

Dear friends,

I am so ashamed for us. My sweet, sensitive wife keeps bursting into tears when we talk about the election results. She's not overly sensitive and has never been particularly concerned with politics, but she can intuit the wrongness of these election results and the future it sets for our children. In fact, a demographic not getting enough attention is people with young children, who voted strongly in favor of Hillary Clinton. Numerous young mothers who had no love for Hillary Clinton are crying. They fear for a future of racial intolerance that hurts both white and black. They know their children have to live in a world of rising temperatures and rising sea levels, and Donald Trump has said he's going to throw climate-change initiatives away which will lead to a world-wide reaction from other countries similar to when the United States rejected the League of Nations and likely to have similar consequences. They fear that less money will go to education, and we'll move in the direction of a third-world public school system with only those able to afford private schools given a fair opportunity to see their children advance.

Donald Trump doesn't love anyone's children, and his supporters strongly tended toward people without children and people whose kids are grown. Donald Trump loves money and power. His supporters were mostly older and mostly concerned about their own money and their own position. He's not interested in the welfare of your children, and he's particularly unconcerned with the welfare of your daughters and granddaughters. He's an evil person. Just listen to the words that have come from his own mouth over and over again. Ronald Reagan loved this country. George Bush, whom I believe made terrible decisions with terrible outcomes, genuinely loves this country. Donald Trump doesn't love this country. He sees it as a giant toilet for him to take a dump in. He thinks Americans are suckers and saps to be taken advantage of. He's said as much. He hasn't even tried to fool us on this. Granted, he said he was pro-life when he wanted the support of the so-called religious right, even though he clearly is not, but otherwise he's told you exactly who he is. And people voted for him anyway because many of them have so much misplaced anger that they can no longer see the difference between right and wrong. And this strongly tended toward old people who are tired of school levies and tired of being told that they should care about other people's children. Never mind that the top tax rate was 60% or higher when they were young, and much of that money went to schools and job-creating public works projects like roads and infrastructural improvements. And you have to extend this vote result back to the Primary. If Kasich, a decent man and successful Governor with strong conservative values, had won the election, then it's an entirely different discussion.

Only about a third of humanity tends toward evil, white, black or otherwise, of no particular age. They believe that the strong dominating the weak is the natural order, and they would take us back to that "might makes right" world if they could. That's what Donald Trump means by "great." Many who voted for him intuitively understand that, and they're getting what they wanted, even if it doesn't actually benefit most of them. But he could only be elected if decent, well meaning people jumped on board, and they did. To people who said only months or weeks ago that they could never support Donald Trump, and then did an about face and voted for him anyway, you should be ashamed. The same goes for people who wanted to register a protest against the system but assumed Trump wouldn't win and didn't actually want him to be President. And some responsibility should be borne by people who voted for third party candidates who would have otherwise voted for

Hillary Clinton had they taken this election more seriously.

And I'm ashamed of myself now for writing this today and not days ago. This possibility should have been more obvious given the narrow focus of Clinton's campaign on behalf of minority voters and calling out Donald Trump's hate speech. There were thousands of houses here in Ohio with Trump signs not accounted for in the polls because they weren't registered to vote even months ago. I myself learned of this from my field staff and realized this outcome was a possibility. But I did almost nothing, because I didn't think anyone would care. I used to have a large audience that read all my political commentary and contributed often, but once Obama was elected people became more and more disinterested. So-called conservatives didn't agree, and liberals don't want to hear anything negative when times are good unless it fits their narrow version of what's acceptable to talk about. I should have at least tried so I could say, "I told you so."

With the exception of people who are genuinely pleased about these election results we should be ashamed, because it was very preventable. It's OK to be ashamed. It's not a show of weakness. It's the basis of repentance, in the Bible and more generally speaking. We have to account for how wrongful or ignorant our own choices were if we're going to start turning this back around. Morally grounded Republicans need to wake up and make sure your voices are heard, because you can make more of a difference than most at this point. Prove wrong all of the crying young mothers who think you've flushed their children's future down Donald Trump's toilet.

We can't completely lose hope that Donald Trump will be a better President than his speeches have suggested. I'll be happy to be proven wrong. You will excuse my skepticism, because I'm mostly just reacting to the way he's represented himself both in his life and throughout his campaign. But we have to maintain faithfully open minds in addition to working to make our voices heard when people are being mistreated and the future of our society is further imperiled.

So it is.

Bob Young