# **Vindicated [Rev. 20190326]**

By J — Latest revision: http://allis.foundation/Vindicated.pdf

### How Liars Create The 'Illusion of Truth'

"Repeat a lie often enough and it becomes the truth", is a law of propaganda often attributed to the Nazi Joseph Goebbels. Among psychologists something like this known as the "illusion of truth" effect. Here's how a typical experiment on the effect works: participants rate how true trivia items are, things like "A prune is a dried plum". Sometimes these items are true (like that one), but sometimes participants see a parallel version which isn't true (something like "A date is a dried plum").

After a break—of minutes or even weeks—the participants do the procedure again, but this time some of the items they rate are new, and some they saw before in the first phase. The key finding is that people tend to rate items they've seen before as more likely to be true, regardless of whether they are true or not, and seemingly for the sole reason that they are more familiar.

So, here, captured in the lab, seems to be the source for the saying that if you repeat a lie often enough it becomes the truth. And if you look around yourself, you may start to think that everyone from advertisers to politicians are taking advantage of this foible of human psychology.

But a reliable effect in the lab isn't necessarily an important effect on people's real-world beliefs. If you really could make a lie sound true by repetition, there'd be no need for all the other techniques of persuasion.

One obstacle is what you already know. Even if a lie sounds plausible, why would you set what you know aside just because you heard the lie repeatedly?

Recently, a team led by Lisa Fazio of Vanderbilt University set out to test how the illusion of truth effect interacts with our prior knowledge. Would it affect our existing knowledge? They used paired true and un-true statements, but also split their items according to how likely participants were to know the truth (so "The Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean on Earth" is an example of a "known" items, which also happens to be true, and "The Atlantic Ocean is the largest ocean on Earth" is an un-true item, for which people are likely to know the actual truth).

Their results show that the illusion of truth effect worked just as strongly for known as for unknown items, suggesting that prior knowledge won't prevent repetition from swaying our judgements of plausibility.

To cover all bases, the researchers performed one study in which the participants were asked to rate how true each statement seemed on a six-point scale, and one where they just categorised each fact as "true" or "false". Repetition pushed the average item up the six-point scale, and increased the odds that a statement would be categorised as true. For statements that were actually fact or fiction, known or unknown, repetition made them all seem more believable.

At first this looks like bad news for human rationality, but—and I can't emphasise this strongly enough—when interpreting psychological science, you have to look at the actual numbers.

What Fazio and colleagues actually found, is that the biggest influence on whether a statement was judged to be true was... whether it actually was true. The repetition effect couldn't mask the truth. With or without repetition, people were still more likely to believe the actual facts as opposed to the lies.

This shows something fundamental about how we update our beliefs—repetition has a power to make things sound more true, even when we know differently, but it doesn't over-ride that knowledge

The next question has to be, why might that be? The answer is to do with the effort it takes to being rigidly logical about every piece of information you hear. If every time you heard something you assessed it against everything you already knew, you'd still be thinking about breakfast at supper-time. Because we need to make quick judgements, we adopt shortcuts—heuristics which are right more often than wrong. Relying on how often you've heard something to judge how truthful something feels is just one strategy. Any universe where truth gets repeated more often than lies, even if only 51% vs 49% will be one where this is a quick and dirty rule for judging facts.

If repetition was the only thing that influenced what we believed we'd be in trouble, but it isn't. We can all bring to bear more extensive powers of reasoning, but we need to recognise they are a limited resource. Our minds are prey to the illusion of truth effect because our instinct is to use short-cuts in judging how plausible something is. Often this works. Sometimes it is misleading.

Once we know about the effect we can guard against it. Part of this is double-checking why we believe what we do—if something sounds plausible is it because it really is true, or have we just been told that repeatedly? This is why scholars are so mad about providing references—so we can track the origin on any claim, rather than having to take it on faith.

But part of guarding against the illusion is the obligation it puts on us to stop repeating falsehoods. We live in a world where the facts matter, and should matter. If you repeat things without bothering to check if they are true, you are helping to make a world where lies and truth are easier to confuse. So, please, think before you repeat. \*1



ABOVE: DILBERT COMIC BY SCOTT ADAMS — 'PERFECTLY CAPTURES THE FOLLY OF IRRATIONAL EVIL "THINKING" IT KNOWS TRUTH' \*2



ABOVE: "SHE'LL CUT YOUR HEAD OFF, AND YOU WON'T EVEN KNOW YOU'RE BLEEDING" SAYS HER DAUGHTER ALEXANDRA PELOSI \*3 \*4

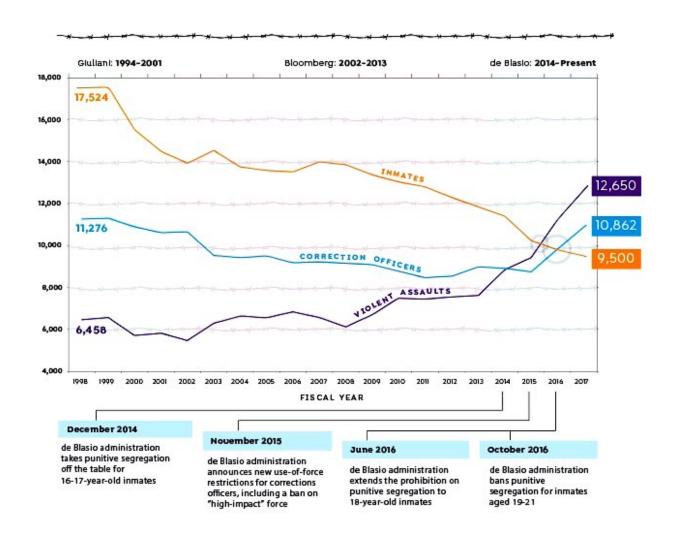
# "Equity" Before Security

Beginning in December 2014, Bill de Blasio's mayoral administration placed significant restrictions on how New York City corrections officers can penalize and restrain violent criminals in city jails, ostensibly to ensure the safety and well-being of inmates and guards alike. But the mayor's policies seem to have made jails less safe for all concerned, as an examination of the data regarding inmate violence reveals. In 1998, when more than 17,500 prisoners were packed into New York City jails on any given day, inmates committed 6,458 violent assaults. By 2017, the average daily inmate population had dropped to just 9,500—yet the behind-bars violent-assault total nearly

