

A LITTLE POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE

I am a minority woman raised in the city of Chicago, in an impoverished neighborhood. Both my white mother and (American born) Mexican step-father were very active in community politics and advocacy including volunteering for the neighborhood coalition. My parents, both democrats, often kept us kids at their sides. We too, volunteered right alongside. I even remember collecting money in a coffee as donations in order to raise campaign money for Harold Washington, Chicago's first Black Mayor. I was just eight years old then.

My family was poor and relied on welfare assistance to survive. Despite my parents' strong political views, I have never, to this day, yet seen the inside of a voting booth. Although my step-dad passed away 10 years ago, I can still hear his voice in my ear scolding me about how the world will never change and "... the poor will stay poor, and the rich will continue to get richer..." if we didn't stand up and speak up for ourselves. You could cut the tension in the air with a knife the moment I told my mother that I had never cast a political vote.

I never let the fact that my family was poor, or that I lived in a high crime area much of my life, to be used as an excuse to hold out my hand with the hope someone would come rescue me. I graduated high school and years later attended College which was paid for using both Federal Aid and Student loans. I worked hard and made the necessary sacrifices to secure my future. I became a Registered Nurse. There are people I know, and grew up with, most of whom were subjected to similar upbringing and environment. They chose to wallow in self-pity complaining it's the system holding them back, making it impossible to get anywhere.

Regardless of one's financial status, skin color, religion or anything else, the exact same opportunities exist and are available to ALL Americans. There are programs, scholarships, financial aid, etc. The catch is that you have to be willing to WORK for it and be proactive. You can't expect a knock on the door from a fairy godmother holding your bright prosperous future on a silver platter.

I, even at that young age paid attention. Reduced government intervention economics, strong trade agreements such as the Canada-US free trade agreement, lower taxes and deregulation of the stock markets solidified the United States' economic power. The American Dream was re-realized and the US was getting back on track. However, presently, our beloved country, although somewhat recovered from the horrible economic crisis in 2008, is once again in major trouble.

This November I will cast my vote. My vote will not be for the candidate with the proven track record for lying, deception, indifference, carelessness, and self-servitude. It will not be for a woman who turns a blind eye to adultery. My vote will not be for a woman concerned only for her own future.

Who will be responsible for ensuring that Hillary Clinton will answer her phone when American lives are in danger overseas? How can we dispel her delusion that she is not a Hispanic Grandmother nor a single black mother, but that she is a privileged upper-class white woman with a questionable integrity? Will someone stand by with a dose of common sense every time ANY official correspondence, classified or not, is sent from her PERSONAL email account? I highly doubt it.

In stark contrast, Donald Trump, admittedly, often speaks impulsively and reactively. No, Trump has never been in politics, however, I do not recall the constitution requiring a political background in order to be eligible to serve as president. The Constitution does not state that in order to run for president, the candidate must outline every precise detail of foreign policy and trade, nor to be versed in military action. A very important fact people seem to have forgotten, is that the US president, when elected, does not become a person who is no longer subject to the laws of the country. Even president has to answer to the people. There are very specific procedures for all actions taken in the white house. Trump can't just run into the Situation room, Yell "Fire" and press a magic button. It doesn't work that way.

Bottom line, you don't have to "like" Trump. You don't have to invite him to dinner, nor agree with every word he says. What you should do, is this; Ask yourself, "If Trump were to surround himself with the brightest, smartest, most experienced people of their fields, when assigning his cabinet, just as he has likely done in his personal business, is there any reason to believe he would be unsuccessful?"

I believe Trump when he says that he will do whatever it takes to "Make America Great Again" and that he will be my voice. That is why **the first vote of my life will be Donald J. Trump for United States President**