

Daily Meditation 10-26-22

The Meaning of the Mid-Term Elections, part II

Good morning.

Today we meditate again on the current election occurring in America: the meaning of the midterm elections, part two.

And we're trying to go deeper into the meaning of this election, deeper than just rising gasoline prices, and jumping around gasoline prices, they go up and they go down and they go around, it seems. And again, this is happening out in the world, not just in America; American gasoline prices are still cheaper than almost every place in the world, certainly, far cheaper than Europe.

And we talk about the ripping away of voting rights which was begun deliberately and consciously by our Supreme Court, which has twice shot holes, giant holes, in the voting rights laws that Dr. King gave his life for, and many others sacrificed so much to bring about.

But also the decision by the same Chief Justice Roberts and his court to take away the rights 49-year rights of women to make decisions about their own bodies.

And so I do think this election has a lot to do with the whole question of church and state: are they separate or not? Are there are people working overtime to make America closer to a theocracy than a democracy -- a theocracy being a place where decisions are made in terms of a particular religious stance, and where judges have been chosen, nominated, put forward by a very, very extreme right cult within the Catholic Church, Opus Dei, an Opus Dei operator.

This does not represent majority opinion of the Catholic Church: 68% of Catholics in America favor Roe versus Wade: decision making to be made by women and their doctors in consultation with one another, and not with members of the Supreme Court in the room, or politicians.

Now another dimension to this current election is the contributions of dark money. Barry Seid is a wealthy billionaire who just gave \$1.6 billion cash to the same Leonardo Leo, the same man who works for Opus Dei and the Federalist Society, which gave us all six of the Supreme Court judges now ruling.

That's a lot of money. It's been called the greatest political grant ever given in American history. And it's been given to an extreme right-wing religious, ideologue, because that is what Opus Dei is.

Now Barry Seid himself, why would he give so much money to this cause? One: he opposed the banning of DDT. That's pretty radical. Most places today have banned DDT. This guy thinks, what DDT is good for our health? Good for the insects and good for the soil, and our food chain?

He funded activists and researchers who opposed the ban on DDT. And he believes that global warming is not the result of human actions.

How did he get so close to American decision makers and the Supreme Court judges of this world? Well, John Roberts -- that name again -- gave us not only the laws that undid voting rights twice, but also he gave us the great law, Citizens United, that says corporations can spend whatever they want. They're people just like us and they can spend whatever they want on behalf of their political agendas.

Just today, a major article came out entitled "Dark Money Groups Have Pumped \$1 Billion into GOP Effort To Retake The Senate."

\$1 billion, there's never been that amount of money pumped into the Senate before. And it begins with this paragraph:

The finding comes a month after Senate Republicans tanked a bill that would have required dark money groups to disclose their donors and funding sources.

Billionaire Barry Seid has invariably given these big big chunks of money as dark money, that is to say, undisclosed who the donor is and therefore what their agenda is, what are they buying for all this money? Maybe he's buying DDT! So it goes back to DDT, if that's not a reversal.

Rachel Carson took on DDT in 1962 or 63. That was the launching of the Environmental Protection Act, the beginning of the environmental movement. And now we have people with huge bank accounts wanting to take us back to the to that era, and an era when no one took responsibility for the climate change that we have been bringing about as a species.

These are the meanings of today's election.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.