

# On Trumpianism: Why did 70 Million Americans Still Vote for Trump after They Knew What He was like?

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The government you elect is the government you deserve. Thomas Jefferson.

I live in a small city that, up until the COVID-19- was visited by a quarter of million visitors, mainly Americans, mainly New Yorkers, every year. While I was walking on a waterfront pedway, I started up a conversation with an older gentleman and his son. After the son questioned where all the port rats were (we have none), he referred to the American Blacks as “negros”. I was told by the father that they have a lot of thievery on board the cruise ships, perpetuated by the Blacks- their countrymen.

Donald Trump was duly elected as the 45<sup>th</sup> President of the United States largely I think, because Americans did not want another Clinton in the White House- and a woman at that. Hillary Clinton lost the election but won the popular vote. The Electoral College system of counting votes gives more weight to the rural voter than the urban voter. The large cities such as New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles voted for Democrat Clinton. The rural voters, and racist communities (KKK; Neo-Nazis; White Supremist, and the proud boys) tended to vote for Trump.

There is lots of evidence that Trump is indeed a racist although he claims not to be (smoke in mirrors). But anyone who says after a Neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville North Carolina that “there were good people on both sides.” By what standard are Neo-Nazis being good people? We note that Hitler was elected to Chancellor of Germany prior to WWII. Trump had not gassed the Blacks as I think I think he would like to, but he does what he can to support a White America. The MAGA slogan “Make America Great Again,” I think should really be “Make America White Again.” That is what I think they really mean.

Usually, a US President is done after his term in office, in this case, of course 1 term or 4 years. But Trump will not go away. He still influences political races by throwing his political weight behind people that were loyal to harm the political chances of someone disloyal to Trump. That is politics. But how could 70 million American voters still vote for Donald Trump even though he came up short by 7 million votes to Joe Biden?

In this paper, I will consider why Trump is so popular, and whether it is reasonable to be a racist in America. America has a long history of Black suppression, and women as well. In fact, Black men got suffrage before white women. Is being a racist a valid position? Was it ever a valid position to hold? America, according to the US constitution is “We the people” -a government of, by and for the people. Are not blacks and other people of color and women people? In fact, there are reported to be 30 million illegal Hispanics in the US who do not enjoy the perks of citizenship. President Joe Biden hopes to change that so that everyone in America is a citizen.

Will we see Donald Trump get elected in the next federal election 2024? American’s views on racism is not likely to change in that short period of time. I do not think Trump will actually get elected. I think the people who took a chance on him first time around will not make the same mistake again. Average voters are growing tired of him. He has his base as we witness the mod of Trump supporters who wanted to hang Vice President Mike Pence.

Trump is also an extremely poor leader viz the COVID crisis. There are countless examples where he could have done better. His ideas few such as building a wall on the US Mexico border. Yet he still garnered 70 million votes despite record unemployment in the US; a faltering stock

market500k COVID deaths; Russia interference in the US elections etc.

While in Office, the media changed their tune on Trump. As Trump said, “Before being elected, “I used to get good press.” What we found out was that Trump was probably not a billionaire (He refused to release his taxes and defended that stance in Court); married to a model (seemingly unhappily); graduate of a Master’s degree from Wharton Business school (said to have cheated on the SAT tests); Draft dodger for the Vietnam war thanks to a fraudulent letter from his family doctor due to a mysterious bone spur; participated in sexual harassment of Stormy Daniels and others as well. A bad pedigree from any future president.

Trump stacked the Federal courts legally and the supreme court as well. He replaced Ruth B Grin Bridge with Brett Kavanaugh, the top graduate of Yale Law school – number one in the country. Trump attacked Press, eventually including Fox news because they declared the election in which Trump was defeated valid. They lost their viewership because of Trump withdrawing his endorsement of them. Trump also is a serial liar as shown by politically biased CNN – cable news network. Jim Mecosta of CNN lost his White House Credentials which he got back after CNN sued Trump.

On the international stage, Trump refrained from going to war with Iran. There were a few retaliations from America against Iran but not WWII as some expected. And Trump avoided a war with North Korea and Kim Yung UN. Trump elevated Kim’s status on the international stage with his so called “love” affair with Kim. North Korea did not succumb to Trump or America’s wished that they give up nuclear bomb aspirations. But the high light of Trump’s foreign policy was his tough stance against China and trade. China’s economy stumbled. Trump had pulled out of the Trans Pacific Partnership at the very beginning of his 4 year presidency. Trump also pulled out of the Paris Climate Accord. Trump did not want the US to be the global leader apparently. China said it would act as the world’s police man.

Nevertheless, the US Constitution survived it all as it has a civil war; the great depression and Vietnam.

Trump has the dubious distinction of being impeached by congress twice -both times he was acquitted. How a vote of conscience could come down to party lines is a mystery. Perhaps the congressmen and women did not vote their conscience?

