

From: Pisarik, Holly  
To: plarosa@sled.sc.gov <plarosa@sled.sc.gov>  
Date: 7/27/2016 11:39:11 AM  
Subject: FW: "The enemy of my enemy is my friend?"

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From: Bill Stephens [mailto:wstephens@sparrowhawk.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:34 AM  
To: Pisarik, Holly  
Cc: Taylor, Marshall  
Subject: FW: "The enemy of my enemy is my friend?"

### **Food for Thought...**

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From: Bill Stephens  
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 10:56 AM  
To: 'ecampaign@gop.com'; 'newsmanager@foxnews.com'; 'ck@charleskrauthammer.com'; 'editorial@thedailybeast.com'; 'nytnews@nytimes.com'; 'news-tips@nytimes.com'; 'letters@washpost.com'; 'newsrelease@politico.com'; 'contact@marcorubio.com'  
Subject: "The enemy of my enemy is my friend?"

All: The message included below my signature is making the rounds, and a number of friends and family members have sent it to me. It is usually in much larger type font.

Here's the problem I have with the logic.....(You may want to read it first.)

The essence is threefold. Advocates of the approach embodied in the message attached below my signature seem to be saying:

*"The enemy of my enemy is my friend."*

*and*

*"I am pretty much at odds with and viscerally despise the majority of the rest of the world and I want a champion who will poke them all in the eyes."*

*and*

*"The guy may be a scheming, disingenuous putz, but he beats a sharp stick in the eye."*

To that I say,

*"An eye for an eye makes all blind."*

*and*

*"Sometimes those I see as my enemies are simply not. Sometimes I just*

*have to remove the stake from my own eye to see that.”*

To all, with all due respect, I am trying my best to remove the stakes I have driven deep into my eyes over the years. Today, I am seeing differently.

I would hope all would try to see both presumptive nominees for what they are. Neither can be provided a mandate. One will likely win unless both are disqualified or withdraw. Frankly, that would likely be a very good outcome for the nation.

My strategy to deal with the one who has hijacked the Republican Party is to help hit him mercilessly where he lives – ego, money, credibility, brand value, losing, and legacy.

My hope is, while I disagree with the substantial majority of the positions Bernie Sanders has taken, the dynamics of the grassroots Sanders movement will take hold as a new norm for campaign financing and dynamics for both (or all) parties. The Sanders supporters have much to be proud of for that contribution to countering and reversing the effects of corrupt campaign financing laws existing as a result of the 2010 Supreme Court decision regarding Super PACs. I believe the nation needs three to five viable parties to insure we will not continually have to face choices between the evil of two lessers.

Regarding Hillary Clinton: I still have faith we are a nation that respects and operates according to the Rule of Law. If that is not the case, we have a lot more to worry about with regard to our future. Hillary Clinton - if she wins - will live in a fishbowl, continually under scrutiny for the smallest infractions. Much more accountable to America's citizens and the Congress (our only real representatives). Not a bad situation in a nation whose Executive Branch has become much too powerful.

I believe our best chance to turn that tide is to have a person in that role who will have to look over his or her shoulder every step of the way. Electing a person like Mr. Trump would simply perpetuate and legitimize a sick dynamic and create far more division than Mr. Obama has. Never mind the fact that the slightest margin of victory would establish, in his mind, the green light to operate as a populist rogue.

No one person can or will “...*make America great again, create millions of jobs, or make America safe...*” That's a silly, naive notion. At our cores, we all know that. If we don't we have clearly been devalued from “exceptional” to “truly ordinary”. The challenges allegedly championed by the candidates for POTUS are really **our** challenges as citizens – and we can't and won't accomplish any of those things if we outsource the job to charlatans, profiteers, or people whom we allow to operate above the law.

Here's an experiment: Next time you watch your favorite candidate, watch the opponent for an equal length of time. Count the number of “We's” and “I's”. The ratio for an American leader should be 10:1. How do they stack up?

My two cents on that.

## Will Stephens

P.S. As you read the message below, imagine an Islamist caliphate supporter or the

supporter of other quasi-fascist movements rationalizing the actions of his/her leaders in a similar fashion. That suggestion may rile many or most, but sometimes walking a mile in the other person's shoes makes us realize the souls from the bottom of ours are missing.

P.P.S. I realize when I send my pieces to multiple media outlets, that guarantees no one will publish the message as is because they all want exclusives. That's OK. All my pieces on related subjects (nearly 50 in all) will soon be published on a web site. People who have received my messages over the past year have simply gotten uninvited previews. I'll send the web address when it goes live.

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@@@

Begin forwarded message:

**The folks speaking out against Trump are helping me make up my mind a little more every day! Is he the Perfect Candidate whose thoughts mirrors mine on all fronts? NOPE**

**Does he say everything the way I wish he would say it? NOPE**

**Am I absolutely sure that his motives are absolutely Pure? NOPE**

**Can I point to any other Dem Politician that I like better? NOPE**

**Is there any of the other RINO Politicians I like better? NOPE**

**Am I going to sit home, refuse to Vote, and let Hillary win; because he is NOT Perfect? NOPE**

**Do I like what I have seen for the last 7-1/2 years with that community organizer that sleeps in my White House? NOPE**

**Do I like the "fundamental changes" that same Jerk has brought about in MY America? NOPE**

**OK, your turn to decide what you are going to do in about 4 months!**

**Trump's presidential qualifications...**

**Obama is against Trump... Check**

**The Media are against Trump... Check**

**The establishment Democrats are against Trump... Check**

**The establishment Republicans are against Trump... Check**

**The Pope is against Trump... Check**

**The UN is against Trump... Check**

**The EU is against Trump... Check**

**China is against Trump... Check**

**Mexico is against Trump... Check**

**Soros is against Trump... Check**

**Black Lives Matter is against Trump... Check**

**Move On is against Trump... Check**

**Koch Brothers are against Trump... Check**

**Bushes are against Trump ... Check**

**Planned Parenthood is against Trump....Check**

**Hillary & Bernie are both against Trump ... Check**

**Illegal aliens are against Trump ... Check**

**Islam is against Trump ... Check**

**Kasich is against Trump ... Check**

**Hateful, racist, violent Liberals are against Trump.. Check**

**NOW THAT BEING SAID...**

**It seems to me, *Trump MUST BE the Best Qualified Candidate we could ever have.***

**If you have so many political insiders and left wing NUT CASES--- all SCARED TO DEATH, that they all speak out against him at the same time!**

***Most of all, it will be the People's Choice...***

**PLUS**

**He's not a Lifetime Politician...Check**

**He's not a Lawyer.....Check**

**He's not doing it for the money...Check**

**He's a Natural Born American Citizen born in the USA from American parents. . .**

**Bonus points !**

**Whoopi says she will leave the country...**

**Rosie says she will leave the country...**

**Sharpton says he will leave the country...**

**Cher says she will leave the country...**

**Cyrus says she will leave the country...**

**The Constitution and the Bill of Rights will prevail....**

**Hillary will go to jail.....**

**The budget will be balanced in 8 years....**

**Americans will have first choice at jobs.....**

**You will not be able to marry your pet....**

**You will be able to keep your gun(s) if you qualify...  
(Not a criminal or crazy, etc.)**

**Only living, registered U.S. citizens can vote....**

**MUST SHOW ID TO VOTE...**

**You can have and keep your own doctor.....**

**You can say whatever you want without being called a racist, Islamophobic,  
xenophobic, etc....**

**He will make AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!**

**Come to think of it, we have no place to go, but UP!...**

**REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER!!!!!!!**

*Pass it on and God Bless America!!*