doubled, to 12,650. Much of that rise happened over the last three years, during which violent assaults jumped 43 percent, even as, during that same period, the number of corrections officers increased, from 8,922 to 10,862.

In a jail system with fewer inmates and more guards, what explains the spike in inmate violence? Part of it, anyway, can be attributed to de Blasio's "focus on equity"—a phrase that appears in the 2017 Mayor's Management Report more than two dozen times, including at the top of the section covering the city's Department of Correction (DOC). Equity concerns apparently guided the implementation of reforms regarding punitive segregation (known commonly as "solitary confinement") and guards' use of force.

In December 2014, the DOC took punitive segregation off the table for 16- and 17-year-olds—a move inspired, the mayor said, by the story of Kalief Browder, whose case is often cited by jail reformers and the Black Lives Matter movement. In June 2016, the DOC extended the ban to cover 18-year-old inmates. Later that year, the DOC ended punitive segregation for all inmates 21 and younger. As part of the settlement of an inmate lawsuit brought against the city (*Nunez v. City of New York*), the DOC announced, in November 2015, a new use-of-force policy to address an alleged "culture of violence among correction officers on Rikers Island," according to the Observer. The new policy placed restrictions on "painfully escorting or restraining inmates without reason, and striking inmates in the groin, neck, kidneys or spinal column." It also banned "high-impact' force: blows to the previously mentioned areas as well as the head or face, kicking an inmate, and the use of choke holds, carotid restraint holds or neck restraints."



The Corrections Officers' Benevolent Association vigorously opposes the new policies, arguing that they have resulted in more attacks on guards. In a recent article, union president Elias Husamudeen argues that exceptions should be made to allow for punitive segregation for young violent offenders. "The majority of violence in our jails is committed by violent inmates who are 21 and under," he writes.

In the press release announcing the extension of the ban on punitive segregation to inmates up to age 21, de Blasio stressed that the policies were adopted "with safety for staff and inmates foremost in mind." However, the trend line of inmate violent assaults is pointing in the wrong direction, and it shows a troubling acceleration of a preexisting (but less drastic) upward trend in jailhouse violence.

Former DOC commissioner Martin F. Horn believes that the policy shifts and the recent spike in inmate violence are connected. "It's certainly part of the story," he says, adding that de Blasio and his team "may have tried to accomplish too much, too fast." Indeed, the mayor's own Management Report admits as much: "From July 2016 through February 2017, [the George Motchan Detention Center] experienced higher rates of fights than the corresponding months during the previous year, in part as a result of reducing and eventually eliminating punitive segregation, as well as the co-location of young adults who have historically been involved in disproportionately more violent incidents." A recent vicious attack at the George Motchan facility left a corrections officer with a fractured spine after being jumped by four inmates—all documented gang members under 20 years old.

Another factor that could be leading to more jail violence is the experience level of the corrections workforce. Horn suspects that a combination of prior hiring freezes, retirements, and a recent influx of new officers has resulted in a higher-than-ideal percentage of corrections officers and supervisors with less than three-to-five years on the job. This problem should have been anticipated; during Horn's term as commissioner, his team produced "charts projecting a huge surge in attrition in the middle 2010s."

While the most recent Mayor's Management Report admits that reducing punitive segregation appears to correspond to a rise in inmate violence, the report argues, circularly, that the successful diversion of nonviolent offenders from jails has concentrated the population of violent inmates, thus leading to more violence: "There is an increasing share of people in custody who face felony charges and have gang affiliations. These inmates are significant drivers of jail violence." However, the actual size of the high-risk pool hasn't significantly changed. More guards are available to deal with a high-risk population that is essentially the same size as it was before the low-risk offenders were diverted.

The core function of city government is to maintain security. In city jails, that task falls to New York's Boldest, but the mayor's progressive policies have altered the conditions in which they work—and data show that these policies have failed. Will de Blasio heed the counsel of those doing the job and reverse course? Not as long as he puts "equity" before security. \*5

"Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing."

—Helen Keller

"The true hypocrite is the one who ceases to perceive his deception, the one who lies with sincerity." —Andre Gide

"We're a generation of men raised by women. I wonder if another woman is really the answer we need."

—Tyler Durden

# Revenge Of The Deplorables: The Most Extraordinary Presidential Campaign In Modern History Ends In Utter Humiliation For Hillary, The Pollsters, And Elites Of Business, Media And Show Business As The Voters America Forgot Sweep Donald To A Stunning Victory

A jubilant Donald Trump gave his signature thumbs up as he returned home to Trump Tower this morning as the president-elect of the United States of America.

Alongside his wife and First-Lady-to-be Melania, the businessman and reality TV mogul was met by a crowd of well-wishers, many wearing his signature Make America Great Again baseball caps.

Meanwhile, Hillary supporters at home and abroad woke up shocked and dismayed at the decisive result which confounded the expectations of analysts, pollsters and election experts.

