

Some Thoughts on Four Key Issues Facing America And the Republican Party at this Time.

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GENERAL:

After the 2004 election, as Republicans took control of the presidency, the House, the Senate, a majority of governorships and state legislatures nationwide, the pundits saw a historic realignment shaping up — toward conservative Republicans, away from Liberal Democrats. The picture looked so bright that Wayne Allen Root, in his best-seller, *Millionaire Republican*, boldly predicted:

“The Republican dominance at all levels of government will not only continue — it will increase. I believe that the GOP is entering a phase of dominance similar to that of FDR and the Democrats in 1932. The GOP will dominate all levels of government for many years to come.”

Now, just two years later, his ratings hovering around 28%, the President and his supporters, including me, are wondering just what’s happening. Will we be able to retain control Congress in November and the White House in ‘08?

I believe that the President’s ratings and those of Congress in the polls indicate that several bad decisions may have lost us much of the Republican Party base and may well have cost Republicans the good will of a majority of American conservative voters, Democrat and Republican alike. I believe the Republican’s position is so tenuous that in November 2006 we may lose several governorships in key states, the House of Representatives, and possibly the Senate, unless the Bush Administration and Congress return to basic Republican conservative positions *now*, prior to the elections. In other words, they need to act like Republicans once again.

Below are my views on four key issues, which I feel are the most important ones facing the nation today. Of course there are others, but these will serve as a useful starting point.

1) ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION:

Mr. Bush's immigration policy has been a mild disaster. With 11-12 million illegals now residing in the United States, and more flooding across our borders daily, it is, in a sense, as if we are being invaded by a foreign power. The strength of the Reconquista Movement, growing on both sides of the border, indicates a hostile, divisive spirit among Mexican immigrants; NOT all are coming here simply for a "better life." Many of our communities around the nation are now inundated with these people.

We are NOT a nation of immigrants; we are a nation of LEGAL immigrants. My ancestors, and probably yours, came here legally; they did not break the laws of their new country to get here, they did not flout its sovereignty and violate its borders on the way, they did not thumb their noses at its citizens once here, and they did not send most of their earnings back to the country from which they came, thus supporting its economy.

They assimilated fairly quickly after arriving. They did not demand rights under our Constitution which are not legally theirs, such as free medical benefits, free education, and instant driver licenses. They earned their rights by learning English, working hard, emulating their law-abiding neighbors, and applying for citizenship as soon as eligible.

The vast majority of aliens in this country are Mexicans. Americans do not have any obligation to prop up the Mexican economy, but that's what we're doing, to the detriment of our own untrained, entry-level citizens. These people send much of their illicit

income back to relatives abroad. Responsibility for Mexico lies with the Mexican people and the officials they elect. Hopefully, the winner of Mexico's recent presidential election may help this problem somewhat. A thriving economy south of the border will tend to encourage Mexicans to stay in Mexico, where they can help to build their own country, not inundate their tolerant neighbor to the north with castoffs. The winning presidential candidate in Mexico's 2006 election has promised to try doing just that.

Meanwhile, illegal Mexican aliens bring with them crime, dependency, strife, and turmoil. In southern California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, communities cannot cope with the influx; their educational, medical, welfare and justice systems are overtaxed and straining to meet a burden which should not be theirs. Nationwide, our larger cities are becoming slums, our churches are confused and focus only on how much help these people need when they arrive, and our citizens are cowed into silence, fearful of offending a neighbor who has no right to be here and a liberal elite with its destructive agenda; to change American demographics to serve its own purposes. Have we not learned anything from the Yugoslavian experience?

- a) The borders, north and south, must be secured. Volunteer movements of the past two years have shown it is possible to do this when the political and financial will and commitment are there.
- b) Regular army troops and volunteers should be used, since state and federal authorities seem incapable of seeing the problem for what it is; people breaking the law and violating our borders. However, the President's plan to bring 6000 National Guardsmen from three or four states to the border is not only useless but it will only alienate more voters as their civilian sons and

husbands are activated and lives and careers disrupted. Regular army troops should be used — that's why we have a regular army — and their mission must be interdiction, seizure and deportation of any and all persons seeking access to this country illegally. The catch and release policy now being followed must cease.

- c) Employers who advertise for immigrants to come here without following the law, and those who employ illegals once here should be aggressively targeted nationally and prosecuted by the Department of Justice, and in individual states by local law enforcement. Penalties should include jail time as well as hefty fines for CEOs, owners and operators.

