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Erin Burnett, Jim Acosta, Phil Mattingly, Jamie Gangel, Miguel Marquez, David Chalian, John Avlon, David Gergen, Kayleigh McEnany, Van Jones, Mark Preston, Boris Sanchez

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[19:00:08] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news. Dueling Trump and Clinton rallies at this hour, 30 miles apart as polls show a neck and neck race with five days until Election Day. And Melania Trump hits the campaign trail saying as first lady she'd take on internet bullies. Will she start at home?

And Trump versus Obama trading insults and mocking each other. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening. I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news. Dueling rallies at this moment. Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton only 30 miles apart both in the crucial state of North Carolina. It is a must-win state for Donald Trump. Both candidates about to rally supporters live this hour. And we're going to be taking you there. These are the final arguments in the final hours of this race.

And the latest national polls show the race is tightening even more with only five days to go. The CNN poll of polls which is an average of the polls nationwide shows Clinton up by four. CBS News, "New York Times," Clinton up by three. ABC News "Washington Post," Clinton up today by two. Hillary Clinton who's victory depends on turning out the same people who voted for President Obama, attacking Trump today over his treatment of African-Americans.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: He re-tweets white supremacists and spreads racially tinged conspiracy theories. Donald Trump was endorsed by the official newspaper of the Ku Klux Klan.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Of course an endorsement he rejected. Donald Trump making his closing argument today, slamming Clinton over the e-mail probe.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: She shouldn't even be allowed to run for the office of president. She shouldn't be allowed. And that is where the system is rigged. She shouldn't be allowed.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Now, Melania Trump making a rare appearance on the trail in Pennsylvania today. She gave a speech and spoke about her experience as an **immigrant**.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELANIA TRUMP, WIFE OF DONALD TRUMP: I grew up in a small town in Slovenia near a beautiful river and forests. Of course we always knew about the incredible place called America. America was the word for freedom and opportunity. America meant if you could dream it, could become it.

(CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: A lot to get to tonight with these five days to go.

Phil Mattingly is at the Clinton rally in Raleigh, North Carolina. Jim Acosta right now at the Trump rally in Selma, North Carolina. And we'll start with you, Jim. You've been talking to the Trump campaign. And a preview of his speech tonight trying to make his key closing case.

JIM ACOSTA, CNN SENIOR WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: That's right, Erin. Donald Trump is trying to put some cracks in Hillary Clinton's firewall in this state. A Trump campaign official says, Trump will be delivering a speech focused on national (audio gap) and foreign policy issues tonight. When he gets up on the stage behind me, I'm told he'll have seven Medal of Honor recipients with him. And during his remarks to this crowd, he will be talking about his plans to build up the nation's navy and Air Force.

Those were all critical issues in this state where military issues are very, very important. But we should also point out something we've been seeing over the last 72 hours Erin and that is Donald Trump staying on message, avoiding that incendiary rhetoric that has thrown his campaign off course from time to time throughout the course of this campaign. But that doesn't mean he's holding back. He's still going after Hillary Clinton's e-mail controversy. But consider how he responded to President Obama earlier today. The President has been going right after Donald Trump but the words that Trump had to say for the President is that he should be back in the Oval Office working for the American people and not campaigning for a candidate who once questioned whether the President was even for in this country. That's the definition of restraint -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Jim Acosta. As you can see packed rallies. Trump going to be giving that speech on foreign policy and the military. We are going to be taking that to you live.

Phil Mattingly is OUTFRONT in Raleigh, North Carolina, where Clinton just miles away is going to be taking the stage shortly. And Phil, you've been talking to Clinton advisors and they tell you she has a very specific target audience tonight. PHIL MATTINGLY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Yes. That is exactly right, Erin. Laser focused really all day today on African-American voters and with good reason. As you dig through the early vote in the state of North Carolina. The crucial state of North Carolina. There's been a noticeable drop in African-American votes for Democrats that we've seen up to this point when compared to 2012. Now Clinton campaign advisors say, look, there are two very good reasons for this.

First and foremost President Obama is not at the top of the ticket. Second, there will have been a lot of changes in state law that are reducing polling places and reduce days where African-Americans can actually vote. And they say, there has been an uptick over the last couple of days. That doesn't mean that they are letting this issue go. Hillary Clinton very focused on this issue in her first rally today in North Carolina. Just a few minutes ago showed up for an unscheduled stop at North Carolina Central University.

A historically black college. Where she and Pharrell, the musician showed up unannounced to very excited students there. And will soon be on the stage here in Raleigh. Another crucial city in this entire state talking about the same issues with Pharrell again. And also trying to target another crucial part of that coalition that they are trying to turn out, Millennials. Bernie Sanders will be joining the stage with Hillary Clinton, with Pharrell. If the Clinton campaign has its way, this will be a big day for a big boost in those lagging early vote numbers amongst African-Americans -- Erin.

[19:05:32] BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much. And David Chalian is now OUTFRONT in Washington. New polls out tonight. Is some of them obviously showing welcome news for Trump. It is getting tighter and tighter at least on the forefront.

DAVID CHALIAN, CNN POLITICAL DIRECTOR: That is right. And some new polls first in New Hampshire. Well, that was Maine. Let's get to New Hampshire. You've see here, Erin. A new poll out today. Forty percent, 39 percent. One point edge for Donald Trump. Another poll came out in New Hampshire today, dead heat. Forty two percent to 42 percent. Certainly that is welcome news in the Trump campaign. He also got pretty good news in the state of Utah.

Take a look at this new poll. We've talked about Utah a lot. Evan McMullin, that never Trumper, that third party candidate not surging in this poll. Twenty four percent compared to Donald Trump's 37 percent. Even Hillary Clinton is ahead of McMullin. So he may be able to -- Donald Trump may be able to count on these six electoral votes in Utah and he will need them. One bit of heartburn that may be causing the Trump campaign tonight is in the state of Georgia. Look at this new poll. NBC Wall Street Journal Maris just out right now, Erin. Forty five percent to 44 percent. A one point Trump lead in a state that hasn't gone Democratic since 1992.

BURNETT: Which is pretty stunning. Now, I know that you've looked through this David, and you say there could be up to six paths to victory for Trump, right? Which of course, you know, a week ago there was maybe one. So obviously this has changed dramatically. But there are a couple that you think are perhaps most likely if he is to win. Like what?

CHALIAN: Exactly. Let's look at two of the most likely paths here. Remember, this is our battleground map. The one path we've been talking about is sort of the no room for error path. This is if we give Donald Trump all of the remaining battleground and toss-up states on the map. He still doesn't get there. He flips New Hampshire and then he steals that one Congressional district up in the top of Maine. That one extra electoral vote would get him to 270. So, that is the most narrow path and probably one of the most likely paths.

Also, there is the dream scenario that the Trump campaign always wanted to sort of run which was the rust belt strategy. Here he would not need as many of the battleground states. So let's say Donald Trump, you know, takes Utah as we said. Hangs on to Arizona. Takes Florida. Takes Ohio. He's not there yet. But now head up here. If he could get Michigan, Wisconsin, that would get him to 270. If he could get Pennsylvania or one of Michigan and Wisconsin.

This is that rust belt strategy relying on those white, working class voters to see if he could really generate turnout. That is how they always intended to alter the map. The polls right now are not with him in those states Erin but this is probably the next most likely path. It's something we will emerge on Tuesday.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much David Chalian. And of course, in some of these states, you know, you have some tons and tons of polls. Florida and North Carolina. In others like Michigan, Wisconsin, you really don't have very many polls. So, much harder to ascertain what's really happening.

OUTFRONT tonight, David Gergen who served as presidential advisor for four presidents. Trump supporter Kayleigh McEnany. Clinton supporter Van Jones, a special advisor to President Obama. Jon Avlon, editor- in-chief of "The Daily Beast." Jamie Gangel, special correspondent. And Philip Bump, Washington Post political reporter.

So, Philip, let me start with you. Five days to go. We've laid out here at CNN six possible paths. All right. They are narrow but a week ago, they were not six paths. There was maybe one path and it involved a lot of hope and prayer. OK? Now you have six. David laying out two of the more likely. You say Trump has never been closer to the presidency than he is tonight.

PHILIP BUMP, POLITICAL REPORTER, THE WASHINGTON POST: That's right. Yes. I mean, that doesn't necessarily mean that he is going to be president. I mean, I still think it is likely that Hillary Clinton will win. The closest Donald Trump has been over the course of this campaign is a tie. He's basically out a tie right now. But I think what the first scenario that David just laid out is the most likely scenario. He has to win Florida, he has to win Ohio, he has to win either Pennsylvania or North Carolina.

If on election night he loses one of those four states it is done. Well, if he loses both Pennsylvania and North Carolina it is done. But that highlights the fact that as close as he is right now, the fact that this is not quite yet a jump ball but it's getting close if the trends continue, it is going to be a jump ball. The fact that he's this close at this point and is staying on message is about as good as you could hope.

BURNETT: John?

JOHN AVLON, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, THE DAILY BEAST: Look, Donald Trump is trying to be more disciplined than he has been in the past. We've got five days. That seems reasonable. He's coaching himself using his outside voice. You know, "Don't screw it up, Donald, stay on message." But look -- let's have a reality check about these maps we're talking about. They involve various scenarios where Donald Trump basically runs almost the table.

BURNETT: Little room for error.

[19:10:05] AVLON: There is very little to suggest. Yes. And that is the nicest way to say it. I mean, it involves everything going right for a candidate who doesn't have much organization. Doesn't seem to be hitting benchmarks that even Mitt Romney had hit. So there are scenarios, absolutely, and he's had momentum since Comey's letter. No question. But let's be real about the scenarios we're talking about because they are far fetch, possible but not by in means likely at this stage.

BURNETT: Now, you're talking about the outside voice. And Jamie, let me just -- you know, he's going to be speaking in a few moments, OK? He is going to be introducing veterans, he is then going to be giving a speech on foreign policy. He has stayed on message. And in fact, he does have a voice in his head who is telling him to do this. Here is how he put it at a rally.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: Stay on point, Donald. Stay on point. No sidetracks, Donald. Nice and easy. Nice -- because I've been watching Hillary the last few days. She's totally unhinged. We don't want any of that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

JAMIE GANGEL, CNN SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT: I love that. I cannot watch that enough. He's -- someone was saying that to him. And he has been repeating that. I just want to go back to the polls for one second and say this. There is no question obviously that we're seeing the polls tighten. But I want to say two words, President Romney. It didn't happen. And the polls, they thought on Election Day, a source of mine was on the surrogates call on Election Day and called me and said, Mitt Romney is the next president of the United States.

And I looked at our data and I said, no he's not. They got it wrong. So we have to be careful with these polls. They are sometimes not what we think. The other thing is there's been a lot of talk about the shy Trump vote. We went back and we looked at the primaries. He did not over perform. Sometimes he underperformed. Sometimes over performed. But there wasn't some shy Trump vote that in every primary he came out and was doing so much better.

BURNETT: Which is an interesting point. David?

DAVID GERGEN, FORMER PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER: You may have two words on your mind tonight. President Romney. I have one and that is Brexit. You know, it was unimaginable that Brexit would pass in the United Kingdom. And then in the last few days it started breaking towards, polls started picking up and there was a much bigger movement than anybody thought. And it was the shy vote that came out. So, I think Hillary should definitely still be in the camp of being favored. But cannot discount Brexit.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: And early voting confirms that. Look, we talk about 2012, he's winning in early voting in Florida by 18,000 right now. Romney was losing. North Carolina, he's 90,000 votes more in North Carolina than Romney was. And Romney came to one. That despite the fact that both were losing in the polls in North Carolina. He can absolutely win this. And I completely agree with the Brexit analysis. Especially when you look at the Bloomberg poll from the few weeks ago where one percent of voters told the pollster, I don't want to tell you who I am voting for and I can only imagine the number of voters who just hang up because they didn't want to talk to a pollster altogether.

BURNETT: Which is -- you also have here, the Trump campaign doing something much more aggressively in this final days than they did before. And that is, try to win over people who aren't in their base. You know, you get the endorsement of the KKK paper. And they are immediately disgusted by it. There is a robo-call. They are immediately disgusted by it. Today, Eric Trump on a radio show in Denver, the host suggested that the former KKK Leader David Duke deserved a bullet to the head.

Here is what Eric Trump said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ERIC TRUMP, SON OF DONALD TRUMP: If I said exactly what you said, I'd get killed for it. But I think -- I think I'll say it anyway. The guy does deserve a bullet. I mean, these aren't good people.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAN JONES, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: Look, we've gotten to the point now where Donald Trump gets cookies and ice cream and applause for saying bad things about the Klan.

BURNETT: Yes.

JONES: That is a very low bar, a very low standard in the United States of America. So, he is very very good he said something bad. Here is the reality. A tie is not good for Trump. These folks are right. We don't know if these polls are correct or not. There could be a big surge out there that we do not catch, that we do not see. Part of the reason I think you have got so much low voter turnout is because Democrats were complacent until Friday.

Until Friday, Democrats were saying, hey, we' got this thing in the bag. I think there could be two surges that are below the radar screen. Both of them from hard core Democrats and from others. But if you have a tie, if those numbers are correct, we have an operation to get to two more points. And so Donald trump needs to be up by two to match our turnout.

BURNETT: And when you go with what Jamie is saying, President Romney, Kayleigh you look at what the way things were in 2012. Virtually tide. Obama won by four. So if you do that now in the poll of polls, Hillary Clinton is already up by four. You would get to eight. That would be an almost unprecedented landslide, right? I mean, if you look at it that way if past is precedent.

MCENANY: Right. But I don't think there are comparable elections really. I think we have some intangibles here. I think there is so much enthusiasm on Donald Trump's side and we saw the enthusiasm kind of flip in the poll numbers in the ABC poll after the FBI investigation. Republicans have come home as Mike Pence likes to say. Eighty seven percent are supporting Donald Trump. Eighty percent of Democrats are supporting Clinton. There are some intangibles here. A criminal FBI investigation and a lot of enthusiasm on the side of Donald Trump.

BUMP: Can I just make one quick point. The enthusiasm actually flipped, it's the post ABC poll and now the enthusiasm is back.

[19:15:23] AVLON: Yes. But look, let's talk about the demographic map for a second because it matters. It was a major theme in 2012. And the country is not getting more white. And campaigns that are predicated upon that appeal have a fundamental problem. Reaching out is a process. Jack Kemp begins it from the Republican Party, honorably a long time ago, and denouncing a KKK endorsement to Van's point is not akin to reaching out. It's actually just reflect of common sense.

And he's got a demographic math problem that cannot be ignored or the belief that there will be a mythical, you know, undiscovered white vote that will come out. It may be determinative in a couple of states and I want to say again, he has a real momentum behind them in the wake of the Comey letter but you can't totally ignore the Democratic math. It's part of American election.

BURNETT: Speaking of the Comey letter, Jamie, we have this fundraiser tonight. Huma Abedin who has not been by Hillary Clinton's side since the day this was announced when they were on the plane together. She's been MIA at this fundraiser in Washington with the -- editor-in- chief and others. We have a picture of her just arriving. The first, that is it. OK? That's as visible as she's going to possibly be. OK? But this said something about the Clinton campaign and how they are running right now and how Hillary Clinton does not have her confidant, her closest friend I supposed might be the right word for Huma much more than just -- someone who works for her by her side.

GANGEL: Right. Absolutely. And just to go back to the enthusiasm thing. There is no question that Trump has had enthusiasm. And no question as we've seen from her surrogates out there that Hillary Clinton has needed enthusiasm. But I just want to go back to Brexit because we looked into that as well. And actually our polling director, other pollsters we've talked to said it is not comparable because the way they did the polling in the UK is so different from the way we poll. Now polls can be wrong and different --

GERGEN: Polling maybe, but there wasn't a momentum that went to Brexit towards the end. It's just comparable.

GANGEL: Correct. But it was the way they did the samplings did not show what was happening there. So again polls can be wrong --

GERGEN: But the polls moved in the last three or four days on Brexit. They did move. Yes. There was differences in the techniques but it is not an irrelevant fact.

AVLON: No, no. And I think David makes a good point about the trends and the terminology. And I think the other thing that is analogous is that Ukip which had been really pushing for the Brexit vote like many movements were seen throughout Western Europe and even the United States are about a reaction to globalization frequently Ethnonationalists in response about, you know, concern about not only terrorism but **immigration** and other real factors. But the other factor with Brexit is, it wasn't a top of the ticket vote. It was a referendum vitally important --

BURNETT: Isn't this a referendum on change or not change in America?

AVLON: No, no, no, wait. I think in Britain if it had been about labor versus conservative you would have seen an even more representative turnout rather than the referendum votes. So, that's the factor as well.

MCENANY: Erin, it's really it's two points. I mean, when she says isn't this a referendum? Yes. This isn't a Republican/Democrat. Look, you have many Republican leaders not supporting Donald Trump. This is change versus the status quo. This is the people versus the elite. This is everyone versus Washington. It is a referendum.

GERGEN: Yes. But let's talk about the bottom-line just for a second. And that is that Hillary Clinton is still the favorite.

BURNETT: Yes.

GERGEN: But the chances of Trump winning have actually gone up.

BURNETT: Van, quick final word here.

JONES: Listen, if it is not zero percent, it is a chance. And I think that one of the big things that the Democrats have to worry about is, everybody is rocking themselves to sleep based on the fact that these poll numbers are correct. They probably are correct but they may not be.

BURNETT: All right. And all of you staying with me. Because next, Donald Trump calls his adversaries dummies, losers and pathetic. Now, Melania Trump is vowing to take on cyber bullies as first lady. And could one man -- one man block Donald Trump's path to 270? Evan McMullin is OUTFRONT tonight and Trump is taking on President Obama today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: And he is down here campaigning for crooked Hillary. Why isn't he back in the White House bringing our jobs back?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:22:56] BURNETT: Breaking news. Donald Trump is about to speak in North Carolina tonight. A policy speech. We're going to be taking part of that live as well as Hillary Clinton tonight. Both of them making some of their final closing arguments live this hour. As Trump's wife Melania made a rare appearance on the campaign trail today. Remember he promised those speeches much to her surprised last week in an interview while in her first one of them, since the GOP convention. Melania Trump tried to broaden her husband's appeal to voters who went to the crucial swing state of Pennsylvania. Did she deliver?

Miguel Marquez is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MELANIA TRUMP: I come here today to talk about my husband Donald.

MIGUEL MARQUEZ, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): She should be one of Donald Trump's most powerful surrogates. Melania Trump making a late entry into an election season in full frenzy.

MELANIA TRUMP: This is not an ordinary campaign. It is a movement.

MARQUEZ: Mrs. Trump spoke about her legal journey to America. Tried to assure voters about the Donald Trump she knows and spoke about issues she champion as first lady.

MELANIA TRUMP: Our culture has gotten too mean and too rough. Especially to children and teenagers. It is never okay when a 12- year-old girl or boy is mocked bullied or attacked.

MARQUEZ: The speech delivered in the all-important Philadelphia suburbs where a fourth of the state's voters live.

MELANIA TRUMP: Thank you very much. You have all been very kind to Donald and me. To our young son Baron and to our whole family.

MARQUEZ: Trump's third wife absent since her disastrous speech at the Republican National Convention where it emerged that she had plagiarized in part Michelle Obama.

TRUMP: I took her out furniture. I moved on her like a (bleep) but I couldn't get there and she was married.

MARQUEZ: Worse she felt humiliation when Donald Trump was caught in 2005 in an open mic speaking in an extremely lewd manner about women.

TRUMP: And when you are a star, they let you do it. You can do anything.

BILLY BUSH, FORMER HOST, "ACCESS HOLLYWOOD": Whatever you want.

TRUMP: Grab them by the (bleep). You can do anything.

MARQUEZ: When several women subsequently came forward claiming Trump had been sexually aggressive with them -- Melania Trump stood by her husband.

MELANIA TRUMP: They were lies and as I said before all the accusations, they should be handled in a court of law.

MARQUEZ: It is not just Melania on a Trump family nationwide full- court press. In the East Ivanka Trump in New Hampshire with rallies in two towns. Out west, Donald Trump, Jr. hitting two towns in Colorado and in the north, Eric Trump in Wisconsin with four rallies. Absent only Tiffany Trump, his daughter from his second marriage to Marla Maples. She was on the trail yesterday.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MARQUEZ: Now, Donald Trump did promise that Melania Trump would speak two or three times. This is the only speech scheduled so far. It looks like this may be a one and done -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Miguel, thank you very much. Let's bring back our panel now. And John, let me start with you. Melania, she was speaking in Chester County. A Philly suburb. Just barely went for Mitt Romney. He's got to win that. He's got to win that. He's got to win elsewhere to turn Pennsylvania. And she talked about her upbringing, she talked about working as a model, how that was very hard work. She had to deal with rejection, et cetera. And what she would do as a first lady. The big question is, who did she reach here? Did she win anybody over with this speech?

AVON: Look, classically the Philly suburbs are what to look at, classic swing district. This is Charlie Dent. This is other folks. And for her to make her first speech as clearly tactical on the campaign's part. She is an appealing figure who has an American **immigrant** success story and she can communicate that powerfully. Is it relatable to people in Chester, Pennsylvania. It is very difficult to relate to somebody who works hard as a model and now lives on the 60th floor of the Trump Tower to the Republican nominee.

I think what's a little more difficult is when she sincerely speaks about the American values she believes in. Kindness, respect, compassion, cooperation, charity. Those values are self-evidently discordant with much of her husband's actions and rhetoric on the campaign trail and on social media. And so when she also said she wanted to take on social media bullying as a cause, it runs directly obviously into his own behavior.

[19:27:14] BURNETT: So, let me put exactly what she said about that. She was talking about cyber-bullying and specifically cyber-bullying when it comes to kids. Here she is today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELANIA TRUMP: It is never okay when a 12-year-old girl or boy is mocked bullied or attacked. It is terrible when that happens on the playground and it is absolutely unacceptable when it is done by someone with no name hiding on the internet.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: -- put his name proudly behind anything that he does on the internet. So, he's very public about it. But Jamie, look, a lot of people are talking about what she said there specifically because of some of his tweets. Tweets like this one. Rosie O'Donnell the target. Rosie is crude, rude, obnoxious and dumb. Other than that, I like her very much. There are hundreds of tweets like this from Donald Trump.

GANGEL: As my friend Mitch said when he heard this. He said, could she please start by throwing away his twitter account closing it down. Look, he has become the poster child for bullying. Whether it's a crooked Hillary, or a little Marco. In person, online. Remember Miss Universe. I think we have the tweet up here. This was September 30th, 2016. "Did Crooked Hillary help disgusting (check out sex tape and past) Alicia M become a U.S. citizen so she could use her in the debate?" There was no sex tape by the way. This is just ridiculous. Of all the causes that a potential first lady could pick.

AVLON: Unless he's incredibly self-aware.

BURNETT: OK. Let me give you a chance, Kayleigh.

MCENANY: Yes. Look, we can all attack Donald Trump here but I think if we're going to talk about cyber bullying this is an anonymous person attacking someone. Donald Trump has punched back at Jeb Bush for people who have attacked him. I think it is very different. But I think, you know, the Clintons will be able to learn from our new First Lady comes January because consequently someone who is a victim of cyber bullying and made it her cause was Monica Lewinsky. The one who's dubbed a narcissistic loony tune, a liar. When he talks about cyber bullying, she is talking about the kind of bullying Monica Lewinsky was subject to and the Clintons can learn from her.

JONES: This is all distasteful. Let me just say a couple of things. It is very difficult to do what Melania Trump is doing. She did not marry someone who is going to run for office.

BURNETT: She doesn't want --

JONES: She's not a political wife. She is somebody who got married. She is raising a family. Her husband decides do this. She stepped up to the plate and she got hurt because the machine around her let her read a very bad speech and you've seen her claw her way back.

BURNETT: Actually, a very good speech.

(CROSSTALK)

JONES: Which is a great speech. Bad for her. It was a great speech.

BURNETT: Right. Right.

[19:30:01] JONES: So, I just want to say, listen, we can throw all of them that kind of stuffs but I just want to say, listen, if you want to look -- if you are looking for inspiration in this campaign, her ability to come back and get back up there and try again is something we can actually applaud.

GANGEL: My point is that I don't think it helps him much at this point for two reasons. One because I think people have made up their mind. But two, that kind of thing just doesn't feel very genuine when you are dealing --

BURNETT: So she made a pitch today though to the question of who she might be winning over. Obviously, women is core. But right now, he's behind by ten with women. George Bush won being behind 10 with women.

Here is specifically what she said about women in this country today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELANIA TRUMP, WIFE OF DONALD TRUMP: The women in America incredible strong, intelligent, generous, committed, determined.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: In the ABC News/"Washington Post" tracking poll today, David, Clinton was ahead with white women with college degrees 27 points. Huge. We know about that. Trump, though, with white women without college degrees up by 28 points.

Can Melania being out there motivate those women, get them to go to the polls?

GERGEN: I think being in the counties in Philadelphia is very, very important. This election may ultimately come down to the state of Pennsylvania. You know, it really interesting Katy Perry who volunteered to go anywhere the last weekend. Where do you want her to perform? The Clinton people asked her, please sing in Philadelphia because they know how important that is.

But I want to come back to this. I'm very sympathetic with the Melania Trump. I do think Van is absolutely right. This is not easy for her to appear.

But it's about more than bullying that is at stake here. This is about the coarsening of the American politics. It is about the change in culture that we've seen.

And with all due respect it is not just her husband, but Eric Trump today talking about David Duke deserves a bullet. That kind of talk about violence which we see again and again is something to be --

BURNETT: -- target.

GERGEN: And Donald Jr. he talked about the relationship with the press and how bad that relationship had been and talked about warming up the gas chamber. This is someone who made a joke about the aurora film after the massacre out there. There is a tendency here and I'm not saying the Clintons come to this with clean hands. There's been a lot of issues raised about the Clintons.

But I agree with the proposition why would she go here to make this a central part.

JONES: But here's the deal, from a political point of view, she does something good and then we beat her up for doing something good because --

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: No --

JONES: Listen. At a certain point -- listen I just --

(CROSSTALK)

JONES: Holy crap. Somebody wants to stand up against bullying in this election and we're going to beat her up for it?

BUMP: I think the challenge here is that Donald Trump's main problem throughout the entire course of the campaign has been temperament. Temperament has been a thing people are concerned about. She had a great opportunity to go up and tell her story. I am an **immigrant** to the United States. I am a woman.

She did do that, but what we're talking about is what she said about social media and bullying, because she should have left it out. If she had left that out then we would have focused on the one thing that wasn't Donald Trump --

(CROSSTALK)

JONES: I hate to agree with Kayleigh tonight.

(CROSSTALK)

MCENANY: You work for a newspaper. You get to pick what words you cover. You could have picked to cover her story. Which by the way was 95 percent of the speech of you are cover the one statement and poke out and say it is hypocritical and poke holes in.

The media chooses what to cover. This is what you're covering.

BUMP: This is what we're talking about.

AVLON: But overall tone and tenor of this campaign, which has been coarse to David's point, which has been about bullying and elevating it to the presidential level which we haven't seen. So, when that all of a sudden becomes the pulpit you choose to climb, out of the goodness of your heart, there is an inevitable irony that needs to be -- that doesn't need to be pointed, that begs to be pointed out because it is contrary to the entire tone a tenor of the campaign.

JONES: We should also applaud her for trying to raise it too. We beat people up no matter what they do. It's wrong.

BURNETT: The other fight today, of course, was President Obama versus Donald Trump, which has been going on and on. President Obama, some say, some used the word trolling, obviously, inappropriate perhaps social media joke. But basically going everywhere Donald Trump is going, holding rallies and trying to provoke Donald Trump.

Here they are.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: The most frustrating thing is, some of his support is coming from working folks. People say, well, you know, he's going to be our voice?

Are you serious? You don't see him hanging out with working people, unless they're cleaning his room, or mowing the fairways on his golf club.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: He's down here campaigning for crooked Hillary. Why isn't he back in the White House bringing our jobs back? And helping our veterans?

[19:35:00] Why? Why isn't he back working? He's campaigning every day and I actually think, considering that she is under criminal investigation, I think he's actually got a conflict.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: What's interesting here is President Obama going after him. Donald Trump, yes, taking the bait a little but staying on message, right, talking about the FBI investigation and then, in a tweet talking about Obamacare, which by the way resonates, as we've shown in our reporting, with a lot more people than his base. There are a lot of people who are effected by the increases in premium of Obamacare. And Trump saying, well, you should be back working on Obamacare, not out on campaign trail.

Does that work? Is that effective?

GERGEN: What part of that?

BURNETT: Donald Trump staying on the messages and keep hammering on the FBI investigation and Obamacare?

GERGEN: Listen, I think the turn in the last few days started before the Comey letter. It did start to a large extent with the Obamacare announcement. That was a jolt. Nobody expected numbers that high. And politics started to change.

I think they need to keep the focus on both. But he's running against Hillary Clinton. That's what mobilizes his base. President Obama is much more popular than Hillary Clinton and he's much more popular than Donald Trump. So, from my point of view, he's start better off to stake with Hillary Clinton.

JONES: President Obama is as smart as they come. He's shooting. He's shooting. He's shooting. He wants to draw the fire to him. And --

BURNETT: He's succeeding.

JONES: And every time he's attacking Obama, that's great. Obama has plenty -- he can bleed out all he wants to. Obama is very, very smart about this. He drew fire. We're talking about that now, and not about another attack on Hillary.

MCENANY: I think Obama could be counterproductive for Hillary Clinton, and here is why. I understand he's personally popular. He's a very likable and gives a great speech.

JONES: And saved the economy.

MCENANY: And when he stands up there and says to the crowd, thanks Obama, thank me for Obamacare, and asked the crowd to thank him and a week later, we get these numbers that come out, and when he stands on a stage yesterday and says, hey, guys, you have to vote for me to preserve my legacy, there's a lot of voters who aren't concerned about preserving Obama's legacy. They're concerned about preserving their economic --

AVLON: But I don't thin the tack that the president somehow arrogant undercuts the fact that he's above 50 percent approval, which is unusual at this time in a presidency. President Obama is more than double what George W. Bush was at this point. And that in itself speaks to a cushion that Hillary Clinton has to work with.

What's interesting is that the president is also trying to draw a response from Donald Trump.

JONES: And succeeding.

AVLON: But Donald Trump is being much more disciplined than in the past.

BURNETT: It's not personal. He's keeping it professional.

AVLON: He's trying to keep it very professional because he knows that is his strongest suit in the closing week.

BUMP: Although he didn't have to bring President Obama up, it's worth nothing. And we were talking earlier about the African-American vote, every time Donald Trump says something about President Obama and how he should be doing work and so on and so forth, I don't imagine how that helps with the black vote.

And I would also just very quickly point out, that, you know, Donald Trump seems to got get that he has to have Congress do things. He doesn't get to do themselves. The reason the President Obama is fixing Obamacare is because of Congress, and I just think there's a disconnect there. BURNETT: Quick final word, Jamie.

GANGEL: Two things. One is there's just so much of "keep it cool Donald" that we can do in the end. And the other thing is, I think this is smart by President Obama because he is out there trying to help get out the vote. And so, if he's taking him on in addition to drawing fire, it's helping --

BURNETT: To Van's point, he can bleed as much as he can bleed. It doesn't matter. He's not running.

All right. Thanks to all.

And don't miss any of our election day coverage, "Election Day in America", we'll have every race, every result, all day coverage on Tuesday.

And OUTFRONT next, we're standing by for Hillary Clinton. She's going to be speaking live in North Carolina with Bernie Sanders. You're going to hear that. Also, Donald Trump taking the stage 30 miles away. Any moment now, we're going to be taking that as well.

And we are getting some new early voting numbers in tonight. We're going to have them for you next.

And the man who could stop Donald Trump from getting to 270. Yes, it's a man, it's not a woman. It's not her. It's him. Evan McMullin is my guest next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:42:39] BURNETT: Tonight, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump going head-to-head in North Carolina. These are live pictures, Selma and Raleigh, about 30 miles apart. Clinton and Trump both in these states. It is a very much want to win for Hillary Clinton and a must win for Hillary Trump. They are neck and neck in the poll there.

And just in, new early voting numbers from North Carolina. Mark Preston is OUTFRONT at the decision desk at tonight's big number.

Because the numbers are crucial from North Carolina, what do you see, Mark?

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: They are no doubt, Erin. Let's look at the overall number right now, five days before Election Day and nearly 31 million people in 38 states across the nation have cast their ballot so far. But as you said, all eyes are on North Carolina as we speak right now. A little more than 2 million people have cast ballots in that state.

Let's see how the political parties are doing right now. If you look at this right now, Democrats are a bit of a sizable lead at this point. It's about 243,000 votes that have been sent back in for Democrats. However, it's not the greatest news because if you look at 2012, you compare those numbers, it's actually been a decrease, because back then at the same time, 307,000 votes Democrats had in the lead over Republicans.

So why is that? Let's look at the issue of race in this state right now and see what those numbers are showing us at this point.

Right now, the African-American electorate, they equal about 23 percent of those returned ballots at this point. Hispanic voters about 1.8.

You go back to 2012, though, look at that. That's a decrease right now of about 5.3 percent of African-American participation from 2012 to 2016 in the early vote. That's why we saw Barack Obama lobbying so hard yesterday in North Carolina to try to get the vote out. He'll also return again Friday and as you noted, Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton both in the state tonight, Erin.

BURNETT: And obviously, those early votes and perhaps a warning sign for her there. I'm about to speak with the independent presidential candidate Evan McMullin and he could become, McMullin, the first third party candidate to win a state since 1968. Obviously, the whole thing could hinge upon Utah.

How is he doing there right now?

PRESTON: Well, we have a new poll from Monmouth University just a few hours old right now. Let's look if we can, Erin. If we see this right now, Donald Trump is in the lead. He has a six point lead right now over Hillary Clinton.

[19:45:03] Evan McMullin comes this third 24 percent.

What's troubling for Evan McMullin is that Trump is beating him with self-identified Republicans by 22 points. But he could become a spoiler. The fact that Hillary Clinton is within six points right now, six points for Donald Trump in that state is significant. And if Hillary were to win Utah, that would be troublesome to Donald Trump as he tries to reach that goal of 270 votes.

So, while Evan McMullin is not in the driver seat at this point, he's in third place, he still is getting significant support right now out in Utah and that could be help Hillary Clinton win Utah. Not saying it is going to happen but it could happen, Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Mark Preston, thank you very much.

OUTFRONT now, independent presidential candidate, former CIA operative, Evan McMullin.

Thank you so much for being with me, Evan.

I mean, I know you're banking on a win in Utah. Some polls show you doing even better there. Sean Spicer, the RNC communications director, though, was on the show a couple days ago and he told me Trump is going win the state hands down. What is he missing?

EVAN MCMULLIN, INDEPENDENT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Well, I think he's missing that people in Utah are just not excited about Donald Trump at all. That is why he's struggling to win the state that Mitt Romney won and other Republicans have won by large, large margins. That's the bigger story here.

We saw the Monmouth poll come out today. But, you know, it had a poll come out two weeks ago that had me at 20 percent when everyone else had us at 29 to 30 percent. In this addition of their poll, they have us up 4 percent from two weeks ago.

So, the methodology must be different there. The methodology they are using is different interest the ones other pollsters are using but either way, it show us gaining traction.

But look, I would say this, I would say that what's happening now is people in Utah are seeing the race tighten. They are also seeing additional information about Hillary Clinton's corruption. That makes them very nervous. People in Utah are very uncomfortable with Donald Trump and opposed to him. But they also don't like Hillary Clinton due to her corruption and big government policies.

So, our job, my job in this campaign is to convince Utahans that they should come on board with our strategy, which is in this case that the election is so tight if they vote with us, if they stay with us and we can win a state or two --

BURNETT: Right.

MCMULLIN: -- we can block both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. But that is what's happening here. People are very nervous about the additional information they see coming out about Hillary Clinton.

BURNETT: And you have, obviously, you know, if certain method gains play out, scenarios, you could get them to 269, 269, in the case that that's your play. But, look, it's very possible, Evan, that thanks to you siphoning off traditionally Republican voters, because that's what we've seen happening in the state, Utah does Democratic the first time since 1964. In that case, it could be Utah that holds Trump back in the White House.

MCMULLIN: I don't see it.

BURNETT: I know you don't see it, but if that happen, some people say, look, you are sitting here, Evan. You are the guy Republicans say vote for anyone other than Trump is a vote for Hillary Clinton. What do you say to those people, they're saying, you could be helping her win?

MCMULLIN: Erin, I would just say this. This is one poll. This has been an outlier poll for a while. The point is all the other polls show a neck and neck race between Donald Trump and me. Or they say that I'm in first place or Donald Trump is in first place or that it is a neck d neck race.

So, Donald Trump is going to win Utah or I'm going to win Utah. It is not going to be Hillary Clinton. She has a ceiling there. She's not going to be able to do it. It is going to be Donald Trump or it is going to be me. And so, our pitch is to the Utah people, what do we want Utah to stand for in this race? Do we want Utah to stand for the foundational principles like equality and liberty that have made the country great or are we going to go with Donald Trump who's launched and carried out a divisive, bigoted sexist campaign? That is not what Utah stands for. That is not what this country stands for.

BURNETT: You called ate the bigoted campaign. The Trump campaign denounced a robocall from a white nationalist in your state. That call attacked your mother's sexuality, it accused you of being a closeted homosexual. It was nasty.

You said it reflected that bigots, those racists and bigots supporting Trump.

Sean Spicer told me you were way off base. He said the call was disgusting and reprehensible, but then he said for you to turn it back on them, on the Trump campaign, is almost as reprehensible. Those are his words. What do you say to that?

MCMULLIN: Well, the man who did the robocall was a delegate for Trump. So, how my condemning a bigoted call is reprehensible as the call itself from a delegate of theirs, I just don't understand.

You know, Erin, today we received news that some of Trump's supporters who are out there raising money and putting up billboards for Trump. These again are white nationalists, white supremacists, are now calling for a Mormon genocide. I mean, that's what we're up against here.

This is, you know, consistent with what Donald Trump has done in our country. This is consistent with this movement that he's created, that attacks people base on their gender, their race, their religion.

[19:50:05] This is what we're standing up to. We believe this country can be unified. We believe that we can be a diverse country and still be unified as Americans. That's what we're fighting for.

BURNETT: All right. Evan McMullin, thank you very much. Appreciate your time.

And next, we are standing by Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump both going to be speaking live any moment. They have been a little delayed but as you can see, these are now getting under way. We're going there live and, of course, it could all come down to Florida, again.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JOHN LEWIS (D), GEORGIA: Go out and vote like we never voted before. Can we do it? Let's do it?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: Breaking news: Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton about to speak in North Carolina. Live pictures of dueling rallies, they really are, same state, only 30 miles apart. A must win state.

The candidates also barnstorming Florida in the final days of the race. They have to win there. New polls show a dead heat in that state.

Boris Sanchez is OUTFRONT with our special series "On the Battlegrounds".

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BORIS SANCHEZ, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): If the road to the White House goes through Florida, then that road is this one, Interstate 4. The 140 mile coast to coast highway across central Florida has become the state's center of political gravity. It's Florida's I-4 corridor and it starts along the East Coast here in Daytona Beach where a rise in the number of registered Republicans has turned the once reliably blue Volusia County purple.

To tilt it back in her column, the Clinton campaign is targeting African-Americans.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We voting baby.

REP. JOHN LEWIS (D), GEORGIA: Go out and vote like we never voted before. Can we do it? Let's do it?

I feel good about seeing all the younger people here who remind me of another period during the day of the civil rights movement. They know the lessons, they know the stories. They are going to turn out and vote.

SANCHEZ: Further west on I-4, there are traditionally redder areas like Sanford and Seminole Counties.

[19:55:04] Donald Trump and his surrogates have made more than a dozen appearances along the I-4 corridor since the convention. They're hoping to surpass Mitt Romney's already solid win here in 2012 by riling up a base frustrated with Washington.

ANNE HAYLER, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: This is a movement, this is a incredibly movement of the people of the United States who want integrity restored to the government.

SANCHEZ: Our next stop is Orlando. And it is the biggest city on the I-4 corridor.

(on camera): It's also one that in recent years has changed dramatically.

SUSAN MACMANUS, POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR, UNIV. OF S. FLORIDA: The message in Orlando is us. Especially Latino voters and especially the Puerto Ricans.

SANCHEZ (voice-over): With a large influx of Democratic-leaning Puerto Rican voters moving to Orlando in recent years the Clinton campaign is vying for their vote. I-4's evolving political landscape continues west of Orlando.

(on camera): While there have been major demographic changes to Tampa, these changes aren't among ethnic lines. They are actually among generational ones.

(voice-over): While the west coast of Florida was once a haven for retirees, now about half of the registered voters here are younger than 50.

IDA WRIGHT, VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER: With so many colleges and universities that right side on the corridor that is going on the game-changer for either candidate.

SANCHEZ: With a race so close as we approach the finish line, how the candidates do on I-4 could define the election.

MACMANUS: It is the most competitive part of Florida. It is the swing part of the swing state, highway to heaven or hell depending on whether you win or not.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SANCHEZ: And, Erin, on Tuesday night all eyes will be here in Hillsboro County. It is a county that's correctly predicted the winner of the presidential race in 19 of the past 20 elections -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Boris.

And OUTFRONT next, dueling rallies, Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump as we said, both getting ready to speak. Donald Trump's rally getting under way right now as he takes the stage. We're going to be going there live and Hillary Clinton just as soon as she gets there.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: And thank you so much for joining us. Countdown continues to election day.

"AC360" starts now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Brianna Keilar, Corey Lewandowski, Maria Cardona, Ed Lavandera, Elizabeth Landers, Sara Murray, John King, Manu Raju, Mark Preston

9434 speakers\_end

[19:00:06] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news. Donald Trump about to take the stage in must-win Ohio. New polls showing neck and neck race in key states as Trump jokes about canceling the election.

Plus, we show Obama calling out Donald Trump saying his rigged election conspiracy theory will keep voters at home. Is she right?

And "Shark Tank" star Barbara Corcoran on the Donald Trump she's known for 45 years and how he is with women behind closed doors. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening. I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news. Just give it to Trump. Donald Trump tonight 12 days to go combining an attack on Clinton with the sarcastic call to skip Election Day all- together.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Hillary Clinton wants to raise taxes on small businesses up to 45 percent. What a difference. You know, what a difference this is. And just thinking to myself right now, we should just cancel the election and just give it to Trump, right?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: You're looking at live pictures of a Donald Trump rally. This is just about to start in Geneva, Ohio. The latest polls show a very close race in states like Ohio. Must-win states. And ABC News tracking poll today shows Trump closing the gap with Clinton cutting her lead in half in just three days, leading the half in just three days. By the way, that is what we saw last night in the FOX News poll.

Cutting the lead in half in a week. But new battleground states polls out in tonight do show an uphill battle for Trump at the state level which is crucial. Clinton on the trail with her best surrogate today campaigning with the First Lady Michelle Obama for the first time in the must-win state of North Carolina. Mrs. Obama in a fiery speech calling out Donald Trump for saying the election is rigged.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP) MICHELLE OBAMA, U.S. FIRST LADY: We want a president who takes this job seriously. Someone who we can trust with the nuclear codes because we want to go to sleep at night knowing that our kids and our country are safe. I believe with all of my heart that Hillary Clinton will be that president.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Sara Murray is OUTFRONT. She's at that Trump rally in Geneva, Ohio.

And Sara, you know, again a tracking poll showing it getting tighter and tighter. Something Trump wants to hear what do you expect to hear from him tonight?

SARA MURRAY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well, Erin, I think we're going to hear more harsh words for Hillary Clinton on the stump tonight. Donald trump seems to be betting that that and a combination of a very busy schedule and a maybe even a little help from Melania Trump on the trail could be just the magic he needs to turn his fortune around but he doesn't have a whole lot of time to do it.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: In 12 days, we're going to win Ohio. And we are going to win back the White House.

MURRAY (voice-over): Donald Trump is barn-storming the Buckeye State today with one target in mind.

TRUMP: I've been doing six, seven, eight things a day, every single day. She's home sleeping half the time. I say she's definitely a low energy person.

MURRAY: Seizing on the latest revelations from hacked e-mails released by WikiLeaks outlining how Bill Clinton generated personal income through Clinton Foundation contacts.

TRUMP: If the Clinton were willing to play this fast and loose with their enterprise when they weren't in the White House, just imagine what they will do given the chance to once again control the Oval Office.

MURRAY: The GOP nominee hoping a last-ditch effort to stay on message and jam-pack his campaign schedule might be enough to clinch a victory come November. But even if he accused Hillary Clinton on being dangerous on foreign policy.

TRUMP: Now Hillary wants to start a shooting war in Syria conflict with the nuclear power. Russia which could very well lead to World War III.

MURRAY: He again appeared to come to Russian President Vladimir Putin's defense.

TRUMP: She speaks very badly of Putin and I don't think that is smart, you know? It should be very tough but you shouldn't be doing what she's doing.

MURRAY: And while he claims he no longer wants to focus on the lawsuits he's threatened against women who have accused him of unwanted sexual advances --

TRUMP: You know I hate that you waste time, when we're talking about ISIS and we're talking jobs and you are still bringing that up. Everybody wants to bring that up.

MURRAY: Trump still lobbing sharp attacks at a people magazine reporter who alleged he pushed her against a wall and kissed her without consent.

TRUMP: All she was afraid -- give me a break. She was to write. She would have gotten the Pulitzer Prize. Give me a break.

MURRAY: Trump making a rare appearance with his wife Melania. She says she's more focused on raising their 10-year-old son Baron than hitting the campaign trail.

MELANIA TRUMP, WIFE OF DONALD: My priority is my son Baron. Our son Baron and I support him 100 percent and I'm there for him every time he needs him and I might join him.

MURRAY: But her husband has other ideas.

TRUMP: She's amazing when she speaks. She's an amazing public speaker. So, she's agreed to do two or three speeches and I think it is going to be big speeches. Important speeches.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

[19:05:12] MURRAY: Now Erin, one thing that is always true is the nearer you get to Election Day, especially in close states like Ohio, the more the nitty-gritty of your campaign, sort of the turn-out operation, the political organization really matters and I have to tell you here in Ohio tonight even though early voting was already under way, we have not really seen Trump volunteers or Trump staffers driving that message or trying to insure people cast their ballots early. Back to you.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you, Sara.

And John King is OUTFRONT in Washington, D.C. So, John, 12 days to go. I mean, I can't believe we're actually here but there are some big changes to the map tonight.

JOHN KING, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Almost there Erin. And yes, some big changes. At first it looks like it's moving Donald Trump's way but then looks can be deceiving. Let's start with where we are. This is our new CNN electoral map. We have Secretary Clinton at 272. Donald Trump at 179. The dark blues, solid Democrat, the light blues, lean Democratic, flip side for the reds. Now, here is difference from just yesterday. Yesterday we had Florida leaning Democratic, Nevada leaning Democratic. But we've taken those away because of the new polling in those states. So, that drops Secretary Clinton down below 300 just above the 270 line. So, if you're a Trump supporter, you think aha, this race is moving our way. But let me switch to show you some new state polling just out this evening Erin that shows not so fast, Mr. Trump. Let's go first to Iowa. Donald Trump is counting on Iowa. He says in just about every speech right now, he's winning Iowa. Well he's not. It is a tie according to this new Quinnipiac University poll, 44-44. And the poll also shows that in early voting Hillary Clinton is doing quite well out in Iowa.

Now let's move south to another one of these ruby red states still in play. Just like Utah, just like Arizona, now Georgia, Erin. Look at this. Forty four for Donald Trump, 43 for Hillary Clinton. So statistically a tie in Georgia of all places. And again Quinnipiac finding in its polling, Hillary Clinton doing well in early voting. Virginia, Donald Trump has been saying from the beginning he wants to bring Virginia his way. This is yet another poll. Forget about Virginia. This is another poll with the double digit lead, 50-38 for Secretary Clinton. A once red state has become a blue state.

And now North Carolina where Secretary Clinton was with the First Lady today. Donald Trump was there yesterday. Donald Trump cannot win the White House without North Carolina. This is the latest poll to show yes a small, 47 to 43 but a stubborn persistent Clinton lead in North Carolina. So, Erin, let me switch back quickly to the other map. What is that mean? It means you could say, let's take Iowa way and call it a toss-up. Let's take Georgia away and call it a tossup. Trump in that scenario drops down to 157. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven. Eight toss-up states on that map in that scenario, even if Donald Trump won them all, Erin, still wouldn't be enough.

All right. John King, thank you.

OUTFRONT tonight, Clinton supporter Basil Smikle who served on Clinton's Senate staff. Clinton supporter Jeffrey Lord who served as political director in the Reagan White House. Our executive editor for Politics Mark Preston and our national political reporter Maeve Reston. Mark, let me start with you. The Trump campaign is seizing on Florida.

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Right.

BURNETT: Right. Well, they have another poll tonight showing her lead cut in half in just a few days. Tighter and tighter and tighter. And now on this map Florida now, no longer Clinton going back into toss-up territory. That is a big positive for them.

PRESTON: Well, look, certainly in a month that's been really bad headlines for Donald Trump, this is a dig positive for him. And Florida, as John said, you know, North Carolina, Trump needs North Carolina, you know, to win. He needs Florida to win. I mean, it really does start with Florida as well. If he loses Florida early on election night, then the election is over. However as we're seeing down there, we're seeing Republicans now starting to come home so to speak. And we always expected this anyway for the election to get tighter. We're also seeing Democrats from home. The real fight now is going to be for those Independent voters. And the question will be, what we see specifically in Florida, some of Marco Rubio supporters, will they eventually go with Trump and could Trump help Marco Rubio. So there is dynamics going in that state that are very very interesting.

BURNETT: And Basil, you know, Mike Pence is saying Hillary Clinton got way too kooky. Way to kooky, right? The polls were all in her favor and now it's getting tighter and tighter and tighter. Here is how Mike Pence put it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: You heard Hillary Clinton is out there. She is widening the battlefield, she's campaigning for other candidates and then oops, new polls are coming out. It is wheel to wheel all across the country.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: I mean, Basil, when you look at these polls. I mean, you know, you had the FOX News poll, they call it within the margin of error. Maybe that is rounding it looks slightly outside. But Nevada, Florida, both come to Democratic to toss ups. Does Pence have a point?

BASIL SMIKLE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: No, listen. The polls range from three percent to 14 percent that she's ahead. But we cannot be complacent. And I think that is actually the point about investing in down ballot races. It's about supporting all of the candidates that are going to get out your message where I don't think that Donald Trump has been successful on that. Two hundred million registered voters. Fifteen have already voted.

BURNETT: Right.

SMIKLE: North Carolina, Ohio, Florida, people are already voting and voting in very, very high numbers. So we're, I mean, there is -- I don't want to say we're confident but we're certainly encouraged. And I don't think we can take anything for granted. I know Democrats everywhere are not doing that.

[19:10:12] JEFFREY LORD, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Yes. I mean, to the extent that they have been doing this acting Thomas Deweyesque here that this is all over and they are going to widen the battlefield. I mean, this can be a real problem for them. Because when you give people the idea that you've already gotten this in the bag and you combine this with this lack of enthusiasm problem that she has. Those things taken together could be fatal.

SMIKLE: Can we draw that back a little bit? Lack of enthusiasm, that is not the case. If you go any of her rallies, there is no lack of enthusiasm there. Number one.

LORD: Where I live in Pennsylvania, you drive around, Trump signs are everywhere. I have seen -- no, I saw another one today. So, I've now seen two Hillary signs and Trump signs are everywhere.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

SMIKLE: And if the signs go vote, it's very excited. And if the signs go vote, you know, then you may have a point. But they don't that. And that goes to the point earlier about whether or not Republicans are coming home. But I do wonder about that. Because I think that voters may forget what you say but they won't forget how you made them feel. And I think when you have candidates, Republican candidates running on these down ballot races that are trying to defend Donald Trump, can't really do a good job of that, they are going to have a difficult time, you know, trying to get their votes.

BURNETT: And we're going to talk a lot more about that. It's actually interesting what voters think about that. But Maeve I want to ask you something though because the Clinton campaign does seem concerned about this issue. I mean, look, they sent Michelle Obama who I think without question is the most popular Democrat in the country. Right? The best surrogate Hillary Clinton has to North Carolina, a swing state to stump for Clinton and here is what he she said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MICHELLE OBAMA, U.S. FIRST LADY: Let's not forget, back in 2012, Barack actually did lose the state by about 17 votes per precinct. Seventeen. That's how presidential elections go. They are decided on a razors edge. Each of you could swing an entire precinct and win this election for Hillary. But you could also help swing an entire precinct for Hillary's opponent, with a protest vote or by not voting at all.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Trump today was saying he does so many rallies, Hillary Clinton is home sleeping. Obviously hyperbole here. But he does do more rallies. He did three to her one. She's got her surrogates out there. He doesn't have that benefit. But she needs to step it up in these last few days?

MAEVE RESTON, CNN NATIONAL POLITICAL REPORTER: Well clearly she's had really powerful surrogates like Michelle Obama out there hitting that big problem that she has which has been energizing millennials and getting the Democrats who would potentially vote for a third party candidate to come back to her. So, I mean, the campaign clearly is worried about that. You saw Robby Mook put a video this morning saying, hey, the polls are all over the place. Nobody stay home.

So they really are driving this message that everyone needs to turn out. And I will say that there is so much variation in all of these different polls that we're seeing that, you know, the only thing that is safe to look at really is the poll of polls, certainly nationally. But you are seeing so much variance that that might actually be good for Hillary Clinton. Because it might sort of jolt those people who we're going to stay home out to the polls. BURNETT: Right. Good for Hillary Clinton or perhaps indicative of the fact that there are some real issue with the polls, which is the Trump argument. Right? We saw it in England with Brexit. We saw it with Farc in Colombia, could we see it here?

All right. Next, the latest poll in Texas shows Trump ahead by only three-points in Texas. So, could the lone star state really go for Clinton? And Marco Rubio in a very tight battle for his Senate's seat. His opponent's main weapon is Donald Trump.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. MARCO RUBIO (R), FLORIDA: -- Donald Trump. That's his answer to everything.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[19:17:01] BURNETT: Republicans panicking tonight, worried that Trump could take the Senate down if he loses. Democrats smelling blood in the water. Injecting last minute cash tonight into the Florida Senate race. They want to take down Marco Rubio. Could it happen?

Manu Raju is OUTFRONT tonight in Naples.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MANU RAJU, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Marco Rubio running for election in Florida. In an awkward spot on Donald Trump. Supporting his candidacy but refusing to even say that Trump would keep the country safe.

(on camera): Will Donald Trump keep the country safe?

(voice-over): Again it's -- the military is what keeps us safe and we have to rebuild our military.

RAJU: He also would not say if Trump could be considered a role model for his four children.

RUBIO: Like most Americans, you know, people look at this and say, these are not ideal choices. But that is one of the reasons I ran for Senate because I know that no matter who wins we're going to have to have a strong Senate.

RAJU: Rubio faces a dilemma that is confronting Senate GOP candidates across the country. They need the support of Trump backers to win reelection and also to win over voters who feel **alienated** by the GOP nominee. Yet if Trump gets blown out by Clinton, it would dramatically improve the chances of a Democratic Senate takeover. Recent polls in Florida make that case. One found Clinton had ahead of Trump and Rubio barely leading his Democratic challenger, Congressman Patrick Murphy. A separate poll had Trump ahead, and Rubio winning re-election by ten points. What makes things more uncomfortable for Rubio, his bitter primary fight with Trump.

RUBIO: We have a con artist as the front-runner in the Republican Party.

RAJU: In the debate this week, Murphy made his strategy abundantly clear consistently invoking Trump's name.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Donald Trump, Donald Trump, so what it's going to take for you do un-endorsed Donald Trump?

RUBIO: Basically the answer to any question tonight by Congressman Murphy is Donald Trump.

RAJU: But Murphy, after being abandoned by the national party now getting a last minute cash infusion with a Super PAC tied to Democratic Leader Harry Reid promising to make a seven figure donation to an outside group -- Murphy. Murphy already putting $1 million of his own money to pay for this Spanish language ad with President Obama.

(PRESIDENT OBAMA SPEAKING FOREIGN LANGUAGE)

(END VIDEOTAPE)

RAJU: And Erin, Obama clearly wants to beat Rubio here in this state. Coming to Orlando tomorrow to campaign with Murphy. This after Obama calling out Marco Rubio on the campaign trail for supporting Donald Trump and a sign of just how difficult a position Rubio is on Trump, here at a rally in a building behind me, he did not mention Donald Trump's name once in a roughly ten minute speech. Even if the person who introduced him noted that he supported Donald Trump and the crowd erupted in enthusiastic applause -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Manu. Really interesting point that he just made that about the crowd erupting in enthusiastic applause when he said he supported Donald Trump.

My panel is back with me. Philip Bump joins us as well. Washington Post political reporter. So, Phil, let me start with you. Putting the voters aside for a second because there may be a real split here. Many Republicans who are running for office, who are, you know, in the power positions in the RNC are running scared. They don't want to be linked to Donald Trump. Why is that?

PHILIP BUMP, POLITICAL REPORTER, THE WASHINGTON POST: I would say that is because at this point two things are about equally likely to happen in the presidential race. Either Donald Trump will eke out a win or Donald Trump will get totally blown out. And the odds are good, he's going to lose regardless. And if he gets totally blown out or if he loses, which the ads are good will happen, there is going to be a long term repercussion to people who are OUTFRONT advocating for Donald Trump among non-white voters.

And when you are in Florida, that is a particular problem. You don't want to be the guy that hug Donald Trump close, especially if Donald Trump is going to lose. That is the position Marco is in. I think the operating principle here is plausible deniability. He wants people to come back and I wasn't really into Donald Trump. A lot of Republicans are the same -- BURNETT: So Mark, what's interesting is, when someone says I support Donald Trump and the crowd erupts in applause. When you look at the latest poll, 83 percent of Democrats now support Hillary Clinton. Eighty one percent of Republicans now support Donald Trump. So while some of the people running for office maybe terrified in running away from him, the voters actually seem to be coming home to him.

PRESTON: Yes. They are coming home in both parties. The difficult thing right now for someone like Marco Rubio or for other Senate candidates right now is that, you don't want to be too close, you don't want to be too far. And you do want that plausible deniability. But specifically in that Florida Senate race, you have to wonder, could Donald Trump help Marco Rubio up in the northern part of the state along the panhandle where there are this non-college educated white --

BURNETT: Right. His stronghold.

PRESTON: Correct. It could quite frankly could Marco help Trump down in Southern Florida. Here is another thing to though to think about as well. Marco Rubio and Donald Trump specifically hated each other. I mean, there is hatred there. So, you have to be careful not to **alienate** the Republican base that is for Donald Trump because you need that Republican base to support you.

BURNETT: Yes. How mad are you at someone like Marco Rubio? I mean, if he could help him in Southern Florida, he could help Donald Trump win Florida. It could be in Marco Rubio's hands.

[19:22:06] LORD: Right. Right. Look, people who oppose leadership positions, who oppose their own party's presidential nominee selected after all by people in the primaries who then think that later down the road, they are going run for president are shooting themselves in the foot. Because if they succeed in what they're doing in trying to sabotage, you are going to have a base of the party that says, okay, I get it. I'll never vote for you again. So, that is a problem here. I saw this in 1982 when I was working for then Senator John Heinz running for re-election in the year that Ronald Reagan was not very popular as a sitting president because of the recession.

He declined to do that. He said he wanted a mid-course election. But he invited Reagan in Philadelphia to raise funds. He totally hung on tight to him and he won big time. So, when you run from your party's leader like this does not help you either in the day or in the future.

BURNETT: So, Basil, when you have Republican lawmakers who are coming back. Some of them are. Right? Some of them are still running but some of them are coming back. The tape came out and that was sort of the straw that broke the camel's back. You had a whole bunch of them that ran away. One of them was Jason Chaffetz, the congressman, here is what he said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JASON CHAFFETZ (R), UTAH: I'm not going to put my good name and reputation and my family behind Donald Trump for president when he acts like this. I just can't do it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: OK. That that was then. This is a couple of weeks later. Yesterday, he tweets, I will not defend or endorse Donald Trump but I am voting for him. HRC is that bad. HRC is bad for the USA. I have to say, this is one of the things I can't stand. When people say, I'm voting for someone but I'm not endorsing them.

SMIKLE: Right.

BURNETT: I'm sorry. Then don't say, you are voting for, OK? Because that is an endorsement. That is just my point of view. But what do you make of this? It's not just him. It's not John Thune, chairman of the Senate Republican Conference. They are coming back home.

SMIKLE: So, when voters look at that and you wonder why they are upset at the system or upset at the establishment. There is no leadership there. Nothing about what they have done and others have done rings leadership. And you wonder why this gridlock in Washington. You wonder why Republicans for the last eight years of the Obama presidency have been the party of no. Because they are in it for themselves.

Not for party or for country I would argue. And that to me has really been the problem in this race. Because how is it that you can get on a soap box and say, I am against everything this man has said and done, but I'm going to vote for him and I encourage you to do the same thing.

LORD: I hate to say this but I agree with most of what Basil just said.

SMIKLE: Thank you.

LORD: I mean, you are there to be a leader for heaven's sakes. Lead the country. This is our system. We have a presidential nominee, the Democrats have a presidential nominee. Stand by that person and get out there. If you don't want to do it, get out.

BURNETT: Will it hurt Marco Rubio that he's not -- that he's not coming out directly for Donald Trump? But he just refused -- you saw that. Will he keep the country safe and he said our military does. I mean, that was damning.

BUMP: Yes. Yes. I mean, absolutely. That is the plausible denial. Will I hear him? I don't think so. I mean, the polling seems to suggest that Marco Rubio is in good position. If Marco Rubio ends up losing this race, my guess is because there was a giant national wave that may have been caused by Donald Trump that Republicans lose a bunch of seats they're expecting to --

BURNETT: And nobody could have won it.

BUMP: And I don't know that's Marco Rubio's fault. BURNETT: All right. Thanks to all. And next, Michelle Obama hits the campaign trail slamming Donald Trump. Can she be the one who closes the deal for Hillary?

And Melania Trump in a rare appearance defending her husband against his female accusers.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELANIA TRUMP: There were lies and as I said before all the accusations, they should be handled in a court of law.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:27] BURNETT: Breaking news. Michelle Obama, Hillary Clinton campaigning together for the first time. The First Lady firing up a North Carolina crowd today as you see Hillary with her, saying Donald Trump is trying to suppress the vote.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MICHELLE OBAMA: If Hillary doesn't win this election, that will be on us. It will be because we did not stand with her. It will be because we did not vote for her. And that is exactly what her opponent is hoping will happen. That is strategy, to make this election so dirty and ugly that we don't want any part of it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[19:30:05] BURNETT: Will Michelle Obama be the closer Clinton needs?

Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

OBAMA: First ladies, we rock.

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): As Hillary Clinton pushes toward Election Day in North Carolina, she's got some very popular company.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: As our first African American first lady, she's faced pressures I never did.

(APPLAUSE)

And she's handled them with pure grace.

KEILAR: Michelle Obama campaigning with the Democratic nominee for the first time.

OBAMA: We want a president who takes this job seriously, and has the temperament, and maturity, to do it well. Someone who is steady. Someone who we can trust with the nuclear codes because we want to go to sleep at night knowing that our kids and our country are safe. And I am here today because I believe with all of my heart, and I would not be here lying to you. I believe with all of my heart that Hillary Clinton will be that president.

KEILAR: Taking advantage of the first lady's high standing with voters, she's even more popular than her husband, who's approval rating is quite high at 55 percent.

CLINTON: Every election is about the future, and this one is about whether we build on the progress we've made, the legacy that President Obama has built. Or rip it away and go backwards.

OBAMA: That's right. Hillary doesn't play. She has more experience and exposure to the presidency than any candidate in our lifetime. Yes, more than Barack. More than Bill. So, she is absolutely ready to be commander in chief on day one. And yes, she happens to be a woman.

KEILAR: But in these final 12 day, Clinton keeps battling a drip, drip, drip of off putting revelations from the hacked e-mails of her campaign chief John Podesta. The latest batch reveals what Doug Band, a former top aide to Bill Clinton, called "Bill Clinton, Inc.", wrangling millions of dollars in consultant fees and paid speeches for the former president, often from donors to the Clinton foundation. Those practices as well as foreign donations to the foundation worried top aides to Hillary Clinton, emails show. And that they were also blindsided by her use of a private e-mail address and serve while she was secretary of state.

"Did you have any idea of the depth of this story?" Podesta asks campaign manager Robby Mook after "The New York Times" reported on Clinton's private email server in March 2015. "Nope," he replies. We brought up the existence of e-mails in research this summer but we're told that everything was taken care of."

(END VIDEOTAPE)

KEILAR: WikiLeaks, of course, difficult for the campaign Erin. But there is some good news for Hillary Clinton tonight as she tries to court millennial voters and that's that they are increasing their enthusiasm for her. In a Harvard Institute of Politics poll, she has 49 percent of young voters saying that she is their pick. That is 28 percent more than Donald Trump.

And what's real interesting is that even though she's not getting quite to where Barack Obama was in 2012, if you look at the margin, if this poll were to hold how much she would beat Donald Trump by, actually it is by more than Obama beat Mitt Romney by.

BURNETT: All right, Brianna. Thank you.

And OUTFRONT now, Corey Lewandowski, the former campaign manager for Donald Trump, and Maria Cardona, Hillary Clinton supporter, her firm currently does work for a pro-Clinton super PAC.

Corey, let me start with you. You just heard Michelle Obama first time on the trail with Hillary Clinton together, impassioned speech on her behalf. How formidable is she? When you watch Michelle Obama, what do you think?

COREY LEWANDOWSKI, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Look, I think Hillary Clinton should embrace Michelle Obama every chance she gets if she wants to be the next president of the United States. Michelle Obama is exceptionally popular. What's very interesting as you know is the recent polls indicate that Donald Trump is between 18 to 29 percent of the African American vote.

So if Hillary Clinton wants to get that back I think Michelle Obama has to be on the campaign trail.

And, look, let's not forget, it is just a mere eight years that Michelle Obama took a passing slight at Hillary Clinton and said you can't control your own house, you sure can't control the White House. Look, it's political expediency. I wouldn't expect anything less. But I do think Michelle Obama is a good surrogate for Hillary Clinton right now and she's much better than Bill Clinton. So I think she can stick with her as long as he can.

BURNETT: I will just point out, because I always have to note this when a poll comes up, I'm not familiar with any poll or any poll that shows that, Corey. Just so viewers know.

[19:35:01] It's not a poll we know here at CNN.

But, Maria, Michelle Obama and Hillary Clinton have not always been friends, OK? Just to state the obvious, for anyone who's been living somewhere else and doesn't know this. And Donald Trump has been seizing on that. Here's what he said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: We have a president. All he wants to do is campaign. His wife, all she wants do is campaign. And I see how much his wife likes Hillary. But wasn't she the one that originally started the statement "if you can't take care of your home," right? "You can't take care of the White House or the country."

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Now, Maria, he's referring to Michelle Obama when she once said, if you can't run your own house, you certainly can't run the White House. That was in 2007 when her husband was running against Hillary Clinton.

MARIA CARDONA, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Sure.

BURNETT: Everyone saw that as the swipe at time. So, do people now buy all of a sudden they are friends? This is genuine?

CARDONA: Absolutely. And Michelle Obama even talked about that in her speech today. She said that ever since her husband Barack Obama took the oath of office, Bill Clinton and Hillary Clinton have been nothing but nurturing and supportive and really good friends. And in fact, I think it is because they used to be so adversarial, this now that she's supporting her in such a passionate way that she is really offering this contrast is a lot more credible.

If you want to bring up tapes of what people have said before, let's bring up the Donald Trump tape when he is speaking beautiful images about Hillary Clinton and Bill Clinton. So, you know, things change obviously.

But now, Michelle Obama made a very compelling contrast. Not just between the character and the fitness for office of these candidates, which is, you know, for her and for the majority of American people night and day between somebody who is not fit for office, Donald Trump and somebody who is ready on day one. But also pointed out that that is moment where the character of the nation is going to be tested as a mother and -- as Hillary Clinton as a mother, it was very compelling.

BURNETT: Corey, do you buy it? That they are friends now? Michelle Obama really likes Hillary Clinton?

LEWANDOWSKI: Of course not. But what we do know is politics bedfellows. All of a sudden, you know, Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton are best of friends after, you know, going at it for months and calling each liars and saying you stole the election. No, you did. Now, they're best friends.

Look, this is the problem with politicians, right? They say bad things about each other then the election is over and then become best friends and say, oh, I really --

CARDONA: It's certainly not working for Donald Trump.

LEWANDOWSKI: Look, Donald Trump has never tried to kiss up of the establishment after he's called people out on. He's been very clear on his position on things. So, this is what the American people see right through. They weren't friends before. They were only friends now for political expediency.

BURNETT: Now, Donald Trump is trying to win other the female vote. Hillary Clinton has very strong female surrogates for different groups. Michelle Obama, Elizabeth Warren among them.

Donald Trump does not. OK? He has his daughter out there a sometimes and his wife out there no times except for today, Corey, she did. She came out and did an interview, Melania, side by side with him. And Donald Trump appeared to surprise her when he said she's going to be out on the trail a lot in the next 12 days.

Here's the clip.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

INTERVIEWER: Does it make you want to get out there yourself and help him out the final two weeks?

MELANIA TRUMP, WIFE OF DONALD TRUMP: We'll see. My priority is my son Baron, our son Baron. And I support him 100 percent. And I'm there for him every time he needs him. And I might join him. We'll see.

DONALD TRUMP: She's actually going to make two or three speeches -- she's amazing when she speaks. She's an amazing public speaker. So, she's agreed to two or three speeches and I think it is going to be big speeches. Important speeches.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: All right, Corey, she was obviously surprised by that. But is this really going to happen? Can she make difference with women in the days we have left? Twelve days.

LEWANDOWSKI: Well, I think she can. But, you know, you heard her answer. Her number one priority, which I think is extremely commendable, is she wants to be the mother to her son. I think the American people understand that, because that is the number one people for a mother is to take care of their children. And that's what she's made her priority.

Is she going to go out and support her husband and make three speeches or four speech or five? Sure, she made a speech at the convention. I thought was very well received. She's extremely smart and extremely articulate.

More importantly, she's been a rock for that family, for the Trump family, for the children, for him. She's been the person that every time they ever needed something she's been supporting him every step of the way, and now, she's going to come out to the public and make some speeches. I think it will be the major difference in this election.

CARDONA: I think Melania is lovely. I think it's too little too late for her to make a difference. I think that interview I think was weird and awkward and for me looked like complete disrespect for Donald Trump to Melania. He clearly made that up as they were making this interview. She had no idea she was doing this.

I will believe that she's going to make two or three important speeches the moment he gives us his taxes which he also promised before the election.

[19:40:02] We have yet to see that.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you both.

LEWANDOWSKI: They are with Hillary's e-mails.

BURNETT: And next, "Shark Tank's" Barbara Corcoran opens up about Donald Trump. What's he really like with women? What's he really like behind closed doors? She's going to tell you.

And Trump leaning Texas by just three points. That is within the margin of error. Could Texas turn blue?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: Tonight, Donald Trump's lead is narrowing in the reliably red state of Texas. A new poll showing Clinton within three points behind, and that is within the margin of error. And the last time a Democrat won Texas was 1976. Is this the year it could happen again?

Ed Lavandera is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ED LAVANDERA, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): For as long as anyone can remember scouring the piney woods of East Texas for a Democrat has been a little like hunting for Bigfoot. They say it is out there be in conservative region but it is an elusive creature.

Which brings us to this courthouse n the small town of Gilmer.

[19:45:00] LAUREN PARISH, DISTRICT JUDGE: Disassociated myself with the Republican Party.

LAVANDERA: Judge Lauren Parish is an elected Republican judge but she says she won't be voting for Trump. She says his treatment of women and endless string of insulting positions trove her away from her party's nominee.

PARISH: Seemed like every day or every week there was another position he would take that conflicted with the beliefs and values that have been instilled in me by my church and my family growing up.

LAVANDERA: Judge Parish predicts this will probably get her voted out of office when she's up for reelection in two years.

It's hard to quantify, but there are a growing number of Texas Republicans turning their backs on Trump. Even President George H.W. Bush is reportedly voting for Clinton. Just like Joseph Kopser.

JOSEPH KOPSER, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: If Ronald Reagan and John Lennon had a kid, I'd be their son.

LAVANDERA: At a taco joint in Houston, Kopser shared how a self- described Reagan Republican West Point graduate Army veteran who served in Iraq turned high-tech entrepreneur sees Trump as a dangerous choice.

KOPSER: Donald Trump is not who he appears to be. Donald Trump is a great entertainer. Donald Trump is a great showman, if you will. But Donald Trump doesn't really represent the views of so many millions of Americans.

LAVANDERA (on camera): Four years ago, Mitt Romney beat Obama by 16 points here in Texas. In 2008, McCain beat Obama by 11 points. It is not supposed to be close here.

So when the latest poll showed Trump leading Clinton by only three points, well, that has Texas Democrats salivating at the idea that Texas of all places could turn blue. But the Texas Republican Party says that kind of wishful thinking is, quote, "utter nonsense."

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I think we've got a choice between crude and corrupt.

LAVANDERA (voice-over): These men shooting the breeze outside this antiques store in west Texas say they are picking crude. They say it's a weird election but see deep support for Trump in Texas.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What's the weird part is the guy is doing real well is not a politician.

LAVANDERA: We found Jim Blair proudly sporting his "Make America Great" hat. Even though polls show a close race in Texas, he predicts a Trump landslide on Election Day.

JIM BLAIR, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: I think there are a lot of people not telling you what they truly think and where they are going to vote or how they are going vote. For some reason, they are afraid to tell it.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LAVANDERA: And, Erin, early voting here in Texas started on Monday. The turnout numbers have been huge across the state. There have been in conservative social media circles a lot of talk about voting machines that haven't been working properly. Switching Donald Trump votes to Hillary Clinton votes.

We've spoken with election administrators in those counties where a few of those cases have happened. They all say the machines are working properly and in those cases, it was user error that caused the problem.

So, regardless, despite all of that, still a lot of talk about that which blends in very nicely for what Donald Trump has ban saying over the last few weeks about the election being rigged. All of that kind of playing into that same narrative as well -- Erin.

BURNETT: Ed, thank you.

And next, "Shark Tank" host Barbara Corcoran, she's known Donald Trump for more than four decades. She's not voting for him and she has something to say about him and women and his accusers. She's my guest. She's next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:51:57] BURNETT: Breaking news: Donald Trump threatening to sue NBC after his lewd comments caught on tape. In an interview with FOX News, Trump addressed whether he thought it was illegal to release the "Access Hollywood" tape. His response, "Oh, absolutely. You know that was a private dressing room -- yes, that was certainly illegal, no question about it."

In the days following the tape's released, at least 11 women have come forward accusing Trump of unwanted sexual advances, allegations that Trump again denied this morning.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP: They made up stories. You know why? Fame, or they wanted to help Clinton, or something. They made up stories.

INTERVIEWER: They came out after you denied your --

DONALD TRUMP: George, let's not waste anymore time. These stories were fabricated. They are total lies.

MELANIA TRUMP: They were, they were lies. And as I said before, all the accusations, they should be handled in a court of law.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Joining me now, a woman, a real estate heavyweight, who has known Trump for decades. That's Barbara Corcoran, star of "Shark Tank", also a Hillary Clinton supporter.

So, Barbara, you know, you have known Donald Trump for 45 years. You've been in a lot of situations with him. Meetings, right? Do you overall believe these accusers?

BARBARA CORCORAN, "SHARK TANK" INVESTOR & HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: I very much do. I just think that it's preposterous that he's claiming he's done nothing like that. I mean, he's been that way always. I've never been in a room with him alone except on one occasion. Should I tell you that occasion?

BURNETT: Yes, tell me.

CORCORAN: I don't want to sound like a gossiper. But I was pregnant with my first child at the time and so was his second wife, and he compared my breast size to his wife by putting his hands in the air. I was in a business meeting. I was like shocked. So, that, of course, is nothing compared to anything that we've been hearing in the press and I found it rather comical.

But I did think after what -- how would I have felt if I had been a young women not a successful business women and been in a situation like that, I would have felt very compromise. So, if a man is that way, so inappropriate, I just assume it's that way all the time.

BURNETT: And did you ever in meetings with other people did you ever, you know, hear certain talk, witness him behave this way?

CORCORAN: Yes, no, no, no locker room talk because I was always in a meeting, usually with a lot of men in the construction field, because I was in the real estate business. So it was a very formal setting. So, absolutely not, no.

BURNETT: Never heard of it. But you do believe the women.

I mean, I'm also curious, because, you know, you talk about is settles in construction and real estate. As the world you know. And one of the excuses that he's given -- well, he said he didn't do it. But for the words he said it's locker room talk. This sort of happens out there. You know, and you -- this is something you have been kind of open about it.

Back in May, "I find running a business in the man's world to be a huge advantage. I wear bright colors, yank up my skirt and get attention."

Is it part of the culture to have these sorts of conversations, to have things like this happened?

CORCORAN: Well, I don't know what part of the male culture is because they're not privy to that. But in the construction field it is a very tough field where everybody kind of struts there stuff.

[19:55:01] With myself, I played up my femininity card. When I say yank up my skirt, it was simply meaning I wore very shirt skirts because I have great legs. And so, I was noticed because I was the only female there.

So, I think that's just nothing but great marketing. I think it is marketing if you can stand apart from the pack and be noticed. But I didn't offer anybody Tic Tacs or anything like that. Definitely not.

BURNETT: You know, when you put it all together and you think, though, of Donald Trump's behavior, would people say he's a sexual predator? Is that fair? Is that ring true you do?

CORCORAN: I don't -- I don't know. Put those words to it. What I object to is when anyone is subjected to any misbehavior that makes them feel diminished.

I mean, life is tough enough for a female trying to strive in a man's world or any world to try to get ahead. So I feel like when a man diminishes her on the sexual card it is just downright not fair play. And a certain note of meanness to it. And sometimes not intended that way, but I really think it comes across that way.

BURNETT: And when it comes to the point that the Trump campaign makes and frankly that other Republicans make who don't even support Donald Trump but this issue, they say, well, Bill Clinton has accusers. And even if you don't think that is relevant because he's not running, she was an enabler. That is the word they use. She was an enabler. She was critical of these women.

What do you say to that?

CORCORAN: Erin, I can't stand that, that the woman is blamed because the husband cheats. Oh my gosh. It is so unfair.

I think she should be honored the way she handled that marriage and how she held her head high. Most women would not measure up to something like that, and she did. I give her great credit for that.

BURNETT: Last time we spoke, you said Donald Trump will win. What do you think now? CORCORAN: I pray every night so I'm so wrong and I think he's going self destruct and that's I'm what praying for every night.

BURNETT: Barbara, thank you very much. Good to talk with you again.

CORCORAN: My pleasure.

BURNETT: All right. Breaking news right now, Donald Trump's running mate Mike Pence's airplane just skidded off the runway at New York's LaGuardia Airport just moments ago. A lot of rain today in the area.

Our producer Elizabeth Landers was on that plane. She joins me on the phone now.

Elizabeth, what happened?

ELIZABETH LANDERS, CNN PRODUCER (via telephone): Hey, Erin, that's right. We had a ground hold earlier in Iowa before we flew here. We knew there was going to be some bad weather here when we landed. The Pence plane was approaching probably 10 minutes ago here in LaGuardia. And we had a pretty hard landing.

And then the press in the back of the plane could feel the plane fishtailing back and forth. We're actually still on the plane right now. The plane slid off the runway. We could feel the plane sliding off the runway and then came to a very sharp halt on the runway at LaGuardia.

And we're sitting on the tarmac right now. The governor and everyone on board is okay. There are no reported injuries. And the plane is intact. No structural damage according to the press secretary who came back to speak with the press.

The governor himself actually came back and made sure that everybody on the plane was okay. He said that he saw mud on the windows up at the front. So, we did clearly come totally off the runway here at LaGuardia.

BURNETT: Wow, and also I'm just letting everyone know what we are looking at is what we call a pool feed. So all of the networks are getting the same feed from on board the plane where you are. You can see the emergency lights you can see off the back.

LANDERS: Yes.

BURNETT: And just so everyone understands what we're looking at on our screen. I mean, it must have been pretty terrifying when it actually happened. You are describing it as fish-tailing?

LANDERS: Yes. We could feel the plane moving. And, you know, it was just not a natural landing that you experience. I'm coming off the plane right now so excuse me I -- we have rescue crews here. It looks like we have some firefighters and you can probably hear the police right there asking if there are any injuries.

It is a pretty big scene here right now. Hopefully you can see the shot up that -- oh my God. Wow. Looks like there is actual damage to the runway here, which I'm looking at. I'll take some photographs as well. But yeah, it is bad rains here and clearly --

BURNETT: What you do see on the runway when you say "damage", Elizabeth?

LANDERS: Sorry, repeat that one more time?

BURNETT: You said damage?

LANDERS: Yes, I'm seeing it looks like huge gashes in the runway here. Where the planes wheel appear to have taken part of the runway off.

BURNETT: Wow. That is a pretty incredible thing. Obviously very -- she's -- hear fish-tailing when the plane landed. Gashes in the runway. Pretty terrifying. All those emergency vehicles now around Mike Pence's plane. But the governor unhurt. The press pool unhurt.

"AC360" continues right now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Jim Acosta, Sara Murray, Dana Bash, Phil Mattingly, Jeff Zeleny, Kyung Lah, Corey Lewandowski, Boris Sanchez, Jeanne Moos

8880 speakers\_end

[19:00:08] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, breaking news. Donald Trump mocking a woman accusing him of sexual assault as a new CNNpoll is released tonight.

Plus, Joe Biden live this hour doubling down on his wish for a fistfight with Donald Trump.

And the tail of the tape. Trump's flip-flop on his signature issue. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening, I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, I'm sure she's been grabbed before, that was Donald Trump's comment today about a porn star who accused him of grabbing her.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: One said, he grabbed me on the arm, and she's a porn star. Now, you know, this one that came out recently, he grabbed me and he grabbed me on the arm. Oh, I'm sure she's never been grabbed before.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: This comes as Trump's campaign is in high gear trying to win over voters as he crisscrosses battleground states making his closing argument. But he couldn't stop talking about his female accusers. Today's comment in a radio interview about a new accuser, Jessica Drake, she joins at least ten others. You see her there with the long blond hair. She describes herself as an adult film star and producer, and charges that at a golf tournament ten years ago, Trump invited her to his room, grabbed her, kissed her and eventually offered her $10,000.

Today, Trump fired back insisting her story is a lie, also insisting he is winning the race calling polls that show him behind phony and dark. Now, our new poll just released tonight show this race is very close. Trump trailing Clinton by only five points nationally among likely voters. And by the way, that hasn't changed over the past month with the tape and the women accusers. No change in the margin. Right now, Trump in Tampa, live pictures of that rally about to begin. He'll be speaking live in just moments from now. Jim Acosta is OUTFRONT at that Trump rally in Tampa. And Jim, our polls showing Trump down by five. Obviously hasn't moved in the past month. And Trump is not focusing. He says not paying attention to polls that show him down.

JIM ACOSTA, CNN SENIOR WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Well, that's right, Erin. He'll be out here in Tampa in just a few moments. He is making a big push across the state of Florida all week, it is a must-win battleground for the GOP nominee who insists he is winning this race despite being behind in the polls including ours here at CNN, but Donald Trump is writing off those polls as dark polls.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA (voice-over): Don't believe the polls, Donald Trump says, believe him.

TRUMP: And watch the polls because this is part of the crooked system.

ACOSTA: As Trump explained to farmers in Florida, the latest election polls conducted by the mainstream news media are part of a bitter harvest seeding doubts about his ability to win.

TRUMP: These are what they call them dark polls. They are phony polls put out by phony media. And I'll tell you what, all of us are affected by this stuff. And what they do is they try and suppress the vote. This way people don't go out and vote.

ACOSTA: For Trump, the polls are now part of the conspiracy to deny him the White House. Or as he described it, roughly seven times in one minute, a rigged system.

TRUMP: We are going to fix our rigged system. It's a rigged, broken, corrupt system. It's rigged. It's broken. It's corrupt. They want me to take that back. Let me tell you, folks, it's a rigged system. We're in a rigged system. We're in a broken and corrupt system. And Bernie Sanders was in a rigged system.

ACOSTA: The latest CNN/ORC poll finds Trump trailing Clinton by five points.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: We are behind.

ACOSTA: Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway conceded what aides say privately, Trump will have to come from behind to win.

CONWAY: Her husband campaigning for her, the current President and First Lady, vice president, all much more popular than she can hope to be, and she's seen as the incumbent. So, our advantage going in, we're behind one, three, four points in some of these swing states that Mitt Romney lost to President Obama, our advantage is that Donald Trump is just going to continue to take the case directly to the people.

ACOSTA: But it's a case Trump sometimes mishandles. Such as when he traveled to Gettysburg to lay out his vision for his first 100 days in office. Only to spend the first ten minutes attacking the women who accused him of sexual assault.

TRUMP: All of these liars will be sued after the election is over.

ACOSTA: Just today, Trump rushed off one of his newest accusers.

JESSICA DRAKE, DONALD TRUMP ACCUSER: He grabbed each of us tightly in a hug and kissed each one of us without asking permission.

ACOSTA: Pointing out she starred in adult films.

TRUMP: One said he grabbed me on the arm, and she's a porn star. Now, you know, this one that came out recently, he grabbed me and he grabbed me on arm. I'm sure she's never been grabbed before.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA: Now, Donald Trump is also stepping up his attacks on the national news media. Earlier today at a rally in St. Augustine, Florida, he described reporters covering his campaign as crooks and thieves. That is on top of calling reporters in the past disgusting and dishonest, but if any Republican out there is dissatisfied with the campaign coverage, Erin, the Trump campaign has a solution.

[19:05:10] Earlier this evening on Donald Trump's Facebook page, his advisers were hosting something that looked very much like Trump TV. There were advisers, even campaign Manager Kellyanne who is still in the vouchers of the GOP nominee. Even at the bottom of the screen, there was a pro-Trump crawl like you see on CNN and other news networks. The campaign says it's not Trump TV but sure looks like it -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Jim Acosta, thank you very much.

I want to go to Sara Murray. She is OUTFRONT in St. Augustine right now. And Sara, you know, when you look at the poll here that we're just breaking on CNN, it is fascinating that the margin has not changed. So if you look at the female accusers, you look at the tape, it does not seem to have hurt Trump at all in this poll, does it?

SARA MURRAY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: It is really stunning to see that it is still just a five-point race in our poll, Erin. When you look at the latest poll, has Clinton at 49 percent, Donald Trump at 44 percent. But look at how that compares to numbers in early October. That same five-point gap with Clinton at 47 percent. Trump at 42 percent. So what that tells you is there are still people flocking to third-party candidates. There are still people who are undecided.

But also both of these candidates have started to bring home some more of their core supporters which has helped move their numbers up. But one thing that is still a huge problem for Donald Trump is when you look at the gender gap in the latest polls, look at Hillary Clinton's numbers with women. She is at 53 percent compared to Donald Trump who is at 41 percent. That is a 12-point gap. Now, the Trump folks would say, well, look at Hillary Clinton's numbers with men, she struggles with that group. And that is true. Hillary Clinton has not performed though as well. And if you look at this poll, she's at 45 percent compared to Trump at 48 percent. But there is nowhere near the same margin as we're seeing on the side with women -- Erin.

BURNETT: And which is obviously very crucial. There is a bright spot for Trump in this poll, though, an area where, I mean, overall, both he and Clinton went up, but specific area where he went up, that is the most important area for most voters.

MURRAY: Right, this has really been a stronghold for Donald Trump and that's when we're talking about the economy, and, you know, we all remember, it's the economy, stupid, right? And that has been true again in many ways in this election. Ninety one percent of voters say that this is very important or most important. They believe this is their top issue. And this is an issue where Donald Trump tops Hillary Clinton. He comes in at 51 percent compared to Hillary Clinton's 47 percent. And he's actually gained a couple points on that issue, since our last poll.

But there is another bright shine in here for Hillary Clinton, and that is when you look at her trustworthy numbers. This has been, of course, her Achilles' heel, part of a sort of a ramification of her being in politics for the last 30 years but also very related to the questions about how she used her private e-mail server. And when you look at those trustworthy numbers, she and Donald Trump are essentially tied in our latest poll, 42 percent of voters saying that they find Hillary Clinton honest and trustworthy, compared to 43 percent for Trump.

BURNETT: All right, Sara. Thank you very much.

And OUTFRONT now, Trump supporter Kayleigh McEnany, Clinton supporter Karine Jean-Pierre. Dana Bash, our chief political correspondent. Mark Preston, our executive editor for Politics.

Dana, on this new poll though, Trump down by five. By the way, the margin of error is three-and-a-half points. So, you're looking at a point and a half race outside the margin of error which is stunningly closed and unchanged with the tape, with the women accusers.

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF CORRESPONDENT: You see it's done exactly what I saw in this poll, is that the numbers are different but the margin isn't. And what we've seen, the movement that we've seen since the last poll that we've talked, taken, even though there has been an avalanche of bad news for Donald Trump. The polls have shifted away from Gary Johnson, the Independent candidate.

BURNETT: Yes.

BASH: The libertarian candidate. And Donald Trump's overall numbers, you know, have gone up a little bit. So have Hillary Clinton's. But as you said, the margin is not different. So what that means is the race that really matters is kind of frozen in place, and that's good news, if you're Donald Trump looking for a silver lining, especially when you hear, you know, story after story after Republicans giving up on him, looking at down-ballot race and hearing Hillary Clinton and her aides talk about the transition and look towards a future of a Clinton presidency. But the bad news for Donald Trump is that he still has at least on a national level a five-point deficit to make up.

BURNETT: Right. Which is obviously -- I mean, you know, it's significant. And Kelly, this comes as he's out trying to make his closing arguments and yet, he is the one unprompted at rallies bringing up his accusers, threatening to sue them. I want to play, again, some of what Trump said today about the harassment and assault accusations, in particular here, he's going to talk about this one moment, there porn star. Here he is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: They were made up. I don't know these women. It's not my thing to do what they say. You know, I don't do that. And you know, I don't grab them on the -- you know, as they say, on the arm, and one said he grabbed me on the arm and she's a porn star. Now, you know, this one that came out recently, he grabbed me and he grabbed me on the arm. Oh, I'm sure she's never been grabbed before.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[19:10:19] BURNETT: All right. So this is the woman, Kayleigh, who accused him of grabbing her, kissing her, offering her $10,000. He's saying he didn't do it, but then it does sound like he's saying, well, if I did it, it's OK because she's a porn star?

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: No, that's not what I heard. I heard that as buttressing the earlier part of the argument which is, I never did this, I don't know this woman, in the end saying, I'm sure she's never been grabbed before was a reflection of what he was saying in the beginning that he, in fact, never grabbed her. And I really think that a lot of this is much ado about nothing. Because we sit at this table litigating issues that should be litigated in court.

In fact, the bottom of our CNN poll, it shows that voters were asked, do you think how Hillary Clinton handled her e-mails is indicative of how she'd be as president? They were asked the same thing about Donald Trump with these women issues. It's actually more voters thought Hillary Clinton's e-mails were more of an indication how she'd handle the presidency. So, I think voters are voting on issues. I'm very encouraged by this poll. I hope they end up voting on the economy, the issue most important to them, because that's Donald Trump's biggest issue.

BURNETT: Karine?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: Excuse me. Look, I think it is clear that Donald Trump has no idea what sexual assault means which is incredibly dangerous for someone whose wanting to be president of these United States. And also, I mean, look, one in five women are affected by this. And for him to say that, all it does, it opens up old wounds and he -- it's not new, right? He showed he didn't understand sexual assault when he made those comments after the "Access Hollywood" tapes. He showed that he didn't understand sexual assault after these 11 women or 12 women have come out now, and made these allegations. And now he's showed it again today. And honestly, as a woman, it's incredibly insulting and it's disqualifying.

BURNETT: Mark, here's the thing, though, on this debate, when you look at how he's doing with women, OK? He's behind and he's behind significantly, yet what's fascinating is he's not doing that badly relative to how, say, George W. Bush did. One of the women who accused Trump of assault, you know, he said he's going to threaten to sue these women. She came out and said to CNN, these is Temple Taggart who was Miss Utah that said he kissed her.

She said, "It's still disappointing to think that Mr. Trump lacks enough humility and decency to simply come clean and admit his part in this, rather than attempt to conceal the truth and silence his accusers by threatening a lawsuit. She's unafraid about him suing her. And yet when you look about, look at what's happening with him with women, he's down by 12 points. George W. Bush won the White House with a ten-point deficit, right? So, he's only two points away from George W. Bush. But that's pretty significant, isn't it?

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EDITOR: It is. I mean, listen, look, Donald Trump has hit a nerve in the country right now where people just don't like Hillary Clinton. I mean, that has really hurt her and might very well be her biggest Achilles' heel right now. They just don't like her personally. So, even if they hear these allegations, and they are allegations but they're multiple allegations.

They still look at them and say, you know what, I still don't like her. I don't know if that's true or not, but I still don't like her. And I think that's why we're seeing the race a lot closer than what you would expect it, you know, given the news and the allegations.

BASH: And he is outperforming men especially non-college educed white men way more than George W. Bush or Mitt Romney did which they're hoping inside Trump Tower can overcome the deficit that he has with women, unclear if there's enough, but that's what they're hoping.

BURNETT: All right. Thanks to all. Of course, staying with me.

Next, the issue that catapulted Trump to the nomination. Wait until, though, you hear the flip-flop tonight. This is actually pretty stunning and we have the tape for you.

Plus, breaking news, ObamaCare premiums about to skyrocket. How bad is the timing for Hillary Clinton?

And Elizabeth Warren on the trail turning Trump words into her own rallying cry.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. ELIZABETH WARREN (D), MASSACHUSETTS: We nasty women are going to march our nasty feet to cast our nasty votes to get you out of our lives forever.

(CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[19:17:24] BURNETT: And you're looking at live pictures right now out of Dayton. Vice President Joe Biden about to headline a rally for Hillary Clinton in the swing state of Ohio, not the only heavy hitter out on the campaign trail today. Clinton turning to the popular liberal Senator Elizabeth Warren who true to form slammed Trump in a rather nasty fashion.

Phil Mattingly is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PHIL MATTINGLY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): A Democratic tag team made up exclusively of women targeting Donald Trump.

WARREN: He thinks that because he has a mouth full of tic tacs that he can force himself on any woman within groping distance.

(AUDIENCE BOOING)

Well, I got news for you, Donald Trump. Women have had it with guys like you.

MATTINGLY: And any GOP candidate tied to him.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Unlike her opponent, she has never been afraid to stand up to Donald Trump. I hope in these next 14 days, you do everything you can to support her.

MATTINGLY: Hillary Clinton and Elizabeth Warren together on the campaign trail in New Hampshire, seeking to boost Democratic Senate candidate Maggie Hassan, and hoping to turn Trump's sagging poll numbers into opportunity in battleground Senate races across the country.

CLINTON: This is someone who routes for failure and takes glee in mocking our country no matter who our president is. Now, that may be who Donald Trump is, but this election is about who we are.

MATTINGLY: Relying heavily on pushing Trump's negatives to energize granite state voters against Trump helped Hassan and other down-ballot Democrats get to Washington.

WARREN: Get this, Donald, nasty women are tough. Nasty women are smart. And nasty women vote.

MATTINGLY: New Hampshire just the latest stop in a series of strategic events designed by Clinton and her team to provide a boost in early voting states. Clinton advisers making clear to CNN that they believe they are firmly in control of the race. And they're starting to plan for what comes next. That includes finalizing would- be White House senior advisers, working through potential cabinet prospects and quiet outreach to Capitol Hill allies including Republicans, aides say. Still, for Clinton, herself, even as she clearly looks past Trump, trying to keep her eye on the ball.

CLINTON: We got a transition operation going, and I haven't really paid much attention to it yet because I want to focus on what our first task is and that is convincing as many Americans as possible to give us the chance to serve.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MATTINGLY: And Erin, I want to underscore this shift that we've seen out of the Clinton campaign. And the importance of it. For much of the general election, you've seen Hillary Clinton try and disassociate Donald Trump from the rest of the Republican Party. Now that frustrated a lot of down-ballot Democrats who were looking for help, wanted the Clinton campaign to tie Trump to their opponents. That's exactly what we're seeing right now and that is exactly why this has become a crucial moment not just for Hillary Clinton but as you noted with Joe Biden in Ohio, Michelle Obama out on the trail, Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders. Now all of those surrogates from the top down are also following suit in helping these Senate candidates. This could be crucial in all of those battleground contests -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Phil.

And OUTFRONT now, senior Washington correspondent Jeff Zeleny joins Kayleigh, Karine and Dana. So, Jeff, look, she's a polarizing figure.

JEFF ZELENY, CNN SENIOR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Sure.

BURNETT: You could use even stronger words in that. They love her or they loathe her, right? Is it possible she could hurt Clinton with the very Independents that she needs?

ZELENY: In New Hampshire I don't think so. That's where the setting was today.

BURNETT: Right.

ZELENY: She's from Massachusetts, so many New Hampshire voters are of Massachusetts. They work there or they have moved from there. So I think first and foremost, I asked a Clinton adviser that, because when you listen to that speech, you sort of wonder, she needs to shore up liberals still in New Hampshire. If she's going to win New Hampshire which is part of her math to 270, part of the Clinton math to 270, she needs to get liberals who liked Bernie Sanders. So, yes, you might lose a few Independents but the liberals are important. But I do not expect her to be with Senator Warren in Ohio again or other places in the country. But in New Hampshire I think it's worth it for the liberals.

BURNETT: Okay. So let's get to the nasty heart of this, Kayleigh. Let me play a little bit more of what Elizabeth Warren had to say about Donald Trump because the nasty you just heard there wasn't the full nasty. Here we go.

(LAUGHTER)

MCENANY: The full nasty.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WARREN: Get this, Donald. Nasty women are tough. Nasty women are smart. And nasty women vote. And on November 8th, we nasty women are going to march our nasty feet to cast our nasty votes to get you out of our lives forever.

(CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[19:22:23] BURNETT: Counting the applause in the full exchange, there were seven "nasties" in 40 seconds. Effective?

MCENANY: No. I don't think that does much to Millennials. I think the whole argument of when they go low, we go high, is mis-served or underserved by having Senator Warren on the stage who's called Donald Trump a thin-skinned racist. I think Hillary Clinton's trying to prosecute a temperament argument. It's hard to do that standing next to someone as intemperate as Elizabeth Warren. I don't think that's effective. I don't think much of anyone who watches that, certainly Independent voters, find that appealing standing by an ultra-leftist saying the word "nasty" seven times in 38 seconds.

BURNETT: She could have done that. But quite that many. But yes, the point absolutely is -- this comes on a day, Karine, though, something that does matter to people on the left because they care about it and they like it, ObamaCare, they're about to get slammed. We've heard it on the state-by-state level. Now it's going to be 22 percent overall in this country, premiums are going to surge by. That is bad for the base. It's also bad for Independents who may not like ObamaCare. Hillary has said again and again and again that it is part of her legacy, too. Here she is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CLINTON: I am a staunch supporter, of President Obama's principle accomplishment, namely the Affordable Care Act.

It's one of the great accomplishments not only of this president but of the Democratic Party going back to Harry Truman.

You know, before there was what called ObamaCare, there was what was called HillaryCare.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

How much is this going to hurt her? I mean, 22 percent surge in premiums. That's a failure.

JEAN-PIERRE: Well, here's the thing. Since ObamaCare, 10 million more people have gotten health care since, 10 million more people since before Obama has gotten health care. Twenty million people in total. So it has helped tens of millions of people. I think, look, both Hillary Clinton and the President have said that ObamaCare definitely needs to be, you know, kind of tweaked, right? And this is part of, I think the tweaking that needs to be done. But the things that we've been hearing from Donald Trump and the other side of the aisle is to completely get rid of ObamaCare, which doesn't help, especially those tens of millions of people.

BURNETT: And before we go, Dana, one other thing I want to fit in here, we're talking about the value of the surrogates, like Elizabeth Warren was talking about on the trail. Joe Biden is out again on the trail, effective, he is going to be speaking in a couple of moments. But doing something, if Donald Trump did it, he would be being slaughtered for. Here's Joe Biden doubling down on a fight with Donald Trump.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VICE PRES. JOE BIDEN (D), UNITED STATES: I'll get myself in trouble and say something like I'd like to take him behind the gym if I were in high school. I mean, all kidding aside, wouldn't you? I mean, for real. I am not in high school. If I were in high school. I used to be -- I used to have a temper -- I don't have a temper anymore. I don't ever -- nothing ever bothers me. Look, folks. No.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BASH: Whenever he's going to say something he knows that he's going to get in trouble for, he says this is going to get me in trouble. So, he's almost giving a roadmap to everybody to look at. You're right, that if Donald Trump said that or any of his surrogates said that, we would be all --

BURNETT: Doing this with his fists.

BASH: Yes. All going crazy on him saying that's not appropriate, you're inciting violence. Because it's Uncle Joe Biden people say, a ha ha, that's funny, and he was doing it with a wink and a nod and he was sort of laughing about it. But I think the fact that you played it is important to show that, you know what, there shouldn't be a double standard and there isn't.

BURNETT: All right. Thanks very much to all.

Next, Donald Trump on tape flip-flopping on his signature issue. An advice from Donald Trump supporters to the Republican nominee.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Stick to the issues mainly. I mean, I feel that we would gain more people -- he's already got us. We're not going anywhere.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:30:01] BURNETT: Breaking news, Donald Trump speaking right now in the battleground state of Florida. **Immigration**, a topic tonight likely. Trump launching his campaign with a hard-line stance on **immigration**, right, who could forget that. But a new video tonight from our own file shows that just fours ago, Trump had a dramatically different view on this crucial issue.

Kyung Lah is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: We have some bad hombres here, and we're going to get them out.

KYUNG LAH, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Deporting 12 million undocumented **immigrants** starting with the criminals, Donald Trump's central and defining issue in his campaign.

TRUMP: Build that wall, build that wall, build that wall.

LAH: The rallying cry at this events from the moment he kicked off his campaign with these words.

TRUMP: They're bringing drugs, they're bringing crime, they're rapists.

LAH: But just four years ago, CNN's KFILE found that Trump actually said he didn't believe in deportation. June 2012, Donald Trump called into CNBC's "Squawk Box."

TRUMP: But you have people in this country for 20 years, they've done a great job, they've done wonderfully, they've gone to school, they've gotten good marks. They're productive. Now, we're supposed to send them out of the country? I don't believe in that, Michelle, and you understand that. I don't believe in a lot of things that are being said.

LAH: Trump was reacting as a businessman to the Supreme Court ruling the day before, striking down key parts of Arizona's tough **immigration** law.

TRUMP: The problem with the ruling yesterday is nobody knows what it means, nobody knows what effect it's going to have, and it could have a very, very seriously negative impact on everything. It's total confusion. And what it will do is tremendous amounts of discrimination. Lawsuits will be brought in the courts.

LAH: What a difference four year makes.

TRUMP: Let me tell you, I'm going to force them right back into their country. They're murderers and some very bad people.

We have at least 11 million people in this country that came in illegally. They will go out.

You're going to have a deportation force and you're going to do it humanely.

LAH: Trump has been vague about how he'll handle undocumented **immigrants** living peacefully in the U.S. but remains clear about one thing, he'd still deport them.

TRUMP: For those here illegally today who are seeking legal status, they will have one route and one route only. To return home and apply for re-entry like everybody else under the rules of the new legal **immigration** system.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LAH: Now, CNN has reached out to the Trump campaign. We have not gotten a response yet.

Trump has flipped on a couple of issues. Gun control, nuclear proliferation, as well as abortion, but this issue, Erin, the one of **immigration**, so important, so critical, because it is such a central theme of his campaign -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Kyung, thank you.

And now, Keith Boykin, former Clinton White House aide, Hillary Clinton supporter and Corey Lewandowski, the former campaign manager for Donald Trump.

Corey, **immigration** is core to Trump's campaign, right? There's no disputing that. And yet here he is four years ago, drastically different view. How can his voters, his core voters who support him because of the wall, because he is going to put these 11 million people out of the country before they can come back in, how can they trust he won't go back on his word again?

COREY LEWANDOWSKI, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Well, let's look at the issue, right? So, this was at -- these comments were made prior to Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton pushing amnesty with a bunch of establishment Republicans, which the CBO determined that wouldn't stop what the problem is. So, what he's had the opportunity to do on the campaign trail moving forward is meeting with families of the Remembrance Project of which Hillary Clinton didn't respond to the invitation to meet with. These are individual and families, family members killed by illegal **aliens**.

What we know, CNN's own reporting, 121 individuals who were previously in captivity, illegal **aliens** have gone on to murder people -- 121 people, illegal **aliens**who were released from prison, went on to murder people. Seventy-three thousand six hundred and sixty-five illegals right now occupy our prisons. What he knows is they don't belong here. Let's get rid of these guys.

BURNETT: You're saying --

(CROSSTALK) KEITH BOYKIN, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: He didn't answer the question, Erin.

LEWANDOWSKI: Hillary Clinton, let's talk about the changes she's made. The Iraq switch --

(CROSSTALK) BOYKIN: He didn't answer your question, in. Your question was how can we trust that Donald Trump really believes in what he says? Everything that Corey just said gives you no answer to that question. He gave you a litany of explanations that Donald Trump would give to his core supporters.

But the reality is we don't really know what Donald Trump stands on anything because Donald Trump is a political opportunist.

BURNETT: Which Donald Trump do you believe? The Trump who said it's inhumane, you're going to get sued if you kick these people out of the country or Donald Trump who says some of them are bad hombres, get them out?

BOYKIN: I don't know if we can believe Donald Trump when we talks about a Muslim ban one he's not going to ban all Muslims and denies he says it. I don't know if we believe the Donald Trump who says President Obama wasn't born in America, and then a few years later says that he was. I don't know if we believe the Donald Trump who was in favor of pro-choice, pro-abortion candidate, or the Donald Trump who's against abortion. I don't know where Donald Trump stands on any issues, except for he believes in Donald Trump.

[19:35:02] He's a political opportunist.

LEWANDOWSKI: Hillary Clinton says exactly the same thing. She was for TPP, now she's opposed to it. She was never for open borders, all of a sudden, we see the WikiLeaks come out, guess what? Oh, I am for open borders.

Guess what? Hillary Clinton had information leading to the Iraq war, as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, classified information and she's for it.

BURNETT: Let me talk about TPP, you keep bringing it up. Your candidate has had issues with trade, OK? She has completely flip- flopped. Secretary of state, she called the Trans Pacific Partnership the gold standard of trade deals. She did say that.

Then, she's obviously opposed it. Now she's running for president. How is that any different from Trump saying it's inhumane to come out four years and now, get them the hell out?

BOYKIN: Well, yes, I'm not saying candidates don't change their positions, but what Donald Trump has done and Hillary Clinton clearly has changed her position by that.

BURNETT: How is that any different? His is just a change of position.

BOYKIN: Oh, yes, it's not just a change of position. This is the core of his campaign. When he started this campaign, when he came down an escalator, what was the first thing he said? He talked about Mexico, they were sending in their rapists and drug dealers and criminals. They were not good people. Some he said might be good people. This is not the core of Hillary Clinton's campaign nobody would think that Hillary Clinton is running her campaign on trade. That's what Bernie Sanders is running about --

LEWANDOWSKI: She has a private persona and a public persona.

BOYKIN: Nice pivot, Corey. Nice pivot. You still haven't answered the question.

LEWANDOWSKI: She said that Wall Street is the best to regulate Wall Street, and the only reason we have that is because WikiLeaks has discovered it. What we know is there's a public Hillary Clinton and there's a private Hillary Clinton. What we found out from the private Hillary Clinton, she's for open borders and amnesty, which for 18 months, she said she was not for.

BURNETT: Is that worse than two public Donald Trumps contradicting themselves?

BOYKIN: On the core issue of his campaign.

LEWANDOWSKI: What you get with Donald Trump is the truth right to the people, right? And with Hillary Clinton is lying to one group. She says one thing to the politically motivated and then she gets to the American people and says, well, I never said that.

For 18 months, she has said she was not for open borders, until it was released she said she was for open borders. Now, all of a sudden, I guess I did say that.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: He just changed his mind? Did he decide, hey, there's a group voters who are going to like this --

BOYKIN: He's a hypocrite.

LEWANDOWSKI: Hillary Clinton had classified information going into voting for the Iraq war.

BOYKIN: No, come on.

LEWANDOWSKI: She had classified information. She was on the Senate Armed Services Committee. She voted for it. Now she's saying, well, I don't know, I'm going to change my position.

(CROSSTALK)

BOYKIN: Donald Trump has lied on both sides of the issue -- the problem with this issue and the problem with Corey's pivot, Donald Trump has been every side of every issue. The only issue I think Donald Trump has been consistent on over the years has been the issue of trade. But when you come to **immigration**, I thought it was the core tissue of his campaign. But here we now have irrefutable evidence that just four years ago, Donald Trump was saying the exact opposite of what he's saying right now. That's the core of his campaign. (CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: We'll leave it here.

BOYKIN: His followers got suckered.

BURNETT: We'll leave it here.

And maybe they feel that way. Of course, independents may like the four-year-old Donald Trump they're hearing. I don't know. We'll see.

Thanks very much to both.

Next, Trump supporters standing by their candidate's denial that he sexually assaulted women today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Why didn't they come out 30 years ago when he was worth billions there and sue him for $1 million? I would have.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And Jeanne Moos on how the Clinton campaign is taking Trump's "nasty woman" label to heart.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: Breaking news: you're looking at live pictures tonight of Donald Trump in Florida. Trump touting it as one of his biggest rallies with close to 20,000 people there tonight, as polls show Clinton and Trump neck and neck in Florida, where as of tonight, early voting is already under way.

Boris Sanchez is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

CINDI GORDON, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: They have a problem with it, they should have done it a long time ago. It's bull.

BORIS SANCHEZ, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Trump supporters in St. Augustine, Florida, slamming the women accusing Donald Trump of sexual assault and standing by the Republican nominee's threats to sue all of the women who've come forward.

JOHN RYBACKI, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: He'll probably sue them for more than what Hillary's paid them to say that.

SANCHEZ: These loyal supporters echoing their candidate's denial in Gettysburg this weekend.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: The events never happened. Never. All of these liars will be sued after the election is over.

SANCHEZ: That speech was billed as his closing argument and preview of the first 100 days of a Trump administration. It was not supposed to be about allegations of his sexual misconduct -- a fact that his supporters don't seem to mind.

WILL NEIMAN, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Why didn't they come out 30 years ago when he was worth billions there and sue him for $1 million? I would have. I would have -- you know, if he had grabbed me, I'd been like, how much are you worth?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Come on, America. Wake up.

SANCHEZ: It's not just the accusers that many Trump supporters are skeptical of. It's also recent polls showing the Republican trailing Hillary Clinton.

ELAINE KELLER, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: And it's time for the biased media to start reporting the news and stop deciding who they want for president.

NEIMAN: The media is biased against him. The Republican Party is biased against him. Hell, everybody but his supporters are biased against him.

SANCHEZ: Trump called the polls phony, insisting he is winning. But even some his own supporters believe he needs to refocus his message to win undecided voters.

HUDSON CRUZ, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Stick to the issues mainly. I mean, I feel that we would gain more people -- he's already got us. We're not going anywhere. I mean, we know what this next administration means.

SANCHEZ: But to some, the possibility of a Hillary Clinton administration is simply unacceptable.

JOE WHIPPEN, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: When you have the press, when you have three branches of government against this man, this tells me something, that this is time. This is revolutionary time in this country. We can do this to the ballot box this time, or trust me, it may get to be the bullet box the next time.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SANCHEZ: Now, Erin, that's just a taste of some of the distrust and animosity that we heard from Trump supporters here in St. Augustine today. It's rhetoric that in the past, the Clinton campaign has called flat-out dangerous. In terms of early voting that you mentioned, started today here in the Sunshine State, more than 50 counties opened their polling places for in-person early voting. Important to point out, mail-in early voting began weeks ago. More than 1.2 million ballots had already been cast -- Erin.

[19:45:02] BURNETT: All right. Boris, thank you very much. Very stunning, the man you heard there, revolutionary times. Maybe the ballot box this time, but the bullet box next.

Well, next on this show, the Trump and Clinton camps finally agreeing on something. A major media deal that could impact you. AT&T buying CNN's parent, Time Warner.

And Jeanne Moos on turning a debate line into big bucks.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: Breaking news tonight, AT&T's blockbuster plan to buy Time Warner, CNN's parent, is facing new scrutiny tonight. Senate Republicans just announced they will hold a hearing on the $85 billion proposed deal that would create one of the biggest media corporations in the world. The Trump and Clinton campaigns also skeptical of the deal.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And OUTFRONT tonight, AT&T chairman and CEO, Randall Stephenson, and Jeff Bewkes, Time Warner's chairman and CEO.

Thanks to both.

JEFF BEWKES, TIME WARNER CHAIRMAN AND CEO: Good to be here.

BURNETT: Now, I know you all a few months ago sat down and had lunch together. It was talking about the business, the state of the world and then here we are. It happened very, very quickly.

What happened at that lunch?

BEWKES: Well, we realized that what was -- where both of our company, both our industries, really, were going. Distribution and TV and movies were coming together. We thought we could do a better product for consumers, better choice, better packages, lower prices. More interesting ads, not as much of it. And have, therefore, a new thing for everybody and everybody can be in it -- every cable company, every telco, every network company.

[19:50:03] BURNETT: So, Randall, it sounds like little nirvana he's pitching here. I mean, you've got a fight in front of you, all right? Just today one top analyst put the chances of the deal getting the nod from regulators at 50/50. "The New York Times" front page headline was "Opposition Immediate and Wide to Resurrection of AT&T Giant." Graphics showing the history of AT&T are too complex to even show.

Why is this fight worth it to you?

RANDALL STEPHENSON, AT&T CEO: I think it's -- I don't know that it's a fight. We haven't even gotten to a fight yet. I think we're in a process, we haven't even filed with the federal agencies yet on the deal. And what happens in these things is we'll do our filing, we'll put out our public interest statement and then there will be a full vetting of this deal.

What I -- the way we assess this thing is this is a vertical integration. And people talk about this has a low chance of being approved. It would be the first vertical integration of any magnitude that's ever been killed by the U.S. government.

BURNETT: Meaning you're not buying a competitor, you're not taking a competitor out.

STEPHENSON: There's no competitor taken out of the market. We're a broadband and mobile company. Time Warner, last time we checked, through due diligence, we saw none of that in Time Warner. Time Warner is a media company. We have no media.

So, it's not like you're having media consolidation or broadband consolidation. There's none of that. This is a company who's a supplier to the other company combining with it and generally what you see in vertical integrations, invariably, faster innovation, faster coordination, new product introduction, lower prices.

And so, we're confident that when the facts get put in on this case, that's exactly what will be displayed and I -- we're not naive to think that this will not be a rigorous process. It will be a rigorous review, fully expected.

BURNETT: Right.

STEPHENSON: And to the extent that our regulators have concerns with these deal, those are remedies with conditions. We anticipate there will be some conditions. I don't know what they'll be.

BURNETT: Right.

STEPHENSON: We're prepared to go down that path.

BURNETT: So I'm curious, when you say you're not buying a competitor -- when you're buying a competitor in a sense, it makes sense, right? You know the business, you know how you can save money. When you're buying someone who isn't a competitor, one of the reasons it would make sense, and this is some of the criticism you're getting, it makes sense for you, you'll be able to charge higher prices, right? You'll be payable to do something -- so explain why that's wrong. Why is that thinking wrong?

BEWKES: Well, we're actually combing with one of the major suppliers in our supply chain. Think about it that way. The only thing that results in higher prices generally is if you take competitors out of the marketplace. There are no competitors leaving the marketplace.

I'm not sure how AT&T can begin to charge more for mobility because we now have Time Warner under our umbrella. That doesn't make sense to any.

BURNETT: So, "Game of Thrones," "Harry Potter," all these things you have. So, what's the innovation that suddenly changes here?

BEWKES: So, five, six years ago, we came out at Time Warner and we made all our networks on demand, TNT, CNN, HBO -- HBO even before that. And it took the industry, because it was, we didn't own the cable companies or anything like that, it took them the last five, six years to basically offer that. If you're at home listening to this, you ought to be able -- you can go to your Time Warner networks and get them on demand, whatever's on those channels. But you can't go to these other channels and do that. BURNETT: So, it is the front-page news around the world, right, people are talking about the challenges perhaps from a regulatory standpoint. Trump and Clinton, both the campaigns weighed in already on this. And Trump, early as Saturday at a rally. Here they are.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: AT&T is buying Time Warner, and thus CNN, a deal we will not approve in my administration because it's too much concentration of power in the hands of too few.

SEN. TIM KAINE (D), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Less concentration, I think, especially in the media.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Does this worry you, whoever wins?

STEPHENSON: I would just point out that there were the words "concentration," concentration of media. The day after this closes, the media is no more concentrated than it is today.

BURNETT: So when Bernie Sanders says he wants to kill the deal, Hillary Clinton, herself, has not directly said anything, but when he says that, you're not concerned even in a Clinton administration that she'd be under pressure from the left wing of her party?

BEWKES: I don't think so because they don't really know what it is, and they ought to see that, and as Randall says, when they see it, they're going to see that it increases competition. This is not legacy company is going to get -- this is essentially a disrupter trying to bring more competition and more choice for people that don't just want to have one or two cable or other local choices. They also want a third or fourth choice of their subscription package. They want more packages including cheaper ones.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you, both, very much. I appreciate it.

STEPHENSON: Thank you, Erin.

BEWKES: Thanks for having us, Erin.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And OUTFRONT next, Jeanne Moos on nasty women and big bucks.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:58:27] BURNETT: Donald Trump calls Hillary Clinton a nasty woman. She takes it to the bank. Here's Jeanne moos.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JEANNE MOOS, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Four little words --

TRUMP: Such a nasty woman. MOOS: -- thrown back into Donald Trump's face.

SEN. ELIZABETH WARREN (D), MASSACHUSETTS: Get this, Donald -- nasty women are tough.

MOOS: Hillary supporters put on their nasty t-shirts.

WARREN: Nasty women are smart.

MOOS: They put on their "Make America Nasty Again" hats.

WARREN: And nasty women vote.

MOOS: No wonder Hillary's laughing. First there were the remixes.

(MUSIC)

MOOS: Then there were the jokes.

STEPHEN COLBERT, COMEDIAN: Oh, yeah, so nasty. Also, quick reminder, no one respects women more than me.

MOOS: And then came the merchandise from the "such a nasty woman" throw pillow to the "I'm with the nasty woman" t-shirt.

"SNL" made this joke.

KATE MCKINNON AS HILLARY CLINTON: Go to HillaryClinton.com and buy a limited edition nasty woman mug.

MOOS: Soon, someone was selling a copy of the "SNL" mug on Etsy. Singer Katy Perry campaigned for Hillary in a nasty woman t-shirt bought at this website. Its creator had it online before the debate even ended. She sold 10,000 items.

WARREN: We nasty women are going to march our nasty feet.

MOOS: We saw no nasty slippers, but there is nasty woman perfume. Hillary fans can carry their nasty stuff in this nasty is the new black tote.

Jeanne Moos --

TRUMP: Such a nasty woman.

MOOS: -- CNN --

ALEC BALDWIN AS DONALD TRUMP: Such a nasty woman.

MOOS: -- New York.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And thanks for joining us.

"AC360" starts now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett; Anderson Cooper, Wolf Blitzer; Jim Acosta; Brianna Keilar, Dana Bash; Jake Tapper; John King; David Axelrod; Gloria Borger, Michael Smerconish, Jeffrey Lord; Van Jones; Kayleigh McEnany; Maria Cardona, Nia-Malika Henderson

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[19:00:00] ANDERSON COOPER, CNN HOST: John King. John, thanks very much. That does it for us. Thanks for watching. Our pre-debate coverage continues right now with Erin Burnett "OUTFRONT."

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE (voice-over): Tonight, the presidential candidates eye to eye (ph) one last time.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: He talks us down. He makes disparaging comments.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: The election is being rigged in an epic to elect her presence.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Donald Trump unleashing unproven claims (INAUDIBLE). His campaign struggling after a series of women accused him of sexual misconduct.

TRUMP: These people are horrible people. They are horrible, horrible liars.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Hillary Clinton downplaying an embarrassing email hat. Her campaigning gaining and she seats to close the deal.

CLINTON: That's all they have left. Your negativity, we are not going to let Donald Trump get away with it, are we?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is CNN's coverage of Clinton versus Trump in their final presidential debate with only 20 days left until Election Day.

CLINTON: I think it was pretty clear there are two very different choices.

TRUMP: It is by far the most important vote that you have ever cast.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Two nominees one stage and America's future up for debate.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ERIN BURNETT, CNN HOST: And welcome. We are live in Las Vegas where Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are about to get their last chance to appeal to tens of millions of voters at one time. This may also be Trump's last chance to change the direction of this race for the White House. We are coming to you live from the spin room tonight next to the debate hall right here on the campus of university of Nevada Las Vegas.

And welcome to all of you. I'm Erin Burnett with a very special edition of OUTFRONT on this debate night in America.

The presidential nominees are heading into their final face-off. And right now when it comes to the polls Hillary Clinton is holding a clear advantage. Donald Trump is at his weakest position of this campaign. Trump's campaign manager tells CNN she wants him to stay focused on the issues tonight on Clinton's weaknesses as he tries to turn it around. Trump of course may choose instead as he has before to double down on the incendiary message he has been delivering in recent days claiming the election is rigged, something which from all fact checking we have done is not true .

Clinton's aide says she is bracing for her toughest debate yet as she works to protect and expand her lead. But she is back on the defensive over emails and the controversy getting renewed attention because of the stolen emails published by Wikileaks.

Now, let's go inside the debate hall. Wolf Blitzer is there.

And Wolf, you know, this really is the do or die. This is the final chance. And I know we may get a sense of the tone of this debate very quickly.

WOLF BLITZER, CNN HOST: I think we will, Erin. We will see if the candidates shake hands for example when they walk on the stage about two hours from now. Remember last time they did not shake hands at the beginning of the debate.

The format for this debate is the same as the first debate. Viewers will see Donald Trump on the left. Hillary Clinton on the right. They will stand in lecterns for the entire 90 minutes. The moderator is Chris Wallace of FOX News. His first question will go to Hillary Clinton.

This debate will focus on six topics - The economy and debt and entitlements, **immigration** and foreign hot spots, the Supreme Court and fitness to be president of the United States.

We are standing by for the candidates to arrive here on the UNLV campus as we count down to the main event. We also have a live interview with Donald Trump's running mate Mike Pence. Pence won his vice presidential debate what is his advice for Donald Trump tonight. We will also bring you a remarkable debate before the presidential debate between Donald Trump supporter, the former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani, and Clinton supporter, the billionaire and businessman, Mark Cuban. That will be very intense - Erin.

BURNETT: That will be intense and exciting. Going to happen right here in just moments from now. And we are getting some new information about Donald Trump and what he will be doing tonight.

Let's bring in Jim Acosta. Jim, what are you learning?

JIM ACOSTA, CNN SENIOR WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Erin, based on Donald Trump's guest list tonight, the GOP nominee is going full Bannon as in Stephen Bannon, the campaign chairman and head of the conservative Breitbart News Web site. A close advisor to Trump tells me it is simply not in Trump's nature to come out and acknowledge his flaws at tonight's debate. Instead he will be on the attack. With guests in his corner who are beloved in the conservative movement from Sarah Palin to Patricia Smith, the mother of one of the Americans killed at Benghazi.

And despite his current slide in the polls, a senior advisor tells me Donald Trump remains confident. He is going to win this election. He is in good spirits and not at all allowing the feeling that he could lose this race to sink in. According to this advisor, Trump will attack Clinton repeatedly on foreign policy tonight to make the case that Clinton has time and again made the wrong calls on the world stage. And Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway, Erin, tells me the mission is simple this - win, adding quote "even if the losers say we lost." - Erin.

[19:05:09] BURNETT: Alright, Jim, thank you very much.

And now, let's go to our Brianna Keilar. She is covering the Clinton campaign.

And Brianna, what are you learning now? We know what Donald Trump is going hard after here. What is Hillary Clinton ready for?

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: She has certainly been getting ready for some time, Erin. And it's really fascinating. I spoke with a top aide who used the word when, not, if, in talking about Hillary Clinton getting to the White House. So as the sign of confidence that she, and her team have as they head into this third and final debate. She spent a lot of time preparing, five day, including today where she was getting ready with her team at the hotel here in Las Vegas.

It is time that her team feels is very well spent even though she has had criticism from Donald Trump for not being out on the campaign trail much. They think it is her debate performances that have helped her rise in the polls recently. And our scientific polls a CNN shows that voters do believe Hillary Clinton won the first two debates.

You know, we are talking about Donald Trump and how he has been alleging that the election is rigged. That is something that privately was of a lot of concern to people in the Clinton campaign and supporters of Hillary Clinton. They were worried that it would depress voter turnout. But talking to top aids on the plane, on Hillary Clinton's plane coming here yesterday to Las Vegas, it seemed that they were genuinely more at ease about this issue. That they have been looking at some of the poll numbers and perhaps it is not as much of a concern as they thought. But again, they have a lot of confidence going into this. And some say, you know, you can't be too confident. There are still weeks to go here.

BURNETT: Alright, Brianna, thank you very much.

And now let's send it back to you, Wolf. I know you have a special guest.

BLITZER: We do indeed, Erin. We are joined by the Clinton campaign manager Robby Mook.

Robby, thanks very much for joining us.

ROBBY MOOK, CLINTON CAMPAIGN MANAGER: My Pleasure.

BLITZER: All right. So one of the themes, one of the subjects tonight, fitness for office. Fitness to be president of the United States. Since the last debate, a number of women have come forward accusing Donald Trump of groping them, forcibly kissing them. Does Hillary Clinton plan on raising that in the debate tonight?

MOOK: Well, Wolf, there has been a disturbing trend with these women coming forward talking about sexual misconduct, but this is part of a broader issue that Donald Trump has. The demeaning comments that he has consistently made about women throughout his career. All that said Hillary Clinton wants to focus on other issues as well. Her plan to create jobs, get wages rising, help families afford college and healthcare.

Hillary had put out specific plans on these issues. She is ready to put her ideas up against Donald Trump's. The problem is at the last two debates he has come with no ideas. He was come with no specifics. And in fact he said a lot of thing that are simply not true. And she had to spend her time fact-checking. So we are hoping that all of these things get a proper look in the debate.

BLITZER: So we won't raise that specifically?

MOOK: You never know what's going to come up on the stage. But I think her first and primary mission in this debate is to talk about how she will make a difference in people's lives. The things she will do.

BLITZER: Yes.

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Their spouses have been brought into this. First question about that our understanding is that the campaigns have arranged so that Melania Trump and Bill Clinton don't have an awkward moment because they don't want to shake hands. Can you talk about that?

MOOK: Well, we have been asking for in all these debates is just that the rules aren't set up such that the Trump campaign can pull some of the stunts they have tried to pull in the past. We know that Trump tried to remove his family from the day as last time and put these guests there to, you know, to get attention and try to intimidate Hillary. She is not going to be intimidated by the stunts. And we just asked the rules to be set up so that, you know, we can focus on the debate and discussion of the issues. BASH: So no Bill Clinton and Melania moment talking about the debate and the issues. The way that the debate last time started was clearly on a very tense moment in that the two candidates didn't shake hands. What is her plan? Is she going to reach out and shake his hand?

MOOK: Again we just want to get them on that stage, get the debate started. Talk about the issues. So some of this happens organically. Some of this is all pre-planned out. But again, we are hoping not to have the kind of intrigue and stunts of last time. Let's just put the issues out there. Put the plans out. Let them argue it out so the voters can decide what's going to make the better difference in their lives.

JAKE TAPPER, CNN CHIEF WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Without getting bagged into the fact that the Wikileaks that have been published in the last week come from an illegal probably hack in some cases whatever happened, it was stolen from your campaign chair John Podesta, his account. We get the whole Russia thing. We get it.

So let me ask you about the substance of some of these speeches that she has given to Goldman Sachs. Because they do seem to suggest that she is one message publicly, talking about the need for reform and so that Wall Street doesn't commit the kind of acts that led to the financial meltdown at 2007, 2008. And also at the same time she is telling Wall Street that Congress only acted for political reasons and she is taking a much more friendly tone with them. I'm sure you have prepared for this or Hillary Clinton has prepared for this. What is the answer going to be if Chris Wallace says, hey look, you seem to have two very different positions on Wall Street whether or not the American people are watching.

[19:10:14] MOOK: Well, I think what matters here are what the candidate's actual records have been. The things they have done. The choices they have made. At every juncture Hillary has stood up for holding Wall Street accountable. I think she is willing to listen and work with anyone to accomplish the ends that she set out with in her platform.

But let's go back to 2007, 2008. Hillary actually went to the Nasdaq and said that the practices that were being done there, you know, with mortgage lending and so on, they were going to hurt the economy. They were going to crash the economy. And they did. But she wasn't afraid to call them out at the time.

Donald Trump has never spoken out on these issues. He speaks in platitudes now on the campaign. But we didn't see him going out and calling Wall Street out on their behavior before. And look, the one last thing I say, indulge me two seconds. The one thing we have got to hear from Donald Trump tonight is that he first of all acknowledges that Russia conducted this hack. We know that he was briefed by the intelligence community that they did conduct it. And second of all he has to condemn it. His own running mate has condemned it. Marco Rubio today condemned it. You cannot run for president of United States and not speak out against espionage and illegal foreign hacks (ph). TAPPER: But you understand that all of those Bernie Sanders supporters who were very skeptical of Secretary Clinton, when they read these transcripts, their skepticism is reinforced. They think she is not really on our side when it comes to being as aggressive against Wall Street as our heroes Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren would be.

MOOK: Well, I think it is important to keep in mind a lot of these documents were again hacked from the campaign. Some of it was research compiled by professionals within the campaign who actually try to characterize materialize as the opponent would. So some of it skewed. A lot of was taken out of context. For example, there was, you know, one email where she was just talk about how to create more synergies for green energy production in the western hemisphere and it's been construed into all kind of things that is not. And Bernie Sanders has said, he has confidence in the platform that he and Hillary worked together on. They are both committed to enacting it when she is elected and that's what matters right now.

BLITZER: In those same transcripts of those speeches that she gave to Goldman Sachs speeches, she also bemoans the fact there is not more convert action for example in Syria. If she becomes president, would she engage in more convert action for example as part of U.S. foreign policy?

MOOK: Well, she has said in the past that early on in this, she wanted to do more to aid the moderate factions that are opposing Assad. She has called for safe zones and no-fly zones. And so yes, I mean, she has called to do more. And in particular that we have to put more pressure on Russia because obviously the situation as it is now is not working. We cannot trust Russian intentions. They continue to bomb civilians. And we need to do more.

TAPPER: The last question I have for you, Robby, is has to do with these videos that came out this week from a conservative activist. James O'Keefe who will be here tonight as a guest of Donald Trump. We can quibble about the editing and what there is, but without question there have been two individuals who have been either been fired or lost their jobs and one of those individuals seems to be bragging about sending in an agitators into Trump rallies to try cause violence to make Donald Trump and his supporters to look bad and possibly even bussing in people to vote improperly vote illegally. Does the Clinton campaign condemn it? And maybe more importantly, are you looking into to it see if it's true and make sure that this kind of - I mean, people got hurt in these protest, in these riots. Are you looking into it to make sure that it doesn't happen?

MOOK: Well violence is unacceptable in our political process period. And the campaign absolutely condemns any efforts to incite violence. That is part of why we are speaking out against Donald Trump because we believe that he has incited violence in the past.

My understanding is the individual in question was working for a completely separate organization that wasn't even affiliated with the DNC or anything else when the activity that you are speaking about took place. But look. Stepping back, what James O'Keefe is trying to do and he will be here tonight in Donald Trump's invitations is to imply that there are some massive fraudulent scheme going on around the country to tip the results of election. The fact of the matter is Donald Trump is losing. He is desperate and he wants to blame a loss on anyone other than himself.

TAPPER: I get that. But there was violence at these rallies. And there is this Democratic operative on tape saying we sent people in there and even said something like some of them had mental problems that we sent in there to try to cause fights.

MOOK: And that - and it is unacceptable for people to do that. And we will absolutely speak out against that. But what I'm speaking out against as well is what James O'Keefe is trying to do which is imply that people's votes won't to be counted and that the system is fraudulent. It is not. We are going to see the biggest turnout in our history in this election. Everybody should get involve. Republican secretaries of state are the ones coming out condemning the things that Donald Trump and James O'Keefe were saying. We are going to have a great election. Everybody should participate because they don't want to wake after election and feel like the miss out.

[19:15:23] BLITZER: Robby, thanks very much for coming in.

Robby Mook is the Clinton campaign manager. We will see what happens later tonight.

Erin, back to you.

BURNETT: All right, Wolf.

And coming up we are going to be talking to Donald Trump's running mate Mike Pence about the stakes for his boss tonight.

And right here on CNN, before Clinton and Trump face off ear going bring you fierce debate between two of the top supporters. Rudy Giuliani for Trump and Mark Cuban for Clinton live right here. Stay with us.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:19:57] BURNETT: And you hear the marching band here at the University of Las Vegas playing the CNN election song. We are here on the campus of UNLV in the battleground state of Nevada. Counting down to the last big milestone in the presidential race before Election Day.

This, of course, is the final debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. It is a do or die moment for Trump tonight. Tonight's debate will play out with early voting already under way. People are already voting across this country and there are only 20 days left until the actual election itself.

John King is at the magic wall with an update on the state of the race. And, of course, this is all important path of how Donald Trump can still get there -- John.

JOHN KING, CNN CHIEF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Erin, it is very interesting. You mention early vote. The two elections really at play in the debate tonight. Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump to influence people who are voting on November 8th, but also people who are already voting.

Let's show what we mean by this. Number of states are already voting, including you see here battleground Ohio. Arizona and Utah suddenly in play. They are already voting. By the end of this week, even more states will be voting. Bring in more state, battlegrounds, including down in Georgia. State Democrats (INAUDIBLE) might be in play. And by the end of next week, let me get this to fill in here. There we go. By the end of next week the early voting except for in one state will be under way.

Already, we know an early voting, Erin, 2.1 million ballots cast, 1.4 million of those from the critical battleground states. So in the states who will decide who the next president is, this election is already under well way. And a lot of people who might be going tomorrow or the day after will watch these candidates tonight.

Thirty seven states in the District of Columbia in all off for early voting. The candidates trying to shape this process, but most of all trying to shape this map.

And our new CNN electoral map is lopsided now in favor of Secretary Clinton heading into this final debate. We have her at 307 electoral votes, 179 more Donald Trump. It takes 270 to win. Pretty obvious, Donald Trump needs to bend the arc of this race and bent it big time.

What are the biggest changes in our new map? The most surprising, Arizona and Utah. Mitt Romney won Arizona with 72 percent of the vote. Mitt Romney won Arizona last by ten points. We have taken them from the republic column, put him back into the toss up column because the latest poll shows Hillary Clinton is competitive. In fact, the latest poll shows her ahead in the state of Arizona. That is bad news for Donald Trump heading into the final debate.

These are the most surprising changes to our map. The most significant change though, this one. Florida now leans Democrat in our map. It was a battleground state when we woke up this morning. That is huge. Donald Trump cannot win the presidency. Cannot get to 270 electoral votes without those 29. There is just simply no viable, reasonable mathematical path. So that is a huge change in our map here.

What is left on the board? Ohio is a toss-up. North Carolina is a toss-up. That is significant. But Hillary Clinton leads in North Carolina at the moment. And Ohio is a small Trump lead or a tie at the moment. So the race is very significant as we watch this play out. Donald Trump is going to walk on stage knowing there is nothing he can do in the debate to change one state at a time. Two states at a time. He is down eight points nationally. He is down hugely when you look at the electoral map. Donald Trump needs a fundamental change in the race tonight, Anderson. And if he doesn't get it, we are going into the final 19 days when it comes down to knots and bowls. And we know in that regard it is advantage Democrats.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I think that is OK.

COOPER: Thanks for breaking it down by the number down on the map.

David Axelrod, I mean, can this third and final presidential debate change things around for Donald Trump?

DAVID AXELROD, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: You know, what is striking to me is I think back, it is only been a little more than three weeks that we first got together at that first debate. And the conversation at the debate was this race had narrowed. It was like a point or so in the aggregate polls separating them.

That is not the case now. Hillary Clinton has as large a lead or a larger lead than anybody. Barack Obama never had the lead that she has in polling right now. So it is hard for me to conceive that this event will change it. But I do think that it will be interesting to see what tact Donald Trump takes. Does he continue to try and fire up his base as he has been doing pretty much since that tape hit? Or does he try and turn towards issue distinctions that might broaden out his vote because rights now his base is not enough to win an election.

COOPER: He has been practicing, we were told in a way he really hasn't been in prior debates.

GLORIA BORGER, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL ANALYST: Right. And I think that is good for him because he needs to practice. And if he is going to make these issues distinction that David talks about, we know that this debate (INAUDIBLE). They are going to talk about **immigration**, debt, the economy, the (INAUDIBLE). He has got to be able to go back and forth with her on those issues. That is (INAUDIBLE) for Hillary Clinton. She loves to talk about the issues so she can do that.

The question I have is does he continue to wage war against the Republican Party on this like Paul Ryan on this question of rigged election. Does he continue do that? We don't know. I think Hillary Clinton the balance of positive to negative has to be really high. She has got to stay on that high road because she has to convince people who don't like her and there are a lot of them out there. And when, they go into that voting booth even though they don't like her that she has the temperament and the experience.

[19:25:02] COOPER: But Michael, is there any reason to believe a different Donald Trump is going to show up tonight than who showed up in the last two debates?

MICHAEL SMERCONISH, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Absolutely none. I mean, he has been the same Donald Trump from the starting gate, right. And I'm one of those who has continually sat here with you questioning, well, which Donald Trump will show up tonight. There is only been one Donald Trump.

And Anderson, whatever he is doing, it cannot working for him. So if there is ever a time to portray a different Donald Trump, it would be tonight. We are in Las Vegas. People like to talk in gambling terms. I like to put it in prize fighting terms. We are in the latter rounds now. And he is behind on points and he needs a knockout to turn this around. And I don't think that bringing the president's half-brother is the knockout blow. Frankly, I think it is going to take her stumbling. And she ought to go Muhammad Ali tonight. She ought to do a-rope-a-dope and incur whatever he is going to throw at her and run out the clock.

COOPER: It does seem, I mean, is that what you believe she has been doing, essentially trying to run out the clock and just sort of lay low all this time?

JEFFREY LORD, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Well she probably has been doing a bit of that, I suspect. I would agree without much (INAUDIBLE). But I really think he has a wonderful opportunity to tie all of this together. All of this business essentially. The ruling class. The elite versus average Americans out there. And do it issue by issue. And use the Wikileaks, use the FBI, use the state department. These are all elites out there who in one form or another, these tapes from project Veritas here that shows the Democratic connection here with some balance of it. All of this, make that connection. Show the American people how that system works, how the system has been corrupted and make that case.

COOPER: Van?

VAN JONES, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: That would be a great message. Unfortunately, you don't have the messenger. And that's the great tragedy. If you are on the side of Donald Trump or any of these rebellions in the country, Hillary Clinton should be in deep trouble tonight. You know, you got now a bunch of things that the right person to put together and really put her on the offensive and force her to have explain and defend. I think she can explain and she can defend but she would have to do that.

You don't have a messenger who can do that because the reality is that even on the way to prosecute this case, he is turning it into a circus. He's bringing dancing bears, he bringing like, you know, weird clowns, all kind of nonsense that distracts from the basic point even before he gets to the stage.

AXELROD: You know, one thing that striking to me in the polling that just came out this week is that the advantage that Donald Trump had on the economy, the advantage that he had on trade, even the advantage that he had on **immigration**, all of those are gone. Because he's been so involved in this sort of shoring up the base, that he has lost that thread that had some promise to broaden it out.

JONES: And I want to hear you on this. I've been - feel to tell me I'm wrong. I don't think the tape of him saying the horrific things he said had to have been the end of the campaign. You had a bad tape. It wasn't President Obama but it was Jeremiah Wright who said things that are very offensive to people. But Barack Obama came to the American people in Philadelphia and he gave a speech that is one of the greatest speeches in American history. And he owned up but he also took us higher. When it was Trump's turn to deal with his tape, he took us lower. He threw Bill Clinton under the bus. And I just think he missed the opportunity. This is a forgiving country. I'm sitting on this stage. This is a forgiving country. But he had the chance to ask for forgiveness and he blew it. That is the problem --

AXELROD: The difference between the two of course is that those weren't Barack Obama's words. And that makes it tougher. But I think what happened then is after that tape you saw a mass exodus of Republicans across the country. And he decided that he was going to fire up his base to t and keep those Republicans from leaving. And you know what? That actually worked in that a bunch of them came back. But it is not - it also drove a whole bunch of people he needs away if he has any hope of trying to change the dynamic.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: I think he handled the debate very well. He apologized in the last debate. We saw contrition but he didn't dwell on it. He circled and he went on the offense against Hillary Clinton. He brought up all of the (INAUDIBLE) scandals against Clinton. And tonight he has a lot of ammo. When Jeff points to the FBI, it is startling that we have an FBI 302 form where literally a record management officer says that there is a quid pro quo offered him. Exact words for use in the FBI transcript. He talks about how this email is a problem. Multiple FBI officials were pressured to not classify this Clinton email. A revealing poll came out and 67 percent voters in the FOX poll set, they believe Hillary Clinton lied on her emails.

Well, tonight we have more evidence than before ever before on an FBI document. And if Donald Trump can prosecute that case and move to the issues like the economy, he can win his debate like he won the second.

COOPER: Maria, how about vulnerable issues?

MARIA CARDONA, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: So - I think a couple of things. First of all, we heard from Jim Acosta that Trump advisors have already said he is going to go for Bannon. And tonight Trump is going to be Trump.

[19:30:00] Any night that Trump is going to be Trump is good for Hillary Clinton. So, that's number one.

Two, I think there is something a whole lot deeper here. We talk about likability and, by the way, her numbers on likability by the way are higher than his. But yes, she's had an issue on likability. But I think it goes deeper than that.

There was a Quinnipiac poll that came out today that said that 60 percent of the American people do not think that Donald Trump has a sense of decency. Fifty-five percent of the American people believe that Hillary Clinton has a sense of decency.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Wow.

CARDONA: So that is a huge metric going into tonight that I think she can exploit with all the issues she has in front of her. NIA-MALIKA HENDERSON, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER: Yes, I think that is right. I think Kayleigh and Jeffrey here makes a great case for Donald Trump. And if he shows up in the way they think he should and sticks on the issues, he'll have a great night.

I think the problem is, in all of the days outside of the debates, Donald Trump has been focused on Donald Trump. Donald Trump has been focused on settling scores. Donald Trump had been focused on shaming women. And that has -- that has cost him and it is hard to see him turning that around tonight.

COOPER: We got to take a quick break. And we get closer to the main event tonight, we're getting ready to bring you a one on one, Trump surrogate Rudy Giuliani versus Clinton surrogate Mark Cuban. The debate before the debate, straight ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:35:19] BURNETT: And we're back with a special edition of OUTFRONT on this debate night in America. So, what's really going to happen tonight from the presidential candidates?

Well, you are going to find out right now. Perhaps the best debate you will see of the entire evening. We have Rudy Giuliani here, of course, who has been an advisor, working for Donald Trump here, and Mark Cuban, supporter for Hillary Clinton. Two very outspoken men. Former mayor. Billionaire rival of Donald Trump I would say at this point in many ways.

All right. Mayor Giuliani, let me start with you, because of the topics that are going to come up, one of them is going to be fitness to be president.

RUDY GIULIANI, FORMER NYC MAYOR: That's the last one on the list. I don't know if it could be last. But that's the last one on the list.

BURNETT: It may be last on the list, I don't know what order they're going to come up. But it is crucial, right? You can't win if people don't believe you're going to have the fitness.

GIULIANI: Sure, of course.

BURNETT: So most recent poll, "Washington Post"/ABC, 62 percent of Americans say Trump doesn't have the fitness to president, 59 percent say Hillary Clinton does have the temperament to be president. Why are 62 percent of people wrong?

GIULIANI: Well, you know, I can't analyze polls. You can do all kind of polling.

What he's going to have to do is demonstrate that he's fit to be president and that because of the FBI finding her extremely careless in the use of national security information, not only isn't she fit to be president, I couldn't hire her as an assistant U.S. attorney. She would have been disqualified as an assistant U.S. attorney. If that was on the background report of someone I was trying to hire or as an assistant U.S. attorney, I couldn't hire them because they have been extremely careless in the handling of sensitive government documents. That would be an automatic disqualifier.

And you look at all of those e-mails and you look at the way the Clinton Foundation was run, the pay-for-play operation at the State Department -- I mean, we're looking at somebody who if it wasn't for someone like Hillary Clinton like the general, for example, who's getting prosecuted for two pieces of information he confirmed, you've even put out, if she was anybody else, she'd be under indictment right now.

MARK CUBAN, DALLAS MAVERICKS OWNER: Can I respond?

BURNETT: Yes.

CUBAN: And I say this with all due respect to Rudy Giuliani.

BURNETT: Sure.

CUBAN: You are an American hero and I respect everything you have done. But everything you've just said is incorrect about Hillary Clinton, 100 percent absolutely incorrect. The way she handled documents when she was secretary of state was in hard copy. The only e-mails that she dealt with were e-mails that came her way but that were up classified and as we know, they are subject to a lot of discussion about what's actually classified.

The government has made an effort to have less classified documents. So, a big argument can be made about what's classified. And the same thing applies to the foundation. They actually do good work.

GIULIANI: Well, first of all, I'm not wrong about the fact that Jim Comey found her handling of her confidential government information to be extremely careless.

CUBAN: That is not what he said. That's not what he said. What he said was the group was. He didn't point to her specifically. He said the group was careless in how they handled the service.

GIULIANI: Se said she was extremely careless. He also went on to point out in the 302 you will note, she was asked, did she know what the designation C meant?

CUBAN: Right.

GIULIANI: She said she didn't.

BURNETT: And she had said, Mark, before, "Believe me, I know what classified is."

(CROSSTALK)

GIULIANI: Let me finish. If she doesn't know what the designation "C" means as secretary of state, she shouldn't be secretary. I was briefed in 1981, I remember my entry briefing, I know what C means. It means confidential. It is a level of classification.

She said she thought it was alphabetical order. The FBI never went on to ask, was there an A, a B, a D, or an E. That is a flat out lie to the FBI. Martha Stewart went to jail --

CUBAN: You're apples and the oranges, Mayor Giuliani, first of all, right?

GIULIANI: What's apple and oranges about that?

CUBAN: First of all, the classification, it was not market as classified. Now, I don't know about you, when I look at e-mails, I may not read every single word in a document.

GIULIANI: That makes you secretary of state.

(LAUGHTER)

GIULIANI: Or president.

CUBAN: You have thousands of things you are going to. You are not going to read. And by the way, when Donald Trump started talk about the little C markings, he got it wrong, he got it wrong. She only emailed with 13 people in total. That's it.

And so, of all those documents, most of them, it was just on the list. She wasn't even sourcing --

GIULIANI: If she didn't know, here's the way it looks. I'll show you how it looks. There is a parenthesis, right, and then there are two more.

CUBAN: That's not the point.

GIULIANI: And then it says C.

CUBAN: That's not the point.

GIULIANI: Let me finish. What that means to anyone who got a briefing by the FBI before they became secretary of state or as I was, attorney general, that means that's confidential top secret information. She said --

BURNETT: Having an email like that --

GIULIANI: She said --

CUBAN: Not a header.

GIULIANI: She said she didn't know what it meant. She said she didn't remember her briefing by the CIA. I remember my briefing by the CIA. How come she doesn't remember? She doesn't remember her exit interview by the CIA? Thirty-nine times during that interview, she couldn't remember.

Now, she either has a seriously flawed memory or she's lying. [19:40:01] CUBAN: You are pulling things, this is like out of the X- files, Mayor Giuliani.

GIULIANI: No, they're out of the FBI file.

CUBAN: So, first of all, if a document is not marked classified, if a classified document is not marked classified than it is incorrectly marked, correct?

GIULIANI: No. Many documents that I obtained when I was associate attorney were not marked, I knew they were classified. I'll you give an example. I'll give you an example.

It was my job when I worked for President Reagan to approve FISA wires. I knew they were top secret, but I knew they were top secret by the very nature of the information contained in it. So, I had the power to mark it top secret, which is what she should have done. And when I saw a C --

BURNETT: OK.

CUBAN: So --

GIULIANI: Wait a set. When I saw a C, unlike her, I knew it was confidential. Now, that's a flat out lie.

CUBAN: First of all, she's an OCA, which means she has the opportunity to decide what is or is not classified, right? She made the professional decision it wasn't classified, as did the people who worked for her. Somebody disagreed. Disagreements are the common place. That is why there are hearings. That's why there are different departments that work for these things. That's why --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: For the record, I want to make a point. The American people have an issue with the way she handled.

GIULIANI: Massive amounts.

BURNETT: But the bottom line is, when it comes to temperament to be president, they have an issue with Donald Trump not Hillary Clinton.

GIULIANI: OK, all right. Well, that he's also got to make the point.

(CROSSTALK)

GIULIANI: She got a subpoena from Congress and she destroyed 33,000 --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Why do you think he has the temperament --

GIULIANI: I think Donald Trump has the temperament to be president --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: -- grabbing women's genitals and all these things.

GIULIANI: Because I think he's a person who has had a great deal of success in business and I think he has the ability to get things done. And I think he has the ability to change Washington.

Hillary Clinton is the poster child for basically getting rid of the situation in Washington. The rigged system in Washington. She's a poster child for term limits. She's been there forever and she's gotten nothing different. When she was senator of New York --

BURNETT: Hold on, let me give you a chance to respond, Mark.

GIULIANI: -- she promised upstate New York 220,000 jobs, they lost 300,000 jobs.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Great success in business.

CUBAN: Name any of his products that are still successful. He cheated -- cheated -- 6,000 people from Trump University. Hard- working men and women. He took more than 6,000 people, he took tens of thousands of dollars. That's success in business?

Trump games. Trump cards. Trump steaks. Trump clothes. Trump -- you know, when somebody has to give their name and sell their name that often, that tells me they are desperate.

He has not had a long track record in business. I give him credit he's done okay in real estate. But everything else, he's been a major failure at. And now, he's crushing his brands.

His -- the operations and success of his hotels and his club is declining rapidly as we speak, and it makes no sense what he's doing because everything he says hurts his brand even more.

GIULIANI: Well, the fact is, I was just at his hotel. It was fabulous. I was at Doral. Doral is terrific. His two golf courses in Scotland are two of the best golf courses in the world. He's had great success in business. He has --

CUBAN: Why all the failures?

GIULIANI: Everyone's had failures.

CUBAN: Yes, but not that many.

GIULIANI: I had failures in elections.

CUBAN: Not that many.

GIULIANI: Everybody has failures in business.

CUBAN: He's sued 3,500 times. I've been sued less than ten. GIULIANI: The school situations -- well, when I was mayor, I was sued 92,000 times.

CUBAN: Little different. That's a different position. But in business --

GIULIANI: People doing bold things sometimes fail.

CUBAN: Trump steaks is bold? Trump card games is -- whatever.

GIULIANI: He's made great success. He's got a great empire now and he represents change from Washington as opposed to 30 years.

CUBAN: He lost $990 million in 1995.

BURNETT: We're going to take a break and come back and talk much more about what 53 percent of this population needs here tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:47:50] BURNETT: And we are back with our debate before a debate. And I promised here that we were going talk about something, 53 percent of the population care about -- actually, I'm going to change my tone here. A hundred percent care about it, because everybody should care about this issue.

All right. The issue of Donald Trump's treatment of women. Mayor, I believe personally this is a very substantive issue for the campaign.

GIULIANI: I believe it is, too.

BURNETT: So, when he' responded to multiple women that have come forward. Some of the things he said in recent days, that they are horrible, horrible liars, they are reprehensible people. And of one of the women, "believe me, she would not be my first choice."

Are those the words that you should be using to talk about these women who are accusing him?

GIULIANI: Let's put it in context. He apologized for the terrible language he used. He admitted it was terrible language. He shouldn't have used it on that tape with Billy Bush, about 10 years ago, 12 years ago.

And then these women come forward. All of a sudden, kind of orchestrated, all at the same time, using kind of a script. All the same thing -- groping, groping, groping, groping. And he believes, knows it's untrue.

BURNETT: So, let me ask you -- I want Mark to jump in here.

(CROSSTALK)

GIULIANI: And he is justifiably upset about the allegations. Very little attention has been given to the witnesses that come out that corroborate the fact that this may not be true. Including the English gentlemen who observed something totally different, relative to the another one.

BURNETT: Gentlemen may not be the right word.

GIULIANI: I don't know, whatever he is.

BURNETT: Let me just say here because this is important.

GIULIANI: Nobody's perfect. My witnesses use to be terrible sometimes.

BURNETT: I know a woman this happened to, with Donald Trump, all right? I know her story to be true. So, again, I just ask you this. Are you positive that he never did anything? Because the reason these women --

(CROSSTALK)

GIULIANI: I have known him --

BURNETT: Anderson Cooper asked the question and that man just lied --

GIULIANI: I have known him for 28 years, I've never seen him do anything remotely close to that. I have known men who are touchy feely. I know men who sometimes seem to act inappropriately in the way they touch or handle women. I don't like it.

But Donald Trump is not one of them. He's always been a gentleman with women.

[19:50:01] My wife and I both have been with him often. My daughters, and he has always treated them gentlemanly, courteously.

BURNETT: OK.

GIULIANI: Kind of courtly.

BURNETT: Courtly? Do you believe him or do you believe the nine women who have come forward?

CUBAN: No, I mean, who knows if it's all true? But I know, too, that they won't come forward, and I know with absolutely certainty they told me back in 2000, her boyfriend and her, she's not going to come forward. I know another woman, it happened in Chicago two years ago. Neither was sexual assault. In one case, he walked into a massage room where she was under a sheet getting massage and hit on her. In other case, it was a rude comment in an elevator.

But to me, when something goes wrong he never owns it, right? He did come out and say, you know what? I made mistakes in my past. It is always a conspiracy theory. It's always somebody is out to get him.

GIULIANI: That's not true.

CUBAN: What's he owned? GIULIANI: Well, he's owned the fact that he -- that tape recorder was inappropriate.

CUBAN: Well, because it was a tape. He had no choice.

GIULIANI: Correct, and it was the wrong thing do.

CUBAN: How can you disavow a tape?

GIULIANI: And he's apologized for it.

BURNETT: Let me ask a question to you --

GIULIANI: And earlier on he apologized if he had hurt anyone in some of the comments he had made around the time of the (INAUDIBLE)

BURNETT: So, I understand you believe. If you changed your mind or someone came to you and told you a story you believed, would it change your support for Donald Trump? If all of a sudden, something happens and you know that it --

GIULIANI: I'm not going to engage in hypothetical. Look, if somebody came to you and said Hillary Clinton murdered someone and you believed it, would you change your mind about her?

CUBAN: Yes.

GIULIANI: OK. Ah. But that is a hypothetical.

BURNETT: He answered the hypothetical.

GIULIANI: I don't believe it.

BURNETT: You are not going to answer the hypothetical.

GIULIANI: I do not believe it. He's my friend. I know him. I've seen him with women.

In fact, my wife will tell you this is one of the last things he would think of Donald Trump, of the bad things you might think of or the inappropriate things and I don't think many bad things of him at all. But the reality is this is the last thing you would think of.

BURNETT: So, I just want to be clear, Mark, when you talk your examples. These are people you know, one was a friend. The other is a friend of a friend.

CUBAN: Well, the first one was a friend who was dating a friend of mine and they told me the story contemporaneously.

BURNETT: OK.

CUBAN: And I had forgotten about it until got back in touch with me. Another one was a woman who contacted me and told me the story because she knew of my interest. And I asked her, would you consider coming forward? And she said, no, and I just left it at that. The other woman is married with kids, doesn't want to deal with, and I don't blame her. I wouldn't interject to that.

BURNETT: You have known Donald Trump a long time.

CUBAN: Not well.

BURNETT: Not incredibly close friends, but you know him and obviously you both are reality television stars. Do you believe him?

CUBAN: Which part?

BURNETT: You don't believe this. You believe the women?

CUBAN: Yes, ma'am. Without question.

GIULIANI: Of course, Bill Clinton should have been removed from office.

CUBAN: If he was running, it would be an issue.

GIULIANI: On this standard, Bill Clinton did far worse than anything Donald Trump.

BURNETT: And, of course, we can't corroborate --

GIULIANI: Oh, we can corroborate a few.

CUBAN: He's not running Mr. Mayor. He's not running.

BURNETT: I'm talking about the stories that Mark were saying. We can't corroborate --

GIULIANI: But we can corroborate Monica Lewinsky taking advantage of an intern, it's something you get fired for as the CEO of a company. So, you would say to me --

BURNETT: Why does that matter for her? Why do you believe that matters --

GIULIANI: Well, it matters because you have to deal with these things equally and fairly. And you're not.

BURNETT: She's not the one who --

GIULIANI: What about the one they gave to $185,000 to?

BURNETT: Assaulted anyone or allegedly assaulted anyone.

GIULIANI: But he didn't just assault them. He had sex with them. It went beyond that.

BURNETT: Right, but I'm saying it's not with her.

(CROSSTALK)

GIULIANI: Raped one, he took advantage of an intern.

CUBAN: He's not running.

GIULIANI: And it was okay for him to be in office. That was okay. Let him to stay in office?

CUBAN: So, now, we're going to question Melania, Mrs. Trump, and how she dealt with it?

GIULIANI: Melania Trump dealt wit it by saying that she accepts his explanation of it.

CUBAN: Not the point. We shouldn't judge her for dealing with such a difficult situation anything more than we should judge Hillary Clinton for something her husband did twenty years ago.

GIULIANI: Well, these women who came forward a few weeks ago said she attacked him. You can see it in the book, in Stephanopoulos book, in the half novelized Joe Klein book, the bimbo squad that was set up to go after the women that Bill Clinton and the illegitimate children that he may have had.

CUBAN: The illegitimate children that were disproven.

GIULIANI: All right. It was disproven. Or was it?

CUBAN: But that's the whole thing. You talk about you don't like to deal with hypotheticals but then you go-

GIULIANI: Monica Lewinsky wasn't disproven. Monica Lewinsky would be in an insane asylum if she didn't have that dress. They were trying to drive that woman insane. Lucky she had the dress to prove that Bill Clinton was a flat out liar under oath and so is Hillary Clinton.

CUBAN: This is the issue. It is dealing with external situations that don't directly reflect either candidate. This is a situation --

(CROSSTALK)

GIULIANI: So, let's forget both their pasts and talk about the future. Who would be better for the future? Somebody who lowers taxes or somebody who raises taxes?

CUBAN: So, let's talk about the taxes.

GIULIANI: Someone who renegotiates trade deals or.

CUBAN: Let's talk --

GIULIANI: Someone who stands up to ISIS and is willing to say Islamic extremist terrorism, and puts us on offense so we stop being on defense. We've had more Islamic terrorism attacks.

BURNETT: She has used Islamic terrorists. Barack Obama doesn't --

CUBAN: Can we talk about taxes first?

BURNETT: I'm going to give you the final chance for rebuttal right now.

CUBAN: OK, on taxes. He's increasing spending. He wants to increase infrastructure spending, healthcare spending, everything. He's trying to one up her in all spends and he's going to reduce taxes.

With everything Steve Moore has tried to come up with, any of the potential upside is in years nine and ten. In years one through four, when he might be president, the deficit goes through the roof. We have a real chance of being in recession because he wants to cut taxes dramatically and increase spending dramatically. That doesn't work.

GIULIANI: Not if you score properly renegotiating trade deals. Not if you score properly returning capital from overseas at a 10 percent.

CUBAN: That isn't correct. That is incorrect.

GIULIANI: Not -- can I finish.

CUBAN: You're wrong. You are wrong.

GIULIANI: But you say I'm wrong.

CUBAN: You are wrong.

GIULIANI: I am not wrong. This is what Kennedy did. This is what Reagan did. I worked for Reagan.

BURNETT: Kennedy cut taxes like 92 percent. OK, that is very different than we are now.

GIULIANI: I was with Ronald Reagan when he cut taxes and I saw her economy boom for ten years. So, he's -- but he's going beyond cutting taxes. He's also bringing businesses back by reducing the corporate rates from 35 percent to 15 percent, which you have to admit drives companies out of the United States. He's having a 10 percent repatriation rate that will bring an enormous amount back in. That's something Kennedy and Reagan did not do and he's going to renegotiate NAFTA.

CUBAN: First of all, the people who have money to repatriate can borrow against that money. So, that's not an issue, right? Moving companies overseas is a small issue but --

GIULIANI: It isn't a small issue if you lost your job --

(CROSSTALK)

GIULIANI: If I lost my job because Pfizer moves its factory to Ireland because they only have a 12 --

CUBAN: They don't move their factories. They move their home base. They don't move factories.

GIULIANI: -- percent rate in Ireland, 35 percent in the United States.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: All right. Thank you both. This will be continued tonight at 9:00. Like to have you both back. Thank you.

GIULIANI: I hope they shake hands.

CUBAN: Yes.

BURNETT: They shook hands and now let's go to you, Wolf.

BLITZER: All right. Erin, thanks very much.

We got a special guest from the Trump campaign, the Republican vice presidential nominee Mike Pence.

Governor, thanks very much for joining us.

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R-IN), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Good to be with you in this exciting night.

TAPPER: So, let me just ask you. Obviously, Donald Trump can rally the base. There is no question about it that.

PENCE: Rally the American people.

TAPPER: Well, no. That's not obvious, 39 to 40 percent of the American people are with him.

Does he understand that right now the polls have Hillary Clinton leading significantly nationally and background states are shifting towards him and he needs to not just rally the base but add voters to the roles? Get people in the I-4 corridor in Florida, the Denver suburbs, the Philadelphia suburbs. Does he understand that he needs to expand and reach out?

PENCE: Well, the short answer is yes. But I see it every day. I've been in Ohio this week, in North Carolina this week. I've seen the crowds that turn out for Donald Trump at these rallies.

And he's really given voice to the frustrations and the aspirations of the American people like no one in my lifetime since Ronald Reagan. And the people that come from literally every walk of life out of these rallies give evidence of that.

But I think what you are going to hear tonight is Donald Trump is going to be focusing not -- as a choice. I mean, my hope is that he'll have an opportunity to talk about the choice between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump and talk about the issues that are emanating around her years as secretary of state and the Clinton foundation.

But I also hope -- I also hope tonight as the final debate really focuses on the big issues, where we under this last seven and a half years, we've weakened America's place in the world. There's wider areas of the world literally spinning apart.

The American economy is struggling. The Supreme Court is literally on the ballot. My hope is that tonight, he'll have an opportunity to really draw into high relief the clear choice in this election on all those issues.

TAPPER: Superficial question, but the Clinton campaign has arranged it so that the families, Melania Trump and Bill Clinton are not going to intersect and shake hands. They say that is because of the stunts that the Trump campaign pulled in the second debate with those guests of note.

Will Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton shake hands tonight? Because that was an odd moment and one that I thought was slightly discordant with the collegiality that you like to stand for.

PENCE: Well, we'll just see. Probably will be a spontaneous moment, for both of them.

But, you know, I know -- I know that -- frankly I know these things are fascinating to many of you in the media. But when I'm traveling around the country, the American people really are focused on a stronger and more prosperous America.

My hope is tonight that beyond the small details that will be widely discussed and probably will be Twitter fodder out there, is that you will really have an opportunity to see the tremendous clear choice between Donald Trump who wants to bring rebuild our military, cut taxes, repeal Obamacare, end the war on coal, expand access to American energy.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Sunlen Serfaty, Jeff Zeleny, Martin Savidge, Jason Carroll, Kyung Lah, Jeanne Moos

8515 speakers\_end

[19:00:10] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news. The final face-off. Donald Trump has a surprise guest in tomorrow's debate. His last name? Obama.

Plus, the President tells Trump to stop whining as the top Republican says, this election is not rigged. He's my guest OUTFRONT tonight.

And Donald Trump, Jr. on tape joking about a mass shooting, Arabs and overweight people. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening. I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news. Face-off. The final presidential debate kicking off in hours, 24 from now in Las Vegas. It could be Donald Trump's last chance to close the gap, vote to the top of the polls with Hillary Clinton. The stakes for round three could not be higher. CNN learning tonight that Donald Trump is pulling out all the stops. His campaign confirming moments ago that Trump will be joined by a surprise guest at the debate. President Obama's Kenyan born half-brother Malik.

He's an American citizen. He is a Trump supporters. He's going to be there. Donald Trump's guest tomorrow night. Hillary Clinton as you see here arriving in Las Vegas this evening after spending days off the trail behind closed doors prepping for this crucial debate. Donald Trump is actually in the air as we speak also arriving in Vegas tonight any moment for this historic showdown. Tens of millions watching. Everything is on the line for Trump. As the latest polls show the race and even the reddest of red states, Texas is now neck and neck tonight. Unlike his opponent, Trump spent on the trail this week with the false schedule and today, he went after Hillary Clinton raising questions about her health.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: In her rallies, very few people show up. When she has the energy to go to the event. Which isn't often. She's doing debate prep. Sort of funny. She's been doing this for 30 years. Now she has to do debate prep for five days. You know what the debate prep is? It's resting. It's lying down going to sleep.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And you're looking at the stage for tomorrow's debate in Las Vegas. And we are now 20 days away from Election Day.

Sunlen Serfaty is OUTFRONT at the debate side in Las Vegas tonight. Sunlen, Trump is trying to -- this is his big chance. His guest list alone. President Obama's name, at least the Obama last name is now on there.

SUNLEN SERFATY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: That's right, Erin. And I think this is certainly showing some big signs that Donald Trump does intend to keep up his provocative debate theatric style that we've seen in past debates as you said inviting President Obama's half-brother who is a Trump supporter to be there sitting in the audience. Trump also inviting Pat Smith who is the mother of a Benghazi victim to also be in the audience.

This is the last and final chance for Donald Trump to really define his candidacy, make the case for why he should win the White House. But tonight he still seemed fixated on needling Hillary Clinton.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

TRUMP: Tomorrow night is going to be interesting. Now, she's home sleeping and I'm working. So that is the way it is going to be in the White House too. She'd be sleeping. I'd be working.

SERFATY (voice-over): Donald Trump taunting Hillary Clinton on the campaign trail today. Seeming to ignore the sky high pressure mounting around him.

TRUMP: I do. I look so forward to the next one in Las Vegas.

SERFATY: The GOP nominee will step out on stage Wednesday night at the critical moment for his campaign, facing a flood of new accusations of sexual misconduct coming from numerous women. Trump's wife Melania in a pre-debate interview with Anderson Cooper looking to cushion the blow as her husband heads into this final face-off with Clinton.

MELANIA TRUMP, WIFE OF DONALD TRUMP: I believe my husband.

SERFATY: Advising her husband to not get swept up in the latest controversy.

MELANIA TRUMP: I always say to him, be you, be yourself. Be calm. Be focused. Stay on the issues. Because American people, they -- they want to hear what -- what you will do for them.

SERFATY: Before Trump a grab bag of low-hanging fruit. To stay on message against Clinton. Like the daily drip of e-mail revelations by WikiLeaks. Which he's already telegraphed he intends to capitalize on.

TRUMP: This is a criminal act and it is incredible that they can do this and get away with it.

SERFATY: Trump unlikely Clintons hasn't taken a break from campaigning to prep for the debate. TRUMP: She's doing debate prep. She did so much debate prep.

SERFATY: Keeping up a relatively full campaign schedule. A point of contrast that has already turned into a flash point between the campaigns.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, DONALD TRUMP'S CAMPAIGN MANAGER: He's not taking five days off the trail like she is. And that is her personal choice. And his scarcity is her strategy.

JENNIFER PALMIERI, HILLARY CLINTON'S COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: You don't like to have to take a lot of time off the trail to do that but we've found that that is very worthwhile.

SERFATY: Trump did hunkered down this weekend and Monday for debate prep huddling at one of his golf resorts in New Jersey and in Trump Tower with his small inner circle of Steve Bannon, Kellyanne Conway, Rudy Giuliani, RNC Chair Reince Priebus and Chris Christie. But has kept up his atypical prep style shunning full-fledged mock debates.

[19:05:18] CONWAY: The same team has been involved from the very beginning and Mr. Trump very much enjoys doing the jousting back and forth strutting enough on the issues.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SERFATY: And the topics for tomorrow night's debate have already been announced. They will be debt and entitlements, **immigration**, the economy, the Supreme Court, foreign hot spots and fitness to be president. And it is that last one, fitness to be president that has really dominated so many of the debates in the past Erin and certainly is context in so much of the discussion for Donald Trump going into this one as well.

BURNETT: So, of course appropriately a broad topic under which anything can fit which is good for the moderator.

Jeff Zeleny is OUTFRONT in Las Vegas as well. And Jeff, Clinton not visible today. Prepping for the debate. You've been talking to the campaign. What are they saying about how her prep is going? And what more does she need to prep for?

JEFF ZELENY, CNN SENIOR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Erin, she arrived here just a short time ago with a fleet of advisors flying with her across the country on her plan and they immediately went into more debate practice. So I asked a couple of her advisors who have been advising politicians for a debate sessions for a long time. Why so much more practice needed for this third debate? They said frankly that there is so much more information out there now.

Donald Trump has changed a bit, you know, since the first debate and the second debate. Much more of a scorched earth-like strategy. So Hillary Clinton is preparing for all of that. But something simply have not come up yet. **Immigration** is the first among them. She -- I'm told is prepared to go aggressively after that wall he's talked so much about and popping some holes into some of his strategy here. So, one of the reasons she's practicing so much. A, it worked for her the first time but B, there is still a lot of ground to cover here. Because frankly so many things have changed since even the second debate only ten days or so ago.

BURNETT: All right. Jeff, thank you.

And OUTFRONT now David Gergen who served as advisor for four presidents. Jackie Kucinich, the Washington Bureau chief for the Daily Beast. Patrick Healy, political correspondent for The New York Times. And presidential historian Tim Naftali.

You know, David, Trump saying Clinton is doing too much debate prep. Well, actually that's not what he's really saying, he's saying that she's sleeping, she's resting, right, instead of studying. But he's been doing rally after rally. Is there any more she could be prepping for at this point? Is this time well spent for five days off the trail now for her?

DAVID GERGEN, FORMER PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER: Five days seems like a lot. And I mentioned she is resting. She's got a grinding three weeks ahead and I'm sure she's preparing for that. But I think it is raising questions when you get up to five days. What is really going on here? What we do know is that Donald Trump ought to be taking time off the trail. This is the third debate he's going into nothing Hillary's favor. He's not been able to pull this out. He's had no strategy.

In the last debate, you know, fatally in my judgment when he answered Anderson Cooper's question, have you ever done any of these things you bragged about to Billy Bush? He said no, I've never done anything. He would have been so much better of saying, I did a lot of things in my early life when I was a celebrity that I regret but now I'm a changed man, period, in that sentence. Instead, he invited all of these women to come forward. That was a really dumb mistake on his part. He would not have made that mistake, had he practiced. So, there is a lot to be said for taking the day or two off to prepare.

BURNETT: And Jackie, you know, since the last debate. Multiple women have come forward.

JACKIE KUCINICH, WASHINGTON BUREAU CHIEF, THE DAILY BEAST: Yes.

BURNETT: Multiple women. Okay? That is going to come up in some way, shape or form tomorrow with either Hillary Clinton will certainly bring it up. How is he going defend that? Now that you have women coming out and saying. So far on the trail, it's been pretty much very personal comments about these women.

KUCINICH: I mean, he's going to deny it and you are probably going to hear a lot. Maybe without the personal insults but if the other debates are a guy, Donald Trump says a lot of what he says in his stump speech and on the trail during debates. So I imagine he categorically denies it. Says it is some kind of conspiracy with the media and tries to get away with that. And we'll see if Chris Wallace lets him do it. BURNETT: That is going to be a big question here. And Tim, also you have -- you have the guest list. OK? Malik. Trump is inviting Malik Obama. President Obama's half-brother. How significant will that be? Of course you have Mark Cuban coming again on the Clinton side. Trump's nemesis. So, what is the significance of Malik Obama? Because by the way Obama is not running, just to remind everyone.

(LAUGHTER)

TIM NAFTALI, CNN PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN: Look, Julian Assange couldn't come. And I think if you see some of these -- if you think of Trump as a TV promoter and guest stars, he's running out of good guest stars. And he wants to create sensation. I mean, obviously he's not going to upset Hillary Clinton by having Malik Obama there. But he -- he's used to building an audience. And he wants to build an audience. I mean, to get back to David's point is really important.

He has never pivoted to substance, in all these debates, you know the one good thing he says in terms of impact is he says for 30 years, she was in public life and she didn't fix it. Now we could argue whether it is a fair attack but at least it is about, me. I'm an outsider. She doesn't fix things. He never says what he would do. And if he's not prepping, it means he's not going to be ready to do that. Once again it is going to be spectacle. That's it.

[19:10:19] BURNETT: And one thing that we expect that will come up tomorrow night Patrick is going to be the latest developments in the Clinton e-mail scandal. And by that, I am actually not talking about WikiLeaks although that won't come out. I am talking about the private server. And in this he says it is worse than Watergate. Here he is today. If this gives us a hint of what we'll see, here he is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: The most corrupt person ever to run for president.

(AUDIENCE BOOS)

You heard about the newly released FBI documents. They reveal just how corrupt she is and it is.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: He's referring to an FBI employee who says he was asked to change an e-mail marked classified on the server to unclassified. State Department at the time was reviewing what e-mails were going to be put out and they're saying, there could have been even another employee says maybe even a quid pro quo offered by the State Department. You do this and we'll do that. FBI did not change that classification but this is what he's referring to. Can he make some hay here?

PATRICK HEALY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT, THE NEW YORK TIMES: It is going to be hard for Donald Trump to make a high impact two minute answer on this without a teleprompter. He is a wandering, wandering talker -- (CROSSTALK)

HEALY: Exactly. Just to summarize in a way that like has actual impact that can move the dial. What Trump has been doing sort of over and over again is throwing out red meat to his base. Inviting Malik Obama. That is simply, you know, a dog whistle or something. Louder than a dog whistle about going back to birtherism. Suggesting Watergate --

BURNETT: Malik Obama is an American citizen but your point was born in Kenya --

HEALY: He's born in Kenya. No, exactly. You know, invoking things like Watergate that sounds like scandal and being able to have it sort of resonate. The problem is that the number of undecided voters is getting smaller and smaller and smaller.

BURNETT: And people are voting.

HEALY: And the people are voting and this is really his chance to, to try to make him like a final argument for his temperament. And if he's just sort of going back to the idea of we should put her in jail, you know, this is Watergate all over again. You know, he is maybe energizing Republicans. This is undecided voters, it is a tough call.

BURNETT: All right. Thanks to all. Next, we're standing by for Donald Trump. He's about to arrive in Las Vegas for tomorrow's debate. Hillary Clinton there. This is President Obama tells Donald Trump he needs to stop whining.

Plus, devoted Trump supporters. These women, you met them before, months ago. Well, we went back and spoke to them and they say nothing will keep them from voting Trump.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I literally get on my knees and I pray that Trump will become the president of the United States.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And why this particular answer from Melania Trump has the internet buzzing tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELANIA TRUMP: He was lead on like, like egged on, from the host to say dirty and bad stuff.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:16:33] BURNETT: Tonight, Ivanka Trump breaking her silence, speaking out for the first time about Donald Trump's lewd comments on an "Access Hollywood" videotape. She tells the magazine fast company in part, quote, "My father's comments were clearly inappropriate and offensive and I'm glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people." But what do women think about the tape and allegations of sexual misconduct? Well, I want you to know we spoke to a group of female Trump supporters months ago.

Martin Savidge went to spoke to them. He went back and spoke to them after this tape and these allegations. He is OUTFRONT now. I want to warn you that his report contains graphic language.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MARTIN SAVIDGE, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Let me ask for a show of hands how many of you still support Donald Trump?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I really do in my heart of hearts feel that he is a good man.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He has a plan for our country that is in line with the way I want to see our country go.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I feel I can believe everything he says.

SAVIDGE: What about when he says things like this about kissing and grabbing women.

TRUMP: And when you are a star, they let you do it. You can do anything.

BILLY BUSH, FORMER "ACCESS HOLLYWOOD" HOST: Whatever you want.

TRUMP: Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It was kind of like the braggadocios that men do when they are together talking about their conquests.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He has spent the 30 years of his life surrounded by beautiful women. He's an alpha male. He's bound to have said a few off color things.

SAVIDGE: Can you imagine your husband saying those words?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He would never say those words.

SAVIDGE (voice-over): Melania Trump breaking her silence speaking to Anderson Cooper said, she too was taken aback by her husband's words.

MELANIA TRUMP: I was surprised because that is not the man that I know. And as you can see from the tape, the cameras were not on. It was only a mic. And I wonder if they even knew that the mic was on. Because they were kind of a boy talk.

SAVIDGE: And what about the women who have come forward accusing Trump of everything from unwanted contact to sexual assault.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We have no proof. Who has the proof? Show us the proof. There is none.

SAVIDGE (on camera): You do not buy them or believe them?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: -- happening three weeks before the election. When -- I mean why didn't they come out before?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It's organized.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Absolutely.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: -- backing Hillary.

SAVIDGE (voice-over): We spoke to the same group of Trump supporters during the primaries when Trump was leading most polls amongst fellow Republicans. Several months later their support hasn't wavered. And when I keep pushing. Rose Lee says enough already.

ROSALIE WRIGHT, TRUMP SUPPORTER: OK. So maybe it bothered me but not to the point that I think some of the media would like it to because we're still voting for Trump.

SAVIDGE (on camera): We move onto the conspiracy theory of media bias. Do you believe that we are working for Hillary Clinton that there is actually some deal struck?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes. I believe there are deals struck. Benghazi and e-mails, why are we not addressing that? That to me should be front and center.

SAVIDGE (voice-over): They see all the focus on Trump's faults as a distraction from important issues. Such as future Supreme Court nomination, **immigration**, religious freedom. And for them the stakes couldn't be higher.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: For me, it is the battle between good and evil. I think Hillary is evil. I think Trump is good. Is he perfect? No.

SAVIDGE: This good and evil thing is something they believe absolutely. They describe themselves as warriors for Trump that almost nothing can change.

(on camera): You literally do pray for him.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I literally get on my knees and I pray that Trump will become the president of this United States. Yes.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SAVIDGE: By the way, I pointed out that there are a lot of Democrats who would probably agree with that whole evil and good thing as far as what's at stake, they would disagree though on who the evil on this in the equation. Of course many Democrats say it was Donald Trump.

Also as to the debate that is coming out tomorrow night, I said, well, what would you like to see and hear from Donald Trump? The women say exactly as he did in debate number two. They thought he was right on message. They believe he carries that through with debate number three. And they believe he'll be president of the United States. And their prayers will be answered -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Martin, thank you.

And OUTFRONT now, Donald Trump's supporter Kayleigh McEnany joins me along with the former communications director with Ted Cruz, Amanda Carpenter. David Gergen, Jackie Kucinich also back with me.

Jackie, you know, you just heard one of this women say, Krystal, she gets on her knees and she prays that Donald Trump will be president of the United States. This is not just idol support. That is a deep, deep belief and these women are standing by him.

[19:21:23] KUCINICH: I think that is why you see that his support, where it's stayed, it hasn't wavered. Our Patricia Murphy -- Patricia Murphy went down to North Carolina and found the same thing with women that are supporting Trump. They are not going anywhere and part of it is also because they dislike Hillary Clinton so vehemently. And so what is the alternative? If you, you know, you like Donald Trump, you are not okay with what he said but is it going to make you flip all the way over? It just isn't.

BURNETT: Kayleigh, what do you make of this? One of these women says, she feels like she can believe everything Trump says. And then of course, but he's the one who said he grabs women. So I guess presumably she doesn't believe that specific or I mean, is there anything that would make these women turn from Trump? Or at this point absolutely not.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: I know a lot of women like this myself. My family does the same thing. They pray that Donald Trump does become president and the reason is, you know, not that we support his language. Of course no one supports that but we realize the stakes. We realize that the hobby lobby decision, the right to not force companies to buy contraception. That was a five-four decision. The Heller decision. The right to hold a handgun.

That was a five-four decision. The **immigration** decision recently. A four-four decision. The stakes are exceedingly high. Not just for the next four years before the next life time. And then you look across the aisle and you see Hillary Clinton and this horrible FBI report that, you know, the State Department offered a quid pro quo in the words of one FBI senior official to the FBI and exchange for exculpating Hillary Clinton. So you see the stakes on the Supreme Court and what's on the other side and the stakes are too high and Donald Trump is the only answer.

BURNETT: So, the only women issues are how he treats or talks about half the population does not matter to some of those women. But the question is, what about the undecided women? Right? He's 19 points behind in the most recent poll with women.

AMANDA CARPENTER, FORMER COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR FOR SENATOR TED CRUZ: Yes.

BURNETT: He's got to get more women on board.

CARPENTER: Yes. This is an election where the Republicans gender gap with Democrats threatens to turn into a huge gender canyon. Certainly women on that tape are remaining supportive of Trump. And Hillary Clinton is the biggest factor in this because they are hard core Republican voters who believe that Hillary Clinton poses a huge --

BURNETT: They call her evil.

CARPENTER: Yes. They think she's evil in the hierarchy of crimes against humanity, someone that could kill American women in military theater is worse than someone who has open, you know, sexual assault fantasies. That's how they're thinking. I've talked to these women. I know these women. They may have put that succinctly. But can that grow the party? That is going to be a long-term problem for Republican men if they can't figure out a way to heal the problems that Donald Trump has caused among female voters broadly this election.

BURNETT: David, you also have this belief that the media is behind these women coming forward. You heard them orchestrated that there's some sort of a deal. I can tell you for a fact that it is not true. For the accusers that I have spoken to, personally one of them came four months before the tape, the other one I know personally. But this is a conspiracy theory that a lot of people believe.

GERGEN: They do. And I think we have recognized one thing, Erin. It is actually true there's no conspiracy, there's nobody sat down at NBC and CNN and everybody else and plotted all of these out. It is true that a lot of us who are privileged live in a community of like-minded people. And I think that we reinforce each other's believes. And I think that we should not be disrespectful of people who think, wait a minute, I am outside of that circle and you guys are not thinking very much about me.

So there is a community. And with regard to these women, as much trouble as I now have with Trump, I have a lot of respect for the people who are following him. These women have legitimate concerns, legitimate grievances and we ought to respect them. At the same time they do not speak for American women more generally. So, we have since the September 26 first debate, is a vast falling off of support for Trump especially among women.

He went into that first debate neck and neck. He comes out now he's seven points back. That is largely because he's been fighting against women's rights for the last two weeks. He started by attacking, you know, Miss Universe. There's this other women, he spent the last two weeks on this crazy trend.

BURNETT: Right.

GERGEN: He should get off --

BURNETT: And a quick final word to you, Jackie. Harry Reid coming out obviously, top Democrat, saying, Donald Trump maybe what he did is -- but it's kind of a sickness. Does that actually help or hurt Donald Trump? When you have Harry Reid who's come out with unfounded things before. Coming out and comments on this?

KUCINICH: I think Harry Reid just sort of solidifies both sides. If you like Harry Reid, you cheer Harry Reid. If you don't you Harry Reid, you harken back to the Romney days. I don't think he really moves any needles.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you all. And next, Donald Trump in the air just moments away from touching down in Las Vegas for tomorrow night's all-important debate.

Plus, Trump today ramping up his rigged election conspiracy theory. As one top Republican says, knock it off. He's my guest tonight.

And much like his father, Donald Trump, Jr.'s words are now coming back to haunt him.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: By the way, you can't, you can't even make fat jokes now without, like, there is a whole segment of people that like that's almost the worst one.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:30:06] BURNETT: Tonight, President Obama slamming Donald Trump for saying the election is rigged, calling Trump's charges unprecedented and irresponsible.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: If whenever things are going badly for you and you lose, you start blaming somebody else? Then you don't have what it takes to be in this job. There is no evidence that that has happened in the past, or that there are instances in which that will happen this time. And so, I'd advise Mr. Trump stop whining and try and make his case for votes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Trump is stepping up his warning tonight, though, alleging there is voter fraud in multiple cities.

Jason Carroll is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JASON CARROLL, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Donald Trump is escalating his talk that the election is being rigged against him.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: This is an election about truth. And you are not going to get it from the dishonest media.

CARROLL: The GOP nominee is blaming the media for playing a role in the rigging process by reporting on sexual misconduct allegations against the GOP nominee, which he continues to assert are all false.

TRUMP: They have rigged it from the beginning by telling totally false stories, most recently about phony allegations where I have been under constant attack.

CARROLL: All as Trump digs in his heels, charging without evidence that there is a conspiracy to undermine the electoral process by allowing dead people and undocumented **immigrants** to cast ballots.

TRUMP: People that have died ten years ago are still voting. Illegal **immigrants** are voting. I mean, where are the street smarts of some of these politicians? They don't have any is right. So many cities are corrupt and voter fraud is very, very common.

CARROLL: Some of Trump's fellow Republicans are strongly revoking his unfounded claims, including former primary opponent Marco Rubio.

SEN. MARCO RUBIO (R), FLORIDA: There's no evidence behind any of this. And so, this should not continue to be said.

CARROLL: As the campaign enters its final weeks, Trump looking to go back on offense against Hillary Clinton by seizing on her latest e- mail controversy after newly released documents by the FBI raise questions as to whether a State Department official sought to have the bureau declassify the contents of an e-mail from Clinton's private server.

TRUMP: This is worse than Watergate.

CARROLL: While he takes aim at Clinton, Trump is still feuding with House Speaker Paul Ryan, suggesting the top Republican in Congress is not defending Trump because he has his eyes on the White House in 2020.

TRUMP: Maybe he wants to run in four years. Or maybe he doesn't know how to win.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

CARROLL: So, Erin, despite a number of GOP leaders who want Trump to sort of move off this unfounded claim that the electoral system is somehow rigged, Trump continues to push it when he's out here on the campaign. And when he was here, he named three cities that people should look out for. He said Chicago, Philadelphia and St. Louis, although provided no evidence suggesting why people should look out for those cities.

He continued also, Erin, to lash out at the media saying the media has been, quote, "lying, cheating and stealing". And he went on to stay that at this point, he feels as though the media is worse than Hillary Clinton -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Jason Carroll, thank you.

And OUTFRONT now, Republican Congressman Tom Cole of Oklahoma. He's the deputy majority whip and a supporter of Donald Trump. Congressman Cole, good to have you on the show again.

Donald Trump raising new allegations tonight. We just heard them. The election is rigged against them. He's been saying this again and again. There is no evidence of this. He says there is large scale voter fraud going on.

Do you agree with him?

REP. TOM COLE (R), OKLAHOMA: Well, if he wants to make the point that the medias uneven in scrutiny and unfair, I do agree with that.

If he wants to make the point that a lot of the elites in the country have mobilized against him to an unprecedented degree, I agree with that as well.

If you're talking about the actual election process, I don't agree. Frankly, I've been involved in elections my whole life. I was involved in the 2000 presidential elections as chief of staff of the Republican National Committee in probably the most disputed outcome in the long time.

But there's never any evidence of voter fraud. There were mechanical malfunctions. I'm not going to naive enough to tell you that it never occurs. But it doesn't occur on a scale vast enough to change the outcome of a presidential election.

So, this system broadly renders the opinion of the American people. It's done so consistently for literally hundreds of years. I think it will do it again in three weeks.

BURNETT: And Trump's words though, Congressman, of course, have impact for some of his supporters. You know, he's been constantly saying the election is rigged. I mean, he says it again and again and again, you know that.

We talked to some of them yesterday at one of his rallies about what would happen if Hillary Clinton won. And here is what two of them said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIPS)

DAN BOWMAN, TRUMP SUPPORTER: I feel like Hillary needs to be taken out. If she gets into government, I'll do everything in my power to take her out of power.

REPORTER: Is that a physical threat?

BOWMAN: I don't know, is it?

DEBBIE HOYT, TRUMP SUPPORTER: There will be a civil war. And I don't know.

REPORTER: Do you think it will come to that?

HOYT: Absolutely. You don't understand the passion in this country. I'm just one voice. There's a lot of people like me.

(END VIDEO CLIPS)

BURNETT: Congressman, are you worried when you hear words like those?

COLE: I am. And I'm worried any time somebody delegitimizes the election process. Look, the majority of secretaries of state in the United States who are responsible for this are Republicans. And, obviously, Mr. Trump was very successful in Republican primaries. Nobody tried to manipulate the results there.

I think the same thing will be true in the general election. Look, we've got a very intense, hard fought campaign. It's highly negative. It's highly charged. I get that.

But at the end of the day, the people at the precincts are usually volunteers. They are your friends and neighbors. I don't know a single secretary of state in the United States, Republican or Democrat, that does not do everything possible to make sure the election is open, fair and transparent.

And again, I say it as a guy that used to be secretary of state. I know these folks. The last people in the world that want to see anything go wrong with the election is a secretary of state or the respective state or the chief election official in these states.

BURNETT: So, look, you are being pretty clear and adamant here, that the system is not rigged when it comes to the electoral process itself. You also just heard Trump talk about Paul Ryan, Speaker Ryan, a man you know very well. He said Paul Ryan may want Trump lose so that Ryan will be able to run for the White House next time around, and then he went on to say maybe Paul Ryan doesn't know how to win.

You have worked with Paul Ryan for years. What is your response to Donald Trump on that?

COLE: Well, frankly, he doesn't know Paul. And the reality is Paul didn't want to be speaker. So, the idea that he'd be maneuvering to be president right now strikes me as farfetched.

Look, he's a person of absolute moral integrity. He's the thought leader in the Republican Party. He's a first class person in every way. He's led with distinction in the House of Representatives.

He's not trying to undermine anything. What he's trying to do is save the Republican majority in the House. That's his job honestly. That's his number one job. I think he'll pull that off in three weeks.

BURNETT: Congressman, just because, you know, you are saying here Donald Trump's wrong on Paul Ryan, he's wrong on the electoral process being rigged. You called his comments on the "Access Hollywood" tape, disgusting, crude and vile. Yet you are still technically supporting him.

You know, John McCain, Rob Portman, Jason Chaffetz, they've all said no way. They just can't do it anymore. What makes --

(CROSSTALK)

COLE: Well, I'm not going to be -- first of all, the alternative. I'm not going to be for someone who systematically lied to the American people as Secretary Clinton has about her server and about her own actions with regard to that server, who casually put the country at risk for her personal and political convenience, who presided over a series of foreign policy disasters, who if she win says I'm going to raise taxes, expand the size of government and increase regulations. That to me is a pretty unacceptable alternative.

BURNETT: Right. Well, Congressman, thank you. Appreciate your time.

COLE: Hey, thank you.

BURNETT: And next, we're standing by for Donald Trump. He's about to arrive in Las Vegas any moment now for this crucial final debate. Everything on the line for him.

Plus, a "People" magazine writer says Trump sexually assaulted her, pinning her to the wall, forcing his tongue down her throat. Her story coming up.

And like father like son. Donald Trump Jr. on tape today talking about sexual harassment in the work place.

(BEGIN AUDIO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, JR., SON OF DONALD TRUMP: If you can't handle some of the basic stuff that's become a problem in the workforce today, like, you don't belong in the workforce.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yeah.

TRUMP: Like you should go, you know, maybe teach kindergarten.

(END AUDIO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:42:45] BURNETT: Tonight, Donald Trump sending his children to the crucial battleground states, including Nevada, where Donald Trump Jr. was speaking today. And Trump's sons have found themselves at the center of their own controversies in this campaign.

Kyung Lah is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

KYUNG LAH, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Donald Trump's children, the softer side of the Trump brand.

DONALD TRUMP, JR.: For my fair, impossible is just the starting point. LAH: Admired even by Hillary Clinton as she acknowledged in the last presidential debates.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I respect his children. His children are incredibly able and devoted. And I think that says a lot about Donald.

LAH: Potent surrogates, the sons often dispatched to defend and echo their father to the campaign.

ERIC TRUMP, SON OF DONALD TRUMP: People want the country back.

DONALD TRUMP: They're good kids.

LAH: But Trump's sons have also inherited the shoot-from the hip style of their father. An examination of radio interviews by CNN's KFILE shows Donald Trump Jr. has mocked Arabic names, children and beauty pageants, and in January 2012 appearance on "Opie & Anthony", moaned about not being able to make fun of obese people.

DONALD TRUMP, JR.: You can't even make fat jokes now. There is a whole segment of people like, that's almost the worst one like, it is easier to do a racial thing than it is a fat one. Everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended.

LAH: Acceptance of bad behavior amongst men echoed just last week by Trump's other son, Eric Trump. In a radio interview, he defended his father's 2005 hot mic comments on "Access Hollywood."

ERIC TRUMP: That conversation, it was locker room banter. I mean, that's really what it was. It was two, you know, alpha guys in a thing. And, by the way, it is totally unacceptable and he has apologized for it.

LAH: But Donald Trump Jr. in a 2013 radio interview says, what is acceptable? There are some places women don't belong.

DONALD TRUMP, JR.: If you have a guy's place, you have a guy's place, you know, like --

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Right.

DONALD TRUMP, JR.: I don't know, I have a hard time letting go of it. Maybe I'm not going to have a choice.

LAH: In the interview on the "Opie & Anthony" show first published by "BuzzFeed", Trump Jr. then talks about sexual harassment in the workforce.

DONALD TRUMP, JR.: If you can't handle some of the basic stuff that's become a problem in the workforce, like, you don't belong in the workforce.

[19:45:02] Like you should go maybe teach kindergarten.

LAH: You may recall Trump Jr. also tweeted this picture, comparing Syrian **refugees** to Skittles. Unapologetic then and is now, candidly saying reporters digging up past comments distract from the issues.

DONALD TRUMP, JR.: We're not a country where everything has to be in a safe space. That's not what built this country. That's not what makes this country great.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LAH: So, does anything that the son say make a difference here? Well, it is their father running for president. Not them. What it does do, Erin, it does continue this narrative of Trump versus these women -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Kyung, thank you.

And next, we're awaiting Donald Trump's rival. The candidate about to land in Las Vegas for the biggest event of this campaign so far.

Plus, a people magazine writer accuses Trump of sexual assault. Her mentor, her confidant, the first she called when it happened talks to us, talks about why it was a secret she kept for all these years.

And Jeanne Moos with how the Internet has exploded after Melania Trump said this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELANIA TRUMP, WIFE OF DONALD TRUMP: He was led on, like egged on, from the host to say dirty and bad stuff.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:50:05] BURNETT: New tonight, the former "People" magazine reporter who accused Donald Trump of assaulting her at his Mar-a-Lago estate is fighting back, slamming Trump after he has repeatedly called her a liar. Tonight, six colleagues and close friends of Natasha Stoynoff are coming forward to verify her story that Trump pinned her against a wall and in her words, stuck his tongue down her throat. That was just beginning.

Paul McLaughlin is Natasha Stoynoff's former journalism professor.

And, Paul, I appreciate your being with me because you are one of the calls Natasha made when this happened a decade ago. She called you after this incident as she was writing this cover story for "People". How did it impact her?

MCLAUGHLIN: Well, I think we can imagine how difficult it would be for a young woman to have gone down to Florida to do what she thought was this wonderful story about Donald Trump and his wife expecting a baby, him becoming a father again. He was someone who often requested her to do stories for "People" magazine. She had an ongoing relationship with him.

And suddenly, it turned this other direction. And I think a lot of women watching know what happens when a business or professional relationship suddenly takes this turn.

BURNETT: And she was very emotional when she spoke to you after this happened. Correct?

MCLAUGHLIN: She was distraught as you can imagine. She was -- she was shocked. She was angry. She was upset. She was frightened.

She didn't know what do. And I was one of the people that she turned to and she wanted to know what I thought she should do.

BURNETT: So, on that front, you know, Donald Trump after Natasha has come forward, he has, you know, repudiated her accusations and one of his tweets said, "Why didn't the writer of the 12-year-old article in 'People' magazine mention the incident in her story? Because it did not happen, exclamation point." That's his tweet.

What was the reason? Why didn't she come out and tell her story when it happened?

MCLAUGHLIN: Well, the first thing is that he obviously doesn't understand how stories are written. Because you can't have a story about how wonderful and loving a couple they are and oh, by the way, while his wife was out of the room, he stuck his tongue down my throat and told me we're supposed to have an affair.

So, it's an either or, either she does that story which she was assigned or she tells the truth of what happened. What I said to her was, I don't think this is a matter for the police. It was interrupted by one of his staff before it get to a point where that might have been pertinent.

BURNETT: Right.

MCLAUGHLIN: And it is going to become a he said, she said and the he is Donald Trump and the she is a reporter for "People" magazine. I don't believe he would have said, you know what, honey, when you were out of the room changing clothes, yeah, I did hit on this person. I know we're about to have a baby.

Of course, he's not going to do that.

So, I thought he would accuse her of coming on to him and that would turn everything upside down.

BURNETT: And at that time there were not other allegations or accusations out there. So, she truly would have been alone in telling her story.

MCLAUGHLIN: