



AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT BIDEN

Posted on March 1, 2021 by Walter E. Block



Dear Mr. Biden:

You have several times said you intend to be the President for all the people in the United States, not only those who voted for you. You have expressed yourself as wanting to bring us all together, to unite the country. Well and good. If 2021 were a little less "interesting" than 2020 due to such efforts of yours, most Americans would be extremely grateful.

So, a few suggestions, if I may, as to how to accomplish this task; mainly, by leaning over backward and complimenting Mr. Trump and his many followers. Stop thinking about your first debate with him. I have no doubt it still leaves a bad taste in your mouth. No one likes to be bullied, and he was certainly guilty of just that. Think, instead, if you must, of the second debate.

What, specifically, can you do, and not do?

First, do not move the U.S. embassy back to Tel Aviv from Jerusalem. Instead, welcome this change, promised by several of Mr. Trump's predecessors, but never fulfilled. Thank him for that; it wouldn't kill you.

Second, you missed a bet when you changed the name of your predecessor's vaccine program from "Warp Speed." Why alienate Star Trek fans? Why not give at least partial credit where partial credit is due? What's in a name? "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." It is not now too late to reverse course on this error of yours. Reinstitute that name, and pursue whatever policies on this front you deem best. You do want to bring the country back together again. You don't want to sacrifice much of anything substantive to you, right? The name change costs you virtually nothing. It will seem big of you to admit a mistake, and rectify it.

Third, express appreciation for the Trump administration's successes in the Middle East. Thanks to him, and it, Israel is now on far better terms with the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Morocco. Nancy Pelosi [dismissed all of this](#) as a "distraction." Well, that was then, this is now. If she refuses to retract this statement, you, at least, can take a different and more conciliatory tack.

Fourth, spurn revenge. According to [a recent headline](#): "Actress Debra Messing Vows Ad Boycott for

Any TV Show or Network that Platforms Kayleigh McEnany." Stated this actress: "If I ever see [Kayleigh McEnany] on a panel on a news show or hired by a network, I am immediately ceasing to support every single advertiser on that network..." The same applies to the initiative to [prohibit book deals](#) for outgoing members of the Trump administration on the part of high profile Democrats in the publishing industry.

You can have your "Sister Souljah" moment on this issue if you publicly reject this type of initiative. You, of course, cannot stop the likes of Debra Messing, Alyssa Milano and Dave Bautista for lashing out at Trump supporters. But you can publicly take a different path.

It sends entirely the wrong signal to punish White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany. She is not responsible for what you see as the shortcomings of the 45th president of the U.S. Even if she were, this sends entirely the wrong signal in your healing effort.

Fifth, Mr. Trump favored increasing the stimulus checks from \$600 to \$2,000. This is certainly in line with your principles. Acknowledge this. Show him, and us, your mettle.

Sixth, adopt the "Make America Great" motto as your own. Buy into it. It is only a slogan. Doing so will not in the slightest deter you from what you want to accomplish. Might as well implement your program under this rubric as well as any other. Score some additional points with an opposition in this way rendered more loyal.

Seventh, if you really want to unify our country, not only do not support the arrest of Donald Trump, but actually grant him a pardon for any criminal acts of which he might in the future be accused! If this doesn't bring about domestic peace, then nothing will. I full well realize this would be a gigantic step for you. There are those in the Democratic Party who will deprecate you for any such overture. But just think of the optics of it! Yes, this is by far the most radical of my suggestions. This makes the first half dozen an easy sell! This will bring discomfort to many, including left-wing documentary filmmaker [Michael Moore who said](#): "we are not done with him... Trial. Conviction. Imprisonment. He must pay for his actions – a first-ever for him." That is no way to promote unity.

Eighth, China has just [announced sanctions](#) against 28 Trump officials and their families. Included is Pompeo who has sharply criticized China's treatment of Uyghur Muslims. Here's a no-brainer way to promote unity: sharply rebuke the government of the People's Republic of China for this initiative of

theirs. China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs justified this action based on "crazy actions that have gravely interfered in China's internal affairs."

Ninth and last, the elephant in the room: how to react to the second impeachment of the 45th president of the U.S.? This is a tough one. Let us break this up into two aspects: short and long run unity. In the former case, if the 46th president of the U.S. were to strongly signal he opposes this effort, that would clearly bring about short run unity. It would take much of the wind out of the sails of the die-hard Trump supporters. They would be grateful, and their opposition to the legitimacy of the Biden election would atrophy at least somewhat. On the other hand, another failed impeachment would enable now private citizen Trump to run for president in 2024, continue to mold public opinion, remain as the titular head of the Republican Party. To say that this would undermine unity would be an understatement of large proportions. My prudential judgement: the short run outweighs the long run; therefore you should put a spoke in the wheel of this effort.

P.S. If you'll forgive my informality, here's an "attaboy" to you for [characterizing the letter](#) left to you by your predecessor as "very generous."

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The [featured image](#) shows, "A Man Writing at his Desk," by Jan Ekels, painted in 1784.

