

DAILY NEWS

Trump supporters will just not go away | On the Left

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Oh, how I had hoped that the local Trumpsters would quietly fold up their Trump flags and sheepishly toss them into the dustbin of history. I had hoped they would have tossed those MAGA hats in the trash or moved them into a cardboard box, sealed up for all eternity in some garage or attic. No such luck.

With a leader who has no moral scruples, no conscience about repeating a lie, and whose ego won't let him admit that he is a loser, his disciples continue to goosestep to whatever their Lord Voldemort says. Brainwashing is a sad thing. Ideological zealots are a sad lot. They hear only what they want to hear and watch only what matches their own opinion. The truth? Who cares.

Truth stopped mattering for these people when Trump came down those escalators in 2015 to a crowd he had purchased and announced his presidency by calling our good neighbors to the South a bunch of rapists and thieves. No matter that the undocumented have lower crime rates than white people. Undocumented immigrants made up about 6.4% of the Texas population in 2015, but accounted for 5.4% of homicide convictions, according to a Cato study. US-born Texas residents, meanwhile, made up 83% of the state's population, but 93% of homicide convictions.

For the Christian Nationalists, they got what they wanted: a Supreme Court that will redefine judicial activism in favor of misogyny and will let corporations run amuck. And we on the left, watched them do it. Why? Because we believe in law and order and justice. We believe in the Constitution and common decency.

Case in point. We can thank Mitch McConnell for holding up President Obama's nomination to the Supreme Court for nearly a year. Merrick Garland was no zealot. He would have made a fine Supreme Court judge just as he is judiciously handling the justice department now.

And then, when Ruth Bader Ginsburg died just a couple weeks before the 2020 election, McConnell decided to rush the nomination process. Things are different when you can get your own guy or gal on the highest court in the land. The result? Trump got three more conservative zealots on the court, Roe v Wade, and our right to privacy disappeared.

All three of Trump's Supreme Court choices lied during their hearings stating that Roe was a clear precedent. Republican Senator Susan Collins said that both Gorsuch and Mr. "I like beer" Kavanaugh lied to her about keeping Roe in place. Their intention all along was to do away with

Roe, but in a matter where the truth no longer matters, zealots can say whatever they want without consequences. Even if they are sworn to tell the truth.

If McConnell had acted in good faith, if he would have done the right thing and summoned at least a little bit of moral fortitude along with a love for the governing process regarding both Merrick Garland and RBG, liberals and moderates would have a 5 to 4 majority on the court. Women in the Reddest of states would still have access to abortion services. Our privacy rights would be protected.

And maybe the Supreme Court would take another look at the Second Amendment. After all, if Roe can be overturned, so could the 2008 Supreme Court Heller decision, which has led to a gun health crisis.

Consider this: In 2020 and 2021, firearms contributed to the deaths of more children ages 1-17 years old in the U.S. than any other type of injury or illness. The child firearm mortality rate has doubled in the U.S. from a recent low of 1.8 deaths per 100,000 in 2013 to 3.7 in 2021 according to statistics from the CDC.

Seems amazing, doesn't it? Guns in the United States kill more kids than childhood diseases. Guns kill more kids than car accidents. Guns kill more kids than accidental drownings. No other country comes close as our rate is 10 times higher than the next country, Canada, which is not exactly indifferent to gun ownership.

No other peer nation on earth comes close to matching our child mortality rates from gun violence. Gun laws work. States that have more gun laws have lower child mortality rates from guns. The more lenient the gun laws are, the more deaths kids experience.

But truth doesn't matter anymore. The Christian Nationalists got what they wanted by being single-issue voters. They held their noses and ignored the vulgarities of Donald Trump, his lies, his infidelities, his shady business dealings, his attempts to establish a coup on January 6, 2021 and his total disregard for the peaceful transition of power through democratic institutions.

We need to learn from the Christian Nationalists and choose just a couple of issues to win back the House and keep the Senate and the Presidency. The Supreme Court is gone. It will be 30 or 40 years before we return to sanity in that once-august body.

The green-eyed beauty has "My body, my choice" tattooed on her foot. Well, that is true in California. It is no longer the case in Florida, Texas, Missouri, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, North and South Dakota, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Georgia. Most of these states now ban abortion after six weeks, often before a woman even knows she is pregnant.

Who is to blame for this? The Republican party, Christian Nationalists, Senator Mitch McConnell and especially Donald Trump. Think of that the next time you see a Trump flag flying or a MAGA hat.