

MATTHEW HOY

DECEMBER 3, 2016 2:22 PM

Democrats and the news media don't want to learn anything from the election



A few thousand protesters march through Library Mall from UW-Madison's Bascom Hall to the State Capitol, protesting President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2016, in Madison, Wis. **Michael P. King** - The Associated Press



BY MATTHEW HOY



The good news this holiday season? Liberal tears have no calories, are fat-free, gluten-free, low-carb and have no cholesterol.



And they taste delicious.



Although I continue to be wary of the imminent Donald Trump presidency, I must admit that the wailing, gnashing of teeth, street protests and emotional hysteria of the political left has had me experiencing a [schadenfreude](#) that keeps me warm at night.

Although I don't expect the political left and the news media in this country to take this opportunity to exercise some introspection about where they find themselves today, they would do well to reflect on why their candidate, a former first lady, senator from New York and secretary of state, lost to an obnoxious reality TV show host.

Yes, Hillary Clinton won the popular vote total — largely a result of overwhelming support here in California, [one of just five states](#) where Democrats control all levers of power. (Republicans, on the other hand, control the governorships and state legislatures in 25 states.) Despite the renewed interest in the "unfairness" of our Electoral College system, everyone knew the rules of the game when they started, and getting the most votes wasn't the way to win.

Trump won not because voters are stupid, racist or sexist.

An [analysis of voting in the crucial swing states](#) of Wisconsin and Pennsylvania shows Clinton's loss there and across much of Middle America was a result of a mass defection of white, working-class voters from Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012 to Trump in 2016. Those voters didn't turn from Obama voters to bigots overnight.

After eight years of ho-hum economic growth, [Clinton's vow](#) to put a lot of coal workers out of their jobs and on the public dole probably didn't help her.

But there's more to this than just jobs.

Liberals and the news media have been waging a war on the values of — at the very least — a substantial minority of Americans for the past few years.

Americans who today hold the same view on same-sex marriage that Obama held when he was re-elected in 2012 are targets for systematic shaming by the political left and the news media (but I repeat myself) that includes efforts to ruin people financially for holding views and beliefs many on the left disapprove of.

Once upon a time it was: "If you don't want gay marriage, then don't have one."

The political left won't let us off that easy.

For those who would just like to be left alone to run their businesses and lives as their faiths and consciences dictate, the left won't allow it. They don't want tolerance. They want acceptance. As conservative talk radio host [Erick Erickson](#) has described it: "You will be made to care."

I DON'T EXPECT THE POLITICAL LEFT AND THE NEWS MEDIA IN AMERICA TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXERCISE SOME INTROSPECTION ABOUT WHERE THEY FIND THEMSELVES TODAY, BUT THEY WOULD DO WELL TO REFLECT ON WHY HILLARY CLINTON LOST TO DONALD TRUMP, AN OBNOXIOUS REALITY TV SHOW HOST.

Devout Christians (but not Muslims) who are photographers or bakers or florists are financially ruined for declining to participate in same-sex marriage ceremonies. But musicians such as Bruce Springsteen, who refused to perform in North Carolina over what he and the news media characterized as an "anti-transgender law," is praised by the Democratic mayor of Santa Barbara, [Helene Schneider](#).

When I asked her last spring what the difference between Springsteen's decision and that of a handful of Christian bakers was, the best explanation Schneider could offer was that Springsteen travels around. (It didn't make sense to me, either.)

Just last week, BuzzFeed continued the assault on those rubes in the heartland with an [exposé](#) about popular HGTV hosts Chip and Joanna Gaines of "Fixer Upper," revealing that the pastor of their church (like many Christian churches) had preached against homosexuality.

Is it too much of a stretch to believe part of what contributed to Trump's electoral victory last month was his stated rejection of political correctness and the new normal our bicoastal elites want to impose on us?

Maybe people in the heartland aren't so keen on being constantly maligned simply because they refuse to embrace 30-some different gender identities or the comical new pronouns gender studies majors wish to impose on the English language. Gender studies majors should stick to what they do best: making coffee at Starbucks.

Now that Trump is poised to take the Oval Office, liberals are discovering that their consciences should allow them to dictate who they do business with.

Fashion designer [Sophie Theallet](#) (no, I'd never heard of her before) has vowed not to design any dresses for Melania Trump because she opposes Trump politically.

Just a week earlier this sort of bigotry directed at an immigrant would've been a bad thing!

On the bright side, there may be signs that even some on the left believe they may be going too far.

In Oregon, Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian, who made his name going after Christian baker [Sweet Cakes](#) by [Melissa](#) to the tune of a \$135,000 fine for refusing to make a wedding cake for a lesbian couple, lost his bid to become secretary of state. Instead, Republican Dennis Richardson won a statewide office in that deep blue state; the first for any Republican since 2002.

If Democrats hope to retake power outside New England and the West Coast, they'll need to cease their culture war attacks on people who might be amenable to voting for them on economic issues.

Right now the news media isn't helping them pierce their bubble, and with the re-election of [Nancy Pelosi](#) as House minority leader and [Chuck Schumer](#) as Senate minority leader, it doesn't look like the Democratic Party is interested in changing course.