After Trump lost the election, he started giving out pardons to his friends and allies such as long-time associate Roger Stone. Trump claimed an election promise that he was going to drain the swamp and that he would have the best people working for his administration. The opposite was true. We do not know if Trump could or did give himself one. His claims of voter fraud seek to divide the country even more than it already is. Meanwhile, a real threat against the Use elections- viz Russian interference-remains a real threat. Trump’s voter fraud claims are deemed baseless by both Republicans and Democrats alike. It is the same story for conspiracy charges against the Republican party and Trump as well. Finally, on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Trump set up and stoked his radical far right supporters to attack the Capitol buildings chanting “Hang Mike Pence.” Just because Mike Pence, in his office of Vice President had to declare the legitimate victory of Joe Biden. The insurrection of January 6<sup>th</sup> is the head of Trump supporters. But they ran for cover when the video tapes were examined by Law enforcement

Attorney General Bill Bar turned from being a Trump loyalist to a Trump enemy when he reported that there was no fraud in the federal election of 2020. Biden has decidedly picked an AG who is independent even though Biden’s son is under investigation for tax fraud.

FBI Director James Comey practically handed Trump a victory in the 2016 election when he announced just before the election that Hillary Clinton was being investigated. It was enough to turn the tide of the election. Really Comey decided who would be the presidential choice. People decided to take a chance on Trump the first time around. The second time around they did not, and Trump lost.

Trump Attorney Michael Cohen who was jailed for lying to investigators about Trump was jailed. He

fell out of favour with Trump and Cohen never let him forget it. Cohen was an unstable friend to Trump. He worked for and with him for years but when the chips were down, he opted out of being a Trump loyalist. Trump could have given him a pardon for federal crimes.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo remained a loyal Trump supporter up until the end of his term. Trump was not really all that interested in Foreign Affairs and told Pompeo that he “could do whatever he liked so long as he didn’t start WWII.” Pompeo is believed to have higher aspirations in politics than Secretary of State. He remains a Trump loyalist.

National Security Advisor John Bolton did not last long in that position. He openly disagreed with Trump and has become the post boy for anti-Trumpism regularly appearing on CNN as a contributor to the anti-Trump dialogue. John Bolton is a rather whiney and jaded person from all appearances. I think he is happy though with his book deal after bad mouthing Trump in it.

US ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley remained loyal to Trump up until her resignation from post at the UN. She really did not give a reason for stepping down other than that she needed a change after 10 years of service to the Country. I speculate may be financially related as she has children of university age.

Trump’s niece Mary Lea Psychologist wrote a tell all book about the Trump family, trying to justify why Donald Trump is the way he is. Her book “Too Much Never Enough” focused more on the father and brother than it did on Donald.

Finally, Attorney Rudy Giuliani, former Mayor of New York, and mob fighter, was a self-described “country lawyer” for Trump. He undertook trips to the Ukraine to try to dig up dirt on rival Joe Biden. Trump indicated that he will not be paying Giuliani \$200 million in legal fees because the result was poor.

Trump’s average voter is white; evangelical Christian; High school educated; and rural. They are not people of color, other religions, college educated, and urban. The US has been divided before. The US

Constitution has withheld the division amongst the populace.

Trump lost access to 50 million of his viewers on his social media account for inciting violence and hatred. Trump’s response was to claim that he will start his own social media account. It’s nice to have some money. Trump’s message is to “fight like Hell, or you won’t have a country.” I think he really means that the US must put down non-white men or the US will never be great again. I do not know if it ever was great, but it certainly is not great now. I prefer Canada. Our politics is in the background where it should be. Governments should not try to socially engineer a country. Hitler proved that leads to disaster. So does Trump.

Trump’s failure as President can be seen in three issues that he had to deal with:

1. The Crowd size at his inauguration was less than President Obama’s -something Trump couldn’t stand so he lied about it. He pressured the Park Services to lie about it. It was a stick that Trump would rely on as he did all his life.
2. The border Wall with Mexico was not built as promised. Trump had control of the Congress and Senate. He had an offer of billions to build the wall, which he turned down. Not political savvy. Mexico did not pay for the wall. It was a failed policy of Trump, ironically Biden is now having trouble at that border.
3. Finally, was the COVID-19 – a Corona virus that was from China? Trump completely failed in his response to the virus leaving the US with 600 k deaths -4 th largest amount in the world.

Trump failed as president from beginning to end. Yet still 70 million voted for him second time around. It goes to show how deep prejudice reigns in the United States of America. Trump could have been spotted as a failure from his virement attack on President Obama and the “birtherism” scandal.

The media is also to blame for not projecting a true picture of Trump before he ran for office. They had him as a billionaire; running several self-made billion-dollar companies; model for a wife; 5 successful kids; has a master’s degree in finance

from an Ivy League school; strict with regard to cigarettes, coffee and drugs; had his own gold courses and his own airplane – a success on all accounts. When they dug deeper, they found this image somewhat lacking.

The United States has become a country that I would not want to live in anymore. That is a major change for me since Trump. And it is getting worse instead of better. There needs to be a resolution of the conflicts so the whole country can pull together instead of pulling apart.

### **References**

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