2) LEGAL IMMIGRATION:

Where is it written that we must accept all comers from every nation of the world? I believe our quota system is seriously flawed. We are allowing far too many people to come here. Our demographics are changing dramatically. We cannot even keep track of those we allow in to visit and work. Most simply disappear instead of returning to their country of origin when their visas and/or green cards expire. Many who come here do not share our system of values. Democracy driven by Republican principles is foreign to them (no pun intended). Rights AND responsibilities go hand in hand, but some people coming here often do not understand this fact.

- a) We should declare a ten-year moratorium on immigration, in order to allow us time to assimilate those already here legally. Moratoriums have been enacted before. There is precedent.

- b) Once we resume the process we should lower the annual quotas. Currently, more than a million immigrants are allowed here each year.
- c) Our concentration should then be on European immigrants who share our values, rather than on Asian, African, Middle Eastern, Far-Eastern and South American immigrants.

3) TERRORISM:

This and the Immigration problem are linked, as are the illegal drug trafficking and human trafficking. Mr. Bush's idea to fight terrorists in Afghanistan and Iraq rather than on the streets of New York and Los Angeles is a good one, but he has lost credibility because of our porous borders and his refusal to do anything meaningful about them. If we are really serious about fighting a "war on terror," the borders must be secured FIRST so that we know who is entering and leaving our country. Why is this so hard for some people to understand?

- a) While I believe we're on the right track, I think the war in both countries mentioned above should be fought more aggressively.
- b) More energy and resources must be devoted to understanding the people of the Mid-East, and gaining their confidence,
- c) We should encourage and aid them in taking over responsibility for their own countries, their own freedom, and their own lives. This includes securing their own borders,
- d) We need to develop more HUMINT sources in the Mid-East. We need solid intelligence flowing from that area in order to take the correct actions.

- e) We should seek to work with those governments who see our actions as a means to provide freedom for their people, thereby harnessing the creative power of their citizens in building their economies. It is probable that leaders of several OPEC nations do not see us in that light, but rather as threats to their power and control, and while not opposing us directly, are seeking to hinder and impede our goals by raising oil prices, attempting to damage our economy in the one area in which they have the power to do so: energy resources.
- f) We must develop more aggressive military tactics for hunting down and killing those terrorists we cannot capture, while exercising more care to protect civilians from harm during our military activities. The lesson of the Vietnamese War must be heeded. Accidentally killing innocent civilians will soon lose us the broad support we need.

4) FEDERAL SPENDING:

I believe Republicans in the past twelve years have won elections on the strength of Newt Gingrich's ten-point "*Contract with America*," one part of which was a balanced budget. Recall that former President Clinton was dragged, kicking and screaming, to the point of doing so. Democrats have recently tried to take sole credit, even though it was a Republican House which took the lead during Clinton's administration. Aware of this, voters responded by electing more fiscally conservatives Republicans to office. It was morally high ground, and America is always at her best when she asserts basic moral principles as part of her foreign and domestic policies.

- a) Federal spending must be curbed. We need to return to the all-too-brief days of a balanced federal budget and an annual surplus.
- b) Congressional pork or “earmarking” must be stopped. Those who continue to slip excessive spending bills into other legislation will pay the price at the polls in November 2006. Voters are more politically astute than they once were.
- c) The president must exercise his veto power during his remaining time in office to control federal spending and substantially reduce the deficit. He must again convince the voters that he is, indeed, a fiscally responsible president, and that the Republican Party is a fiscally responsible and graft-free Party.

5) CONCLUSION:

Although I've taken a pessimistic view here, it is well to remember that in 2004 George W. Bush received more votes than any presidential candidate in American history, and the Republican Party won 81 % of all the counties in America; a sea of Republican red inundated Democrat blue in that election. Mr. Bush, staunchly pro-life, proved that his victory in 2000 was no fluke by increasing his voter share in forty-eight of fifty states. With those kinds of facts, the GOP should be in a position to dominate presidential politics for years to come. But will it?

Republicans, both moderates (read liberal) and fiscal and social conservatives, need to ask themselves one question: “if not a Republican, then who?” Certainly, if one looks only at the quality of Democrat presidential candidates, one of them in the White House is simply unpalatable. John Kerry? Al Gore? Hillary Clinton? John Edwards? Barack Obama? All fatally flawed by baggage making each a fat target. The United

States is a country moving philosophically to the right. All these presidential candidates would move it in the opposite direction. And when you throw in names like Al Sharpton (of Ta wanna Bradley fame) and Jesse Jackson (king of the extortionist business), both of whom could end up as presidential advisors, the decision for Republican voters, especially Christian Republican voters, becomes clear. It must be a Republican again, even if we are not completely satisfied with some of the policies of our leaders.