Conservative columnist [Matthew Hoy](#) is a former reporter, editor and page designer. His column appears in *The Tribune* every other Sunday, in rotation with liberal columnist [Tom Fuls](#). Read Hoy's blog at [Hoystory.com](#). Follow him on Twitter [@Hoystory](#).

Matthew Hoy, a conservative, is a San Diego-area native and 1994 graduate of Cal Poly's journalism program. He spent 15 years at various newspapers along the West Coast, including The Lompoc Record, The Daily World in Aberdeen, Wash., The North County Times in Escondido and The San Diego Union-Tribune. For 15 years, Hoy has written a blog on politics and the media, [Hoystory.com](#). Hoy's column will be published in The Tribune every other week, in rotation with liberal columnist Tom Fuls.

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Rodger Avalanchier - Morro Bay, California

Two points.

-The difference in the two cited swing states was a segment of voters staying home, not "defection" or "becoming bigots overnight".

-On a popular level Clinton's lead over Trump continues to expand to nearly match Obama's defeat of Romney.

I feel your missing the bigger picture in respect to the plight of "Devout Christians". America is not ready for the pace of social reform and fairness promised by Democrats and social progressives in the recent campaign.

Behind the curtains of partisanship is a better America than the one Obama inherited.

Like Reply Dec 15, 2016 8:32am

Peggy Pavak

Trump WON because "most working class Americans" feel disenfranchised & forgotten! It's NOT just a "white thing", many folks are fed up & rightfully so! The economy has been stagnant for years & it's encouraging to see President Elect Trump take action even BEFORE he takes Office to "kick start" the economy. HELL YES! Most of us are fed up with the status quo! Glad to see Obama GO!

Like Reply 1 Dec 4, 2016 9:22am

Alan Thomas - Northwestern University

Sorry Peggy, but you have been fooled again. The Carrier deal will actually result in a net loss if 1400 jobs, from 2500 to 1100. And Carrier is getting \$7M from taxpayers to boot. Even Sarah Palin saw through this "deal", rightfully calling it "crony capitalism".

Like Reply 2 Dec 4, 2016 10:48am

Alan Thomas - Northwestern University

There is one basic reason Clinton lost - voter suppression. The GOP strategy was to purge voter rolls, demand picture IDs, and close polling places in poor precincts. It worked with over 10 million fewer voters and a pathetic 55% turnout in 2016. Combined with Drumpf's nazi campaign to gin up PEWs (poorly educated whites) he squeaked out a back door win. Our democracy is in trouble unless more people vote.

Like Reply 3 Dec 4, 2016 9:07am

John Gajdos - School Of Hard Knocks, University Of Life

Alan, your tin foil hat must have slipped or the batteries need replacing.

Like Reply 3 Dec 4, 2016 12:54pm

Alan Thomas - Northwestern University

John Gajdos Nope. It's solar powered and set to screen out BS blogsites.

Like Reply 1 Dec 4, 2016 4:47pm

Brett Blute - Cuesta College

Dumb, you're not "dumb" but you might be deaf. Like a monkey "Hear no evil, speak no evil, say no evil". That's just a dumb monkey.

Like Reply Dec 10, 2016 2:48pm

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John Gajdos - School Of Hard Knocks, University Of Life

Great opinion piece Mr. Hoy. The liberals are are stammering and stuttering nonsense responses. Thank you.

Like Reply 4 Dec 4, 2016 8:28am

Rodger Avalanchier - Morro Bay, California

Stammering? More like amazed at what a bunch of suckers voted for Trump. The Sucker Party.

Like Reply Dec 11, 2016 10:28am

Aaron Ochs - Who cares? at None of Your Damn Business!

People criticize Tom Fuls for generalizing the right's positions yet we don't hear a peep from the same critics when Matthew Hoy does the same thing to the left. Interesting.

Like Reply 3 Dec 3, 2016 10:58pm

Jay Bonestell - Artist at Bonestell Studios

So let me get this straight: You carp about liberals "attacking the values" of people in the flyover states, "values" that compel Christian bakers to refuse to provide wedding cakes for same sex couples but yet embrace an amoral, thrice-married, narcissistic pathological liar whose wife posed nude in woman on woman porn shots. So Mr Hoy, you delight in liberal's tears? Do you not care at all that Trump ridicules fat people like he does with the disabled?

Like Reply 5 Dec 3, 2016 9:16pm

TIME Connie Winstead - REALTOR®, Licensed at Keller Williams Realty Central Coast

Good points Jay

Like Reply Dec 4, 2016 8:52pm

Rodger Avalanchier - Morro Bay, California

Seems simple, to prevent a "Christian" from discriminating is an act of hate. A Christian has a constitutional right to discriminate based any number of Christian scriptures; Muslims do not share that same right to discriminate if based upon Islamic scriptures.

Like Reply Dec 15, 2016 2:36pm Edited

Russ Byler - Upper Management at Cathouse

Excellent.

Like Reply 1 Dec 3, 2016 9:03pm

Roger Shellard - Works at Retired

I was born in London UK many many years ago used to walk my Grandma's dog round the block daily now thanks to a massive Muslim invasion careful what you wish for, London now has a Muslim mayor and it is illegal to walk your dog on the sidewalk if you do you get stones and rocks hurled at 39pm

Like Reply Jan 22, 2017 3:39pm

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