

# TRUMPED-UP POLITICS

## EDITORIAL



Abaca Press/TNS

**O**n the evening of November eighth, millions of Americans had their eyes glued to their phones and television screens, waiting for the announcement of who would be the next president of the United States. What was expected to be a close election lived up to expectations, lasting through the night and into the next morning, with Republican nominee Donald J. Trump reaching the majority 270 electoral votes to win around three o'clock in the morning.

As the states began to take the colors of the voters' ballots, with places like California and New York expectedly turning blue and the river of red running through the south, the eyes of American voters were focused on the swing states, watching closely to see whether their highly sought-after electoral votes would go to Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton or Trump.

With the push of states like Florida and Pennsylvania to Trump, it soon became clear that the Republican candidate had a more clear path to the presidency than had been expected in the days before the election.

The results of the election were met by cheers, shock, and general dismay at the divide that the campaigns seemed to reveal in the nation. The majority of urban cities favored Clinton, while most rural areas supported Trump, and this theme of division transcended into discord between racial and religious groups, as well as those of different educational and socio-economic backgrounds.

In his victory speech, Trump highlighted this polarization of divisions of the American population manifested in the election results. "Now it's time for America to bind the wounds of division," Trump said. "To all Republicans and Democrats and independents across this nation, I say

it is time for us to come together as one united people."

While the initial idea of Trump taking on the mantle of president-elect seemed unfortunate, the entirety of the controversial nineteen month long campaign wasn't too different from the divisive election results. With mudslinging and social controversy taking control of the candidates' speeches as well as the news reports, the 2016 election left little time to discuss critical issues or plans for once either candidate took office.

The election in its entirety was defined by a lack of appealing major party candidates, and was thus filled with attempts to portray one candidate as worse than the other, using all available ammunition - personal or political, including the targeting of the candidates' supporters. A number of anti-Trump protests sprang up throughout the country following the election in major cities such as Indianapolis, Washington D.C., and Oakland, each claiming "We need to oppose the Trump agenda!" in the words of one group known as the "Portland Resistance."

The day after the election, harassment from some Trump supporters targeted minority groups through hate crimes and racist graffiti in cities and schools throughout the nation. The Southern Poverty Law Center counted hundreds of incidents in the ten days following the election and FBI data reported Anti-Muslim hate crimes were set to reach post 9/11 levels.

In response to the surge in hate crimes against minority groups, Trump in his 60 Minutes Interview gave a message directly to American people. "I am so saddened to hear that," he said when told about the harassment following the election. "Stop it. If it helps, I will say this, and I will say right to the cameras: Stop it."

He also added that such events

have likely been built up by the press, who would blame him even if such sentiments didn't have anything to do with him. "Frankly they'll take every single little incident that they can find in this country, which could have been there if I weren't even around doing this, and they'll make it into an event, because that's the way the press is."

Regardless of his views on the press, there can't be any argument that the Trump campaign provided a stomping ground for those intolerant of other races, religions, and cultures. Simply telling those that may be affected by such intolerance and hatred "don't be afraid," in no way covers the past year and a half of statements made by the president-elect that were inflammatory toward minority groups and added fuel to the fire to those without a level of tolerance for the differences that truly make America great.

In regards to the anti-Trump protests still occurring in cities across America, the goal should now be to unite while recognizing the impending authority of President-elect Trump, if only for the benefit of the nation as a whole, as well as in hope of bridging the gaps that were made apparent on election night. Protests against the peaceful transition of power are undemocratic for the system we so constantly praise, and are therefore, un-American in the eyes of the world.

While this country may have shown divisiveness throughout the entire process of electing a candidate, it is necessary now more than ever to come together in order to advance the future of our nation. Some may not have wanted to listen to our future president's words on "making America great again," but we should now choose to open-mindedly consider his words in an effort to make America undivided and unified once more.

## What's -trending-

### Music

Leonard Cohen Dead  
Kendrick Lamar on  
Tribe Called Quest  
album 21 Savage  
Platinum Album  
The Weeknd new album  
Anticipated Childish  
Gambino album  
Drake lip syncs "Bad Blood"

2016 AMAS

### Entertainment

Kanye Cancels  
Saint Pablo Tour  
Dave Chapelle:  
post-election SNL host  
Childish Gambino casted  
in new Star Wars movie  
Fantastic  
Beasts and  
Where to  
Find Them  
Mannequin  
Challenge  
Spectacles

#AndysComing

### Politics & News

Green Party pushes for vote  
recounts in battleground  
states Trump supporters push  
for "Hamilton" boycott  
Fidel Castro  
Dead at 90  
Middle School  
Bathroom vandalized  
with Swastikas  
#ImWithHer  
Launch of GOES-R Satellite may  
revolutionize US weather forecasts

#TrumpTransition

#NotMyPresident

South Korean Presidential Scandal  
Wildfires: Israel & NC

### Sports

Lamar Jackson Heisman Winner  
Cubs win World Series  
Jimmie Johnson: Dak and Zeke  
7 NASCAR lead the Cowboys  
Championships  
College Football: Rivalry Game  
Upsets Browns' Losing  
MLS Season OC Lane Kiffin to be  
head coach at FAU  
Cup Final Tide still Rollin'  
Aroldis Chapman signs biggest contract  
for a relief pitcher, \$86 million  
Notre Dame Football academic misconduct

Phil Jackson 'posse'