speak in less than glowing terms about Trump or his actions.

In the past Trump indicated that the 2nd Amendment's protection should not extend to assault weapons. I have one. Do you? Be prepared to give it up. Donald has proven through his real estate business dealings that he embraces using the eminent domain clause of the constitution for private use. In fact, in one instance he even attempted to force an elderly widow to sell her property in order to build a casino parking lot. He is still defending his actions in that case. He has not renounced them.

Trump has also not renounced the use of executive orders by Obama and in fact seems to eagerly anticipate and embrace this expansive approach to executive powers. It is possible that he may wish to increase their use in a way that may even surpass Obama's lawlessness. For instance, this morning "The Donald" announced that Speaker Paul Ryan will "pay" if he doesn't go along with Trump's demands once he has been crowned . . . err, elected.

Trump's apparent philosophy that the "ends justify any means" has been revealed through his repeated threats to "punch" people in the face if he does not like them. While he may not be able to physically accomplish such feats, consider the childish outlook that harbors such a constant thread of vengeful and punishing ideas that he then openly repeats to others if he does not like someone or they thwart his goals. He has threatened to make Mexico "pay" for the wall that he will build and he will throw all Muslims out of the country. Making our country safe again is a top priority of every candidate, but using Stalinist tactics will not serve our country well. We can use constitutional law enforcement principles to achieve the same goals. We should have enough border security forces that all illegal immigration is stopped from occurring at our southern and northern borders. We should have immigration laws and the enforcement means in place for these laws to stop all immigrants from all countries that cannot be properly vetted. After, there is no constitutional right to come to this country. Furthermore, it is the burden of every immigrant to prove that they are not a terrorist, not the other way around. (Due process does not apply to immigrants.)

So what should we do to save ourselves and our country from Trump's ideas? Obviously, in most states Trump does not have more than 50% of the vote. Therefore, if there is only one candidate left to oppose him, there is a better than 50% chance of beating him at the polls. So let us analyze each candidate to determine who should leave the race.

Marco Rubio is a good man. He is young and energetic and it is obvious that he loves this country and the constitution. But Rubio has also been contaminated by the big money in Washington, D.C. He joined the Gang of Eight and sold out our border patrol agents. Rubio cannot win even if Cruz were to drop out *because constitutional conservatives on principle will not vote one more time for an establishment candidate that goes to Washington and then bows to the money that got them there and makes no significant reforms in Washington, D.C.* We will stand down. If that happens Trump wins.

Kasich from Ohio cannot win. Period. For the sake of the country he needs to drop out now.

Dr. Ben Carson is a wonderful conservative. But he cannot win this election. A vote for Dr. Carson at this point in the race, however well meaning and principled, is actually a vote for Trump. If a loved one of mine needed their brain operated upon in order to be healed I would certainly choose Dr. Carson. But the United States of America does not need a brain surgeon specialist right now. Instead we desperately need a constitutional specialist to help heal our country. And that man is Ted Cruz.

Ted Cruz is set apart from the other candidates by being a constitutional conservative. As a Christian attorney, Cruz has spent his whole life defending those principles memorialized in our founding documents. He has argued nine times in front of the U.S. Supreme Court. And each time it was to uphold the rule of law found in the constitution. He defended the second Amendment in *Heller* and won. In fact, he closely identifies with the late Justice Antonin Scalia who wrote that opinion. Cruz has defended the pledge of allegiance in *Newdow* and also has defended the Ten Commandments monuments being on public property. Finally, in *Bush v Texas*, as the solicitor general, Ted Cruz won a case that held that the International Court of Justice's decision does not trump (no pun intended) our constitutional law. By winning this case, Cruz sent the leader of a gang of brutal illegal alien rapists and murderers back to death row by causing the gang leader to lose his appeal to the international court to have his conviction overturned.

Because of Ted Cruz' strong adherence to the constitution, he is the only candidate that once given the powers of the president; you can depend upon, to not usurp legislative power. Every other candidate would find it difficult to resist using the expansive powers that President Obama has now secured for the executive branch by his repeated usurpation of unchallenged executive orders, but Ted Cruz would know which powers would be his to use lawfully and which powers would violate the constitution. Therefore, by

electing him as the next president, we could have the “clock-reset,” so to speak.

The stakes in this election could not be higher because once we have severed all ties to our founding documents then any person who ascends to the presidency can become a tyrant because there will be no document that restrains their authority. History bears out the truth that freedoms once lost to tyrants are difficult, if not impossible to reclaim, at least without much bloodshed.

Rubio must now leave the race in order to give the establishment people a clear choice to make. They must either throw their support and their power to Trump (who is not really a Republican at all) or to Cruz the anti-establishment conservative candidate that represents our founding principles.

We are now standing at the crossroads. If the candidates do not leave the race on their own, then the voters must “remove” them intellectually and mentally from their voting field of possibilities, for the good of the country.

The cure for what ails our fractured country is a medicine that most do not even recognize. After eight years of Obama the country desperately needs a constitutional conservative in order to reverse the trends that Obama has established and to make the corrections to the executive powers that are necessary to restore the separation of powers framework that the founders designed into our republican form of government. The next president must do these things in order to restore our freedoms. We must have a president that is willing to retie us to the “constitutional anchor” by giving up power that the seat of the presidency has wrongfully acquired. By definition such a person will be principled and will adhere to the plain language of the constitution. Such a person will have the constitutional principles that will guide his actions. Therefore, the very document he seeks to save will forbid him from overreaching legislative powers through the excessive use of executive powers.

But sadly for our county rather than Americans being drawn towards the natural “cure” to Obama’s lawlessness, a significant number of voting republicans/conservatives/evangelicals are instead flocking to a “Celebrity” candidate and clinging to him no matter what vulgar, racist, sexist or anti-constitutional statements that he may make.

The most bitter pill for constitutional conservatives to swallow comes not from the thought of Bernie Sanders, the self-proclaimed socialist or even Hillary, the ever-shifting progressive democrat, winning. No, it is rather the realization that our own fellow conservatives and Christian countrymen and countrywomen may throw the self-governing country that God gave us away, because they accept Trump’s lack of political correctness, bullying tactics and brazenness as prerequisite traits for the change they believe this country needs. But in reality these characteristics of Trumps will take us down a very dark road. History has proved that truth, time and time again. The brute force and callous disregard for the individual rights of other human beings, that he has already displayed a propensity towards, always ends badly. They are not the traits that are needed to uplift our country and to set it back on the high road. Virtue, a deep seated faith in God and a highly specialized understanding of what our founding fathers crafted with their pens and with their blood, will be needed by our new president in order to guide us through the upcoming storms and anchor us, once again, to documents filled with principles that will lead our posterity, down the road, to prosperity and the “blessings of liberty.” Ted Cruz may not have the most polished “bed-side” manner as one candidate, he may not be as likable or handsome as another other candidate, he may not be as famous as another, but he is what the Great Creator has sent us in order to answer the prayers of the faithful who have cried out to God to “heal our land.”

Do not miss the signs.

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