Wall Street also had a shaky start Wednesday morning. Dow Futures initially plummeted by 800 points overnight but the DOW index was up by 0.23 per cent minutes after the bell ringing at 9.30am. It slipped moments later and remained down by 30 points for the next half hour before steadying at around 10am to be up some 50 points.

Earlier in the evening, Trump marked his world-shaking victory over Hillary Clinton with a dramatic peace-making gesture for the rival he had called 'crooked' before promising that America would 'come together as never before'.

After he sensationally won the White House race, Clinton phoned him at 2:30 a.m. to concede she had lost and in the first words of his victory speech he said: 'We owe her a debt of gratitude and I mean that very sincerely'.

She made the private call shortly after sending her campaign chairman to give her supporters exactly the opposite message, that it was not over—a humiliating and bizarre end to a political career which had put her on the verge of being the first female president.

Instead, a jubilant Trump Election Night headquarters party erupted in cheers as the news broke. Trump's campaign manager said the phone call between Clinton and Trump was a 'very gracious exchange'.

Speaking to Good Morning America, she continued: 'As I understand it, Secretary Clinton commended Donald Trump on a hard-fought race and congratulated him for his victory and he told Secretary Clinton she's very smart, very tough, had waged a tremendous campaign. He respects her and her family. It was a very pleasant exchange.'

Hillary aide Huma Abedin, who was at the center of the FBI email probe which plagued Hillary's final weeks of campaigning, put in the call to Conway, who connected the rivals.

Conway added she hadn't yet spoken to Trump about his plan to hire a special prosecutor to investigate Clinton over his email scandal.

She also chalked up Trump's surprise win to the 'secret' or 'undercover' voters who didn't reveal their intentions to vote for Trump, throwing off polls in advance of election night. She compared the vote's result to the Brexit vote made in the UK.

'It's not that they're embarrassed,' she told Fox and Friends, but that they were 'tired of arguing' and wanted to take the country in a 'new and different direction'.

Trump accepted the mantle of leadership with uncharacteristic humility nearly three hours after the West Coast polls closed.

'Now it's time for America to bind the wounds of division,' he began his victory speech just before 3am. 'I pledge to every citizen of our land that I will be president for all Americans—and this is so important to me.

'For those who have chosen not to support me in the past—of which there were a few people—I'm reaching out to you for your guidance and your help, so we can work together and unify our great country.'

'I promise you that I will not let you down,' he said.

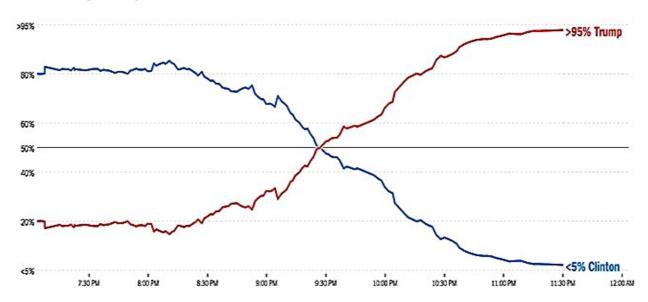
He went on to reiterate his promise to 'Make America Great Again'.

Tve gotten to know our country so well. Tremendous potential. It is going to be a beautiful thing. Every single American will have the opportunity to realize his or her fullest potential. The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer.'

He added: 'America will no longer settle for anything less than the best. We must reclaim our country's destiny and dream big and bold and daring. We have to do that. We're going to dream of things for our country, and beautiful things and successful things once again.' \*6

## Signs of Divine Intervention in Trump Victory

#### Chance of Winning Presidency



Election eve 2016 began without any real sign of a gathering storm. No hint a popular revolt was brewing. In fact, just the opposite.

The networks were reporting the mood in the inner circle of the Republican candidate was subdued, somber, tense, even foreboding—as if fearing the worst.

In direct contrast, the mood in the camp of the Democratic Party presidential candidate was described as confident, expectant and already almost celebratory.

Giddy.

When the first polls closed on the East Coast and the first results began to come in, those moods seemed to be swiftly confirmed by reality. The pre-election polls were not wrong. Democratic Party nominee Hillary Clinton immediately took the lead.

And she was winning in the battleground states.

She was leading in Florida. She was leading in North Carolina. She was leading in Pennsylvania. She was leading in Ohio. Clinton was threatening to pull away and end the suspense early.

At 7 p.m., there was no sign of a popular uprising led by Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. There was no sign at 8 p.m. There was still no sign as time inexorably marched on.

Something would have to break.

And then it did.

Like a scene out of the film "It's a Wonderful Life," people had begun to pray.

But not just in one small town. Across America. And around the world.

Simple acts of faith heralded the first faint wisps of a breeze that would soon become a storm that would shake the world.

It began in Jerusalem.

Christians from many nations gathered in the heart of Israel to pray and fast for the fate of the United States. Americans knelt on stage as the faithful prayed. Organizers instructed them to pray like never before for a just God to deliver his most Christian nation. They called it the Jerusalem Global Gathering.

Christians also gathered to pray for the nation outside the U.S. Capitol. As WND reported, pastor Dan Cummins of the small rural East Texas town of Bullard led prayers for a return to biblical principles.

And it was in Texas that the prayers for deliverance were sent around the world, using modern technology.

A large prayer group had gathered in Dallas, hosted by Ken Copeland ministries. It was broadcast by the Daystar channel. Presenters David Barton and former Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-Minn., invited viewers to join in prayer.

Daystar has a global reach of 400 million potential viewers.

As they prayed, something began to stir.

"At the precise moment we began broadcasting on Daystar," Bachmann told WND, "as the polls were still open, and a national audience of believers joined together and prayed in concert, we literally saw the race break in favor of Trump."

"At that very minute." She presented proof.

"The New York Times documented the shift in voting from that minute."

"The Times put out a timeline tracking the election results as they broke for Trump last night," Bachmann continued. "We went wild in the Dallas studio last night when David Barton, Ken and Terri Copeland, and various pastors saw that the victory for Trump began exactly at the precise moment believers corporately, over national television, sought the Lord for His favor upon our nation."

"We knew it was at the exact same time that believers joined in corporate prayer on behalf of voting for a godly platform. Believers brought the Lord into this election, and that made all the difference," added the devout believer.

"That is the story of last night's victory. I have no doubt. The strong right arm of a holy God heard the prayers of His people and graciously answered our prayers," Bachmann reflected.

"It truly explains the Trump victory. I have no doubt. No man can take the credit. Only the strong right arm of a merciful God."

But that was in harmony with the "believers interceding on behalf of the American election last night in Jerusalem, praying in concert with those of us praying in America."

And there is no doubt someone was listening.

In addition to the hundreds-of-millions of viewers within Daystar's reach, the event drew about a million views online.

Bachmann said there had been a genuine repentance and coordinated beseeching of God. She told WND, "We saw the effective fervent prayers of righteous believers availing much."

"And, prayers so specific," she explained, "we prayed for elections by county and cities and districts. We literally watched results follow the faithful effectual prayers of righteous people who had humbled themselves and cried out to God for his mercy. This wasn't credit for us; this was clearly the Lord's gracious doing."

Bachmann proclaimed, "It is the story of the night and the biggest story of the year. I have no doubt."

"We were told more believers came out to vote in this election than ever before," she reflected, and the numbers confirmed that.

Trump benefited from the largest evangelical turnout in history.

Exit polls showed that an overwhelming 80 percent of white evangelical voters (who made up 25 percent of all 2016 voters) supported Trump.

Evangelicals of color preferred Clinton, but she did not get the same support from Hispanics and African-Americans as did President Obama.

Polls also showed that Trump recaptured the Catholic vote for the GOP by a margin of 52 percent to 45 percent, after most of them voted for Obama in the two previous presidential elections.

Bachmann said all of this "shows the necessity of believers voting for biblical principles in the voting booth."

Despite the victory, she concluded the work has just begun for the faithful, as well as the president-elect.

"This is not the time for believers to celebrate and turn away from doing our part affecting our society with the salt and light found in the Bible."

"Now is the time," she continued, "for pastors to preach biblically from America's pulpits on the various issues we confront in America."

"This is a beginning for people of faith. It is an opportunity to share the gospel and educate people on the fundamental primacy of the foundation of western civilization: the Bible."

So, what did happen around 8 p.m. Eastern time, when the Times indicated the odds favoring Trump began a dramatic turnaround in his favor?

Did prayers sway the vote, or did they coincide with the moment the tabulations began to swing to Trump?

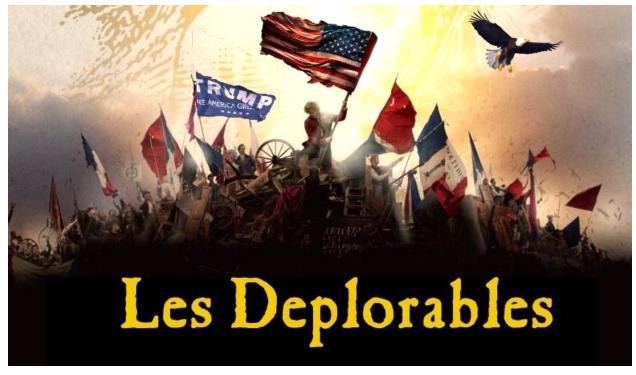
Either way, there could be a case to be made that the Trump victory was not really the work of man, because man chose Clinton.

She won the popular vote. Just as the polls predicted.

But it was where those people voted that made all the difference. Providentially, perhaps, the shift toward Trump happened in the key swing states needed to push him over the top in the all-important Electoral College.

From that perspective, Trump's victory might indeed be seen, even by the skeptical, as less the work of man, and more of an act of God.

**Thessalonians 4:16**: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God." \*7



ABOVE: 'SPOKEN OF IN CONDESCENDING TERMS BY HILLARY CLINTON, THE "DEPLORABLES" WHO HAD FAITH WON AGAINST HER LIES" \*8

# 5 Things Hillary Clinton Has Done That Will Make You Question Her Sanity

Given the strong link between leadership and psychopathy, questioning the sanity of our future leaders might not be so preposterous. One study, for example, found high rates of superficiality, insincerity, and an inability to empathize in a number of business CEOs (one in five).

In order to be successful at the level of a world-renowned politician or head of a powerful conglomeration, one often has to take actions that can severely affect others. Being able to do so without feeling guilt or remorse is an advantage in both the business and political world.

When it comes to Hillary Clinton, she not only displays traits one would likely regard as psychotic, but she also seems to be completely off-balance in other aspects of her mental constitution, such as in documented instances where she has appeared to have lost complete control of her faculties or has compulsively lied and barked like a dog.

Let's take a look at the evidence.

#### 1. Execution of Muammar Gaddafi

Clinton's leaked emails confirmed the long-held "conspiracy theory" that the plan to take out Libya's then-dictator, Muammar Gaddafi, was motivated not by human rights concerns, but by Gaddafi's plan to introduce a gold-backed currency that would unite the entire African continent. This currency would then be used to sell oil in the global

market, and the African continent would be less reliant on the American dollar, strengthening Africa's position in the world economy to the detriment of the NATO empire.

When Gaddafi was summarily executed by al-Qaeda-affiliated rebels on the streets of Sirte, Clinton's response in a subsequent interview was to say "We came. We saw. He died," before breaking out into Riddler-style laughter.

Anyone who has watched the videos of Gaddafi being captured by al-Qaeda-linked rebels can admit it is no Adam Sandler movie (considering how painful an Adam Sandler movie can be, this should illustrate the brutality of Gaddafi's execution). Many reports indicated Gaddafi was raped by a bayonet.

Hilarious, Hillary.

#### 2. Boko Haram

But Hillary Clinton clearly has empathy for others, her supporters might claim. What about the time she issued grandiose urgings to "Bring back our girls" after the savage terror group Boko Haram kidnapped 276 schoolgirls in Nigeria? Surely that shows her humanitarianism.

Yet the fact anyone could fall for such charade demonstrates how manipulative Hillary Clinton can be—a hallmark characteristic of someone who is psychologically unwell. It was Hillary Clinton who refused to put Boko Haram on the U.S. official terror list in the first place despite repeated requests from the CIA. Further, her policies in Libya led to the growth of Boko Haram, as the terror group was able to capitalize on the instability in Libya and receive a number of advanced stolen weapons.

Clinton's policies allowed a terror group to grow like wildfire yet she is confident enough to pretend to care about its victims.

Does that sound like the conduct of someone who is mentally balanced?

#### 3. Iran

In a 2012 interview with Charlie Rose, this time discussing what to do with the "threat" of Iran, James Baker stated that if the administration couldn't get to Iran the way they were planning to, then they "ought to take them out." Clinton is then given the opportunity to respond, during which she erupts into an enormous fit of laughter (again), as if war is a hilarious joke.

Generally speaking, people who laugh while contemplating or after committing murder are on the receiving end of a life-term imprisonment sentence.

#### 4. Fits of Rage

A number of inside staffers who worked with Hillary Clinton have gone on record to say Clinton would often erupt into fits of rage. For example, Hillary Clinton reportedly once threw a Bible at the back of a Secret Service agent's head and was subsequently told doing so was not acceptable behavior.

This kind of behavior led Secret Service agents to believe being assigned to Hillary Clinton was "a form of punishment handed down by passive-aggressive middle management."

As stated by former agent, Gary Byrne:

"Most of us knew to brace for her inevitable eruptions. They didn't happen every day, but behind closed doors we learned about them fast. In public, she was everyone's best friend. Privately, she was her normal self."

But wait, there's more:

"One day, UD [Uniformed Division] officers met to review events at their respective posts. A bewildered new officer arrived. 'Hey you'll never believe it, but I passed the First lady and she told me to go to hell!' A second young officer responded, 'You think that's bad? I passed her on the West Colonnade, and all I said was 'Good morning, First Lady.' She told me, 'Go f— yourself.' 'Are you serious?' 'Go f— yourself!' He imitated her, pointing a finger."

It is normal for people to become enraged when they are frustrated, though it is likely not as normal to throw heavy objects at others and curse them out for saying hello. Perhaps there is a direct reason for Clinton's heightened frustration in that she is not all there upstairs. Senior aide Huma Abedin's emails disclosed Hillary Clinton is often "confused" and in constant need of careful guidance to understand her own schedule.

#### 5. Acting Presidential

As a prominent political figure, lying is almost unavoidable for someone of Clinton's stature. However, not many politicians have the ability to lie as often or as systematically as Clinton. For example, Clinton claims to be named after New Zealand-born Mt. Everest climber, Sir Edmund Hillary despite the fact he climbed Mt. Everest six years after she was born. She lied about her infamous email scandal and continues to joke about it to this day. She consistently lied about what happened in Benghazi, claiming a controversial video incited the violence that resulted in the deaths of American personnel on that fateful day.

She even lied about being under sniper fire in the Bosnian war zone. This turned out to be a complete fabrication.

However, what's most concerning is not her ability to lie, as this would not separate her from any politician in our current climate, but her ability to display behavior that most people tend to find unnerving.

Seriously, see for yourself... [Links to videos are provided in the original source]

Luckily, we have an explanation for all of this behavior, as explained in December of last year. (She might have a drinking problem.)

For maximum effect, watch all of the footage in one go, one after the other, starting with a video of Muammar Gaddafi screaming—and Hillary Clinton's reaction—up until she barks like a dog. Then see how confident you are at the voting booths this November.

Or, perhaps, she simply has a serious condition that requires stringent medical attention. \*9



ABOVE: POLITICAL CARTOON BY GLENN MCCOY — 'REFLECTING OPINIONS OF MANY "DEPLORABLES" THAT SHE'S UNFIT FOR OFFICE' \*10

## **HSBC Case Blows Lid Off Clintons' Offshore Empire**

The arrest of the head of global foreign exchange cash trading at HSBC bank may shed new light on suspicions the Clinton Foundation has been involved in illegal offshore money-laundering operations on a massive scale.

The investigation into HSBC currency trader Mark Johnson and associate Stuart Scott for their alleged role in a "conspiracy to rig currency benchmarks" by front-running customer orders has escalated to the point where the Department of Justice is threatening to tear up a 2012 agreement to fine HSBC a historic \$1.9 billion for money-laundering violations in lieu of criminal prosecutions.

At issue is whether or not HSBC has honored the 2012 deferred-prosecution agreement in which the bank agreed to establish internal review procedures to catch and punish potentially criminal activities by employees.

The bank's failure to discipline the two currency traders will make it difficult for HSBC to convince law-enforcement authorities that the massive Hong Kong-headquartered bank has complied with the 2012 agreement. An internal

investigation in 2013 cleared them of any wrongdoing regarding a \$3.5 billion currency trade that U.S. prosecutors now believe was criminally fraudulent.

#### **HSBC** money trail leads to Clintons

WND broke open the HSBC money-laundering case with a series of articles beginning in February 2012. More than 1,000 pages of customer records and secret audio recordings brought to WND by whistleblower John Cruz, a former HSBC employee, showed HSBC employees in Long Island were stealing the Social Security numbers of former bank depositors to create bogus "pass-through" accounts used to launder hundreds of millions of dollars for criminal enterprises such as Mexican drug cartels and Islamic terrorists.

WND reported in February 2015 Cruz told Senate Judiciary Committee staff preparing for the Loretta Lynch confirmation hearings that he considered the \$1.9 billion fine DOJ imposed on HSBC in 2012 in lieu of criminal prosecution "a joke." Cruz argued that a \$1.9 billion fine of an international bank the size of HSBC amounted to no more than "a few days operating profit." He described it as "a cost of doing business" once HSBC had decided to launder money for international criminals.

After the HSBC currency traders were arrested, WND conducted an investigation of the bank's connections to the Clinton Foundation, uncovering a massive offshore financial network involving tens of thousands of transactions that extend far beyond HSBC.

The transactions surfaced in database searches of leaked offshore banking documents.

On Feb. 10, 2015, the London Guardian reported \$81 million from seven wealthy international donors flowed to the Clinton Foundation through controversial Swiss tax-free HSBC accounts maintained in Geneva, as revealed by leaked HSBC files obtained by French newspaper Le Monde.

The evidence has been passed to the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, the Guardian, BBC Panorama and more than 50 other media outlets around the world.

Breitbart reported in April that key Clinton financial partners, including Canadian mining executive Frank Giustra and the Chagoury family of Nigeria, made use of the controversial Panama-based law firm Mossack Fonseca to move assets around the world.

Breitbart noted Giustra is one of the Clinton Foundation's largest contributors, donating more than \$25 million, while the Chagoury family in Nigeria has committed \$1 billion to the Clinton Global Initiative.

This led WND to begin an extensive investigation into the major leak of offshore banking documents, known as the "Panama Papers," a giant leak of more than 11.5 million financial and legal records from the files of the Mossack Fonseca law firm that was archived by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

The Panama Papers database contains information on some 214,000 offshore entities connected to people in more than 200 countries and territories. It reveals major financial institutions, including HSBC, involved in the creation of hard-to-trace companies in offshore havens that form a complex international network involved in tax evasion and money-laundering schemes.

#### Offshore transactions

In a series of searches of the ICIJ Panama Paper's database of leaked documents, WND has uncovered tens of thousands of transactions that surface for Bill Clinton under his own name as well as for various shell companies he has created using his initials, WJC.

Searches of the names Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton uncovered tens of thousands of additional offshore transactions via offshore investment companies established for both.

Additionally, tens of thousands of offshore transactions are recorded in searches for the Clinton Foundation and its various subsidiaries, including the Clinton Global Initiative and the Clinton Health Access Initiative.

The surfaced transactions tied to the Clinton family begin to appear in 1989 and extend through 2015, when the ICIJ database of Panama Papers offshore leaks was published.

Transactions linked to the Clinton Global Initiative have occurred in countries such as Panama, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, British Anguilla, the Bahamas, Switzerland, Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man, Liechtenstein, Guernsey, Jersey, Malta, Luxembourg, Monaco, Gibraltar, Russia, Ukraine, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Turkey, Cyprus, France, Belgium, Italy, Canada, China, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Israel, Singapore, Thailand, Mauritius, Ecuador, Guatemala, Uruguay, Dominican Republic, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Samoa and Vanuatu, as well as various "undisclosed" and "undetermined" locations.

"The cache of 11.5 million records shows how a global industry of law firms and big banks sells financial secrecy to politicians, fraudsters and drug traffickers as well as billionaires, celebrities and sports stars," the ICIJ writes about the Panama Papers.

#### Ties to foundation donors

The McClatchy Washington Bureau, an ICIJ participant, reported in April that while the Panama Papers have revealed direct connections with the Mossack Fonseca law firm in Panama—including ties to Marc Rich, the international fugitive pardoned by Clinton in his final days in office and to firms tied to Ng Lap Seng, the Chinese billionaire implicated in a major Democratic Party fundraising scandal while Clinton was president—the Clintons themselves do not appear as Mossack Fonseca law firm clients.

"The Clintons themselves do not appear to be in Mossack Fonseca's database, nor does it appear that their daughter, Chelsea, or her husband, Marc Mezvinsky, who co-founded a hedge fund, are listed," the McClatchy Washington Bureau reported.

"But Bill and Hillary Clinton's connections to people who have used offshores is fuel for her Democratic rival, Bernie Sanders."

While the transactions identified in an ICIJ database search correspond to records that detail the nature of the transactions, the ICIJ has not typically released transactional details because of concerns over privacy laws in the various jurisdictions, including the United States. So, for instance, while it's known that WJC LLC is associated in the Panama Papers database with thousands of transactions recorded in the ICIJ database, WND is unable to determine if the transactions involved Bill Clinton personally or only associates of Bill Clinton.

A database search for Clinton Global Initiative reveals what appear to be Clinton-affiliated entities registered offshore, such as Clinton Development Company S.A., a company incorporated in 1996 by Mossack Fonesca in the small South Pacific island nation of Niue (deactivated Dec. 16, 1999); Clinton Investments Limited, incorporated by Mossack Fonesca in the British Virgin Islands in 1990 (deactivated May 23, 1991); Clinton Holdings Limited, incorporated by Mossack Fonesca in the British West Indies in 1989 (deactivated April 30, 1993); and Clinton, Inc., incorporated by Mossack Fonesca in the Bahamas in 1993 (deactivated Jan. 3, 2001).

Similarly, a database search for Chelsea Clinton Investments lists Chelsea Enterprises Limited Company, incorporated in 2001 by Mossack Fonesca in Nevada (deactivated March 20, 2009); Chelsea Resort Ltd., incorporated by Mossack Fonesca in Seychelles in 2005 (deactivated Dec. 5, 2014); Chelsea Manor Ltd., incorporated by Mossack Fonesca in Seychelles in 2005 (listed as active); Chelsea House Ltd., incorporated by Mossack Fonseca in Seychelles in 2006 (deactivated Jan. 8, 2010); Chelsea Crystal Limited, incorporated by Mossack Fonseca in Seychelles in 2006 (deactivated Nov. 9, 2010); Chelsea International Limited, incorporated by Mossack Fonseca in 2001 (deactivated Dec. 20, 2002); Chelsea Holdings Overseas S.A, incorporated by Mossack Fonseca in Panama in 2007 (deactivated Jan. 6, 2010); and Chelsea Group Ltd., incorporated by Mossack Fonseca in 1994 (deactivated Oct. 9, 2014).

For most of these Mossack Fonseca-registered corporations using the "Clinton" name, shareholders are listed simply as "bearer," a designation that does not permit identifying with certainty whether the parties backing the formation of the corporation were the Clinton family, a Clinton family designee or an unrelated third party simply exploiting the Clinton name.

Yet, there is evidence within the ICIJ database that Clinton-formed corporations have offshore banking connections. The Clintons or agents working on their behalf incorporated five shell companies, the Washington Free Beacon reported in April, that generate thousands of hits in the Panama Papers offshore entity database.

The corporations include WJC LLC, which Bill Clinton incorporated in 2008 as a "pass-through" for his consulting fees, as well as ZFS Holdings, incorporated in 2013, one week after Hillary Clinton left the State Department, apparently as a vehicle for her publisher Simon & Schuster to pay a \$5.5 million advance for her 2015 book "Hard Choices."

The other three Clinton-formed shell companies incorporated in Delaware are:

- The Acceso Fund LLC, a Delaware corporation that Bill Clinton formed in 2009, to be used by the Clinton
  Foundation, supposedly to funnel money to the Clinton Foundation's Colombia-based private equity fund, Fondo
  Acceso.
- The Acceso Worldwide Fund Inc. was incorporated in Delaware in 2013, supposedly to be used by the Clinton Foundation in working with Fondo Acceso.
- The Haiti Development Fund LLC was registered in 2010, again as a vehicle for the Clinton Foundation to raise
  charitable donations supposedly targeted for the relief of the victims of the 2010 earthquake. The Delaware limited
  liability companies such as WJC LLC are not required to file annual statements disclosing their directors or
  owners, according to the Free Beacon. The Clintons registered both companies in New York after they were
  established.

A search of Acceso Fund LLC in the Panama Papers offshore database produces hits for 1,604 offshore entities. There are 3,436 hits for Acceso Worldwide Fund LLC and 8,719 for the Haiti Development Fund LLC

A search for ZFS Holdings LLC produces hits for 24,086 offshore entities.

Moreover, the public record shows the Clintons are no strangers to offshore banking. The Daily Caller noted Jan. 12, for instance, that Bill Clinton was a partner in Ron Burkle's Yucaipa Global Partnership, registered in the Cayman Islands, from which Bill Clinton was paid an estimated \$10 million, as originally reported by the Washington Post in 2008.

#### WJC LLC

The Associated Press in August 2015 broke the story that Bill Clinton had created and used a shell corporation, WJC LLC, and a shell bank account to hide an undisclosed amount of money from public reporting and accountability.

The AP reported that the disclosure came in response to questions the news wire had posed regarding financial files the Clintons had released as a legal requirement for Hillary's 2016 presidential campaign. The answers were provided by Clinton officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The officials leaking the information confirmed that WJC LLC was a "pass-through" account, designed to collect fees for consulting, possibly for speeches, and conceivably to receive payment on commercial "deals" in which the Clinton had delivered services, possibly including political favors in return for payment.

WJC LLC is the type of company that gun-running and drug-dealing criminals involved in international money-laundering create and operate to avoid law-enforcement detection.

As exposed in the book "Partners in Crime: The Clintons' Scheme to Monetize the White House for Personal Profit," by emptying the account to zero following each payment, the Clintons avoided having to make public disclosure of the account, since the rules require candidates to declare only family assets worth \$1,000 or more.

As noted in "Partners in Crime," the existence of WJC LLC as a corporation or as a shell bank account has never been mentioned in any Clinton Foundation audited financial statements or IRS Tax Form 990 since the foundation's inception in 1997. Because the WJC LLC bank account never showed up with a positive balance in banking records reported to bank regulators, the Clintons also avoided disclosing the existence of the account in their income tax filings.

A search of the ICIJ database of the Panama Papers for WJC LLC produced a list of hits that included 1,011 offshore entities, 446 officers, 72 intermediaries and 143 different addresses.

Among the "offshore entities" that surfaced in the search for WJC LLC was the still active WJC Investment Group Ltd., a corporation registered in the British Virgin Islands on Oct. 6, 2005, by the Singapore-based Asian wealth manager Portcullis Trustnet, that the Panama Papers list as registered in the British Virgin Island as a trust company.

The ICIJ reports that about a third of the offshore entities in the Panama Papers were incorporated through Portcullis Trustnet (now Portcullis) and Commonwealth Trust Limited, two offshore service providers that were made public as part of the ICIJ's 2013 "Offshore Leaks" exposé.

The information on Portcullis Trustnet was added to what has become the Panama Papers database in June 2013, when it was produced in conjunction with the Costa Rican newspaper La Nación.

#### **WJC Investments LLC**

As exposed in Chapter 8, "The India Scam," of "Partners in Crime," until the Obama 2008 presidential campaign opposition research became public, the Clintons had managed to keep the existence of WJC Investments LLC completely secret.

On May 27, 2015, following the AP's discovery that Bill Clinton used WJC LLC as a shell company, Jennifer Epstein noted in Bloomberg Politics that Bill Clinton also owns WJC International Investments GP LLC, as well as WJC International Investments LLC.

The establishment media, generally protective of the Clintons, has neglected to investigate Bill Clinton's WJC limited liability corporate holdings, even since the Washington Post in 2014 reported the general partnership WJC International Investments GP LLC was created by Bill Clinton in 2006.

As pointed out in "Partners in Crime," there are many legitimate reasons to create and operate LLC structures, including tax planning, an additional advantage deriving to the benefit of the Clintons is secrecy.

Unlike public corporations, the filing and disclosure requirements for LLC benefits those, such as the Clintons, who want to maximize privacy by avoiding public disclosure requirements. How many investments have the Clintons derived from connections established with donors to the Clinton Foundation and/or members of the Clinton Global Initiative?

The American public may never know. The likelihood is WJC LLC, as well as WJC International Investments LLC and WJC Investments LLC were created and maintained as limited liability corporations—with WJC LLC being nothing more than a shell corporation—precisely so that questions could never be answered.

Variations of WJC Investments LLC produced thousands of hits in the ICIJ offshore leaks database.

A search of the ICIJ database of the Panama Papers for WJC Investments LLC produced a list of hits that included 19,372 offshore entities, 3,396 officers, 215 intermediaries and 316 addresses. The database also produced 38,934 offshore entities associated with WJC Investments Group LLC, plus 50,407 offshore entities identified with WJC International Investments LLC, as well as 68,188 offshore entities identified with WJC International Investments Group LLC.

WND also searched the ICIJ database of the Panama Papers for William J. Clinton and found the name was associated with 433 offshore entities, 1,380 officers, 250 intermediaries and 363 addresses.

#### Hillary, Chelsea Clinton and Clinton Foundation

A search of the ICIJ database also produced thousands of hits for Hillary Clinton, Hillary Rodham Clinton and HRC Investments LLC, as well as thousands of hits for various listings under Chelsea Clinton's name and thousands of hits for the Clinton Foundation and its various subgroups, including the Clinton Global Initiative and the Clinton Health Access Initiative.

A search for the Clinton Global Initiative surfaced 5,505 associated offshore entities, with several in the top listings including the "Clinton" name in the offshore entity's title.

Similarly, a search for Hillary Clinton Investments turned up hits for 18,450 offshore entities, with several in the top listings including the name "Hillary" or "Clinton."

Again, given the nature of the ICIJ Panama Papers database, it is not possible to determine if Hillary Clinton was personally involved with the 18,450 offshore entities listed.

Among the offshore entities listed in the search for Hillary Clinton Investments, Mossack Fonseca incorporated several, including Hillary S.A., incorporated in Niue in 1997 (deactivated Dec. 27, 1999); Hillary Finance Services LTD, incorporated in 1997 in the British Virgin Islands (deactivated Oct. 31, 1998); and Hillary Equities Corp., incorporated in 2003 in Panama (deactivated Feb. 12 2010).

#### **Trump in Panama Papers**

While Donald J. Trump's name shows up on 3,540 of the Panama Papers leaked documents, the GOP presidential candidate does not appear to be a direct owner of any company formed by Mossack Fonseca, the McClatchy Washington Bureau reported April 29.

"Early in his career, Trump developed properties," McClatchy noted. "Over the decades, he has increasingly let others invest the capital and take the risks. He sells them his name and reputation, and is paid millions in return."

The newspaper said that seems to be the case with the Trump Ocean Club International Hotel & Tower in Panama, noting that in the Mossack Fonseca files, it is the most frequent association with Trump's name, "since his business partners in the project appear as buyers of condo units, some of whom create offshore shell companies with Mossack Fonseca for the purchase."

McClatchy cited two instances of others seeking to capitalize on Trump's name that were responsible for hits in the Panama Papers database:

Trump Wise Investment Ltd. was created by the Hong Kong firm Instant Companies Limited and registered in the British Virgin Islands from 1998 to late 2005. "The secret documents show Mossack Fonseca did not even know who the shareholders were," McClatchy reported.

Similarly, Trump World Capital Ltd in the British Virgin Islands was opened in late 2006 by Mossack Fonseca's Singapore office. It remains active, with shareholders listing addresses in Palembang, Indonesia. "One shareholder is a young woman whose LinkedIn profile describes her as merchandising supervisor at a small clothing retailer," McClatchy reported.

"Neither of these appear to be connected to Trump in any way," McClatchy concluded. \*11

"Tricks and treachery are the practice of fools, that don't have brains enough to be honest." —Benjamin Franklin

"Any government that is powerful enough to protect citizens against predators is also powerful enough to become a predator itself." — *Unknown* 

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