

The 2022 Mid-Term Elections Will Test How Gullible & Misinformed We Are

I'm reminded of the saying attributed (erroneously, it turns out) to Abraham Lincoln that ***"You can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time."***

Donald Trump and his enablers are working hard to prove that statement wrong — or at least to fool enough voters between now and the 2022 mid-term elections to gain control of the U.S. Congress. And just in case they can't fool enough voters, they're also working hard to keep non-Trump voters from the polls.

An actual quote from Abraham Lincoln is quite appropriate in this regard: ***"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether our nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated [to the proposition that all men are created equal] can long endure."***

How much longer can the con we know as the Big Lie build and maintain momentum?

It's reported that the well-armed and well practiced militias who failed in the January 6 insurrection attempt will take

up their arms in August to "reinstate" Donald Trump as president of the United States. Apparently, they think they could succeed. If those militias do attempt such a coup — for that's what it would be — and it fails, which it surely will, what effect will that have? Will the Republicans who still consider Trump critical to their own electoral future continue to hold their noses and stand behind him? Will they, as Republican senatorial candidate J.D. Vance put it so well, "suck it up" and stick with Trump even though they know better?

The fact that so many Americans actually believe the Big Lie (and all the lesser ones) says something very sad, and very disturbing about the United States — namely that roughly 30% of Americans are easily manipulated because they are so gullible and misled.

Surely you have seen the statistics about how uneducated Americans are about basic American facts such as how many branches of government there are. All you need to do is Google the question, "How stupid are Americans," and you will [not] be surprised

how many academic, comedic and journalistic entries you'll find, such as this June 26, 2020, headline from The Guardian: ***"Trevor Noah: America 'dealing with a deadly strain of stupidity'."***

Thom Hartmann's email newsletter on July 8 reminded us that the term "drinking the Kool-Aid" originated with the Jim Jones religious cult which committed mass suicide on Jones' order in Guyana back in 1978 by drinking Kool-Aid laced with cyanide.

Hartmann calculates that for every one of the 913 people who committed suicide with Jim Jones, 438 Americans have died because they adopted from Trump a reluctance to take the Covid-19 vaccine. However, unlike Jones, who killed himself along with his followers, Donald Trump had himself and his family secretly vaccinated in the White House. This shouldn't surprise us, but it also probably wouldn't faze his followers, who have been nicknamed Cult-45.

There are two ironies that are apparent to me. The first one is that the craziness coming from the Republicans, QAnon, Tucker Carlson and Donald

Trump himself is as motivating for those of us who recognize the con as it is for Trump's base.

The second irony is that Covid is surging only in the states with low vaccination rates, and virtually all Covid deaths are people who declined to be vaccinated. In other words the virus is probably killing off Trumpers in numbers that may well match or exceed the number of non-Trump voters the same states are seeking to suppress.

The coming months will get more and more interesting. The Trump organization and possibly Trump himself may go on trial. There may be that promised insurrection in August. There will be more books published about Trump and his actions as president and before he became president. Worst of all, however, there will be more hysteria manufactured about wedge issues such as critical race theory. Buckle up!

Talking Turkey



By Jim Smith

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