

We the people of the United States of America have the responsibility not only to hold our government to the exceptional standard of granting liberty and justice to all, but to hold ourselves to a standard of kindness and maturity befitting the privileges with which we are granted. Yet we do not.

We enlist in the war zone of Twitter and rage in the riots of Facebook. We accept the censoring of any ideas which upset the many moderators of Reddit and YouTube, who are too weak in their minds and wills to handle ideas which are contrary to their own personal political and social beliefs. These enforcers, which can be found at any time policing their sites like their own personal dystopian police state, employing robotic underlings to scour their lands in search of those who dissent with their point of view and attack them. This is not how we should act.

We destroy our neighbors' livelihoods over the detestable, violent actions done towards innocents by a select few of our police, not by the innocents who we harm. Do you believe, with all honesty, that Dr. King would have approved of these violent riots, destroying the businesses of your neighbors, turning your neighborhoods into war zones which are more akin to the streets of the Middle East than the March on Washington of August 1963? Even Malcolm X, someone who championed getting the social and political change which you require by any means necessary in his early life, later recognized the foolishness of his argument! And yet we still do actions that would horrify our heroes - sometimes even in their name!

We are blinded by our echo chambers of idiocracy and hatred, looking for any possible excuse filled explanation of our irrational, unfounded, and unacceptable villainy and hatred! People! We are shaming our ancestors! We are shaming ourselves! Terrorist attacks martyred by our own media, who alternate between fear mongering and hatred of the kind that would make Hitler himself weep tears of joy, that the country he praised for their treatment of minorities was still set in their ways of barbaric delusional hatred which we choose to turn a eye to and we act as if is some ancient thing! Creating strife throughout our country for the sole purpose of selling whatever trash is advertised between their sensationalist stories, hate mongering of their neighbors, and blatant misinformation! We scream at each other through seas of characters, hiding behind quips and insults to the intelligence of those no worse than us in a mind boggling attempt to humiliate them into intellectual submission, meaningless razor sharp lines of unclever copycat arguments, supported not by logic but catchy phrases and childish names, tearing each other down so that those who wish to violate our rights and do us harm have nothing but hollow shells of once proud people to trample on their way to utter domination!

We choose to stand by our treasonous, misogynistic, and racist leaders simply due to the fact that they identify with our personal clique of like minded souls. Just because they say they are red or they are blue, we fight tooth and nail on behalf of them? We champion justice, then we narrow an election down to two handsy old men, between a traitor and a fool. Is this the leadership we want? Is this the leadership that our founding fathers, who risked everything to make a better life for their progeny, would like to see? We have trapped ourselves in a winless situation in which we cannot possibly hope to come out ahead, and yet the only solution which we choose to act upon is to simply blind ourselves from the truth! We cannot be willing to accept

a subpar candidate simply because the Republican or Democrat party told us so! Parties by which so many define their entire political ideology off of, who are at it simply for their own gain, who rig elections to put those whom they personally support into the powerful positions of this corrupt system. This is unacceptable! We call each other liars simply in response to the factual evidence with which they prove their argument not being in support of what we want to believe! We are complacent in every horrid thing which happens in our country, as not only do an outlandishly minute few of us act, but those who do attempt to turn everything into something it is not so as to support their personal bias and prejudices. We must change! We must be better! We have no choice!

In discussions of our political and sociological landscape, we should think not about breaking down those on “The Other Side”, but on understanding everyone’s opinions and on helping to create the greatest country in the world. Not only for you or me, but for everyone within this melting pot of people from all over our beautiful world. Of adventurous souls, and family men. Of heroes and their families. Of blacks, and of whites, and of everything in between. Of international businesses and mom and pop shops. And if we are to do this, we must learn to not make things personal, to separate ourselves from our beliefs. We must listen to others, we must ask questions, we must be kind, and we must be united.

And if you are reading this, then yes. This is dedicated towards you. It is dedicated to every single human being in our dying country, as almost every single one of us is like this. It will not be easy to be better. It will not always be satisfying. But it is what is right. Please, share this with your friends, so that we may save ourselves.

Thanks:

Thank you Sean Blanda, your work “‘The Other Side’ Is Not Dumb” is what originally inspired this commentary, though it is now much different from where it was when it was more similar to yours. Thank you Daniel Sheldon for your brutal honesty throughout the editing process. Thank you Katy Moore for reinvigorating my love for writing, as well as introducing me to Mr. Blanda’s work in the first place. Thank you Tarrin for your wonderful fixes in regards to my punctuation. And thank you readers, for taking the time to read this work of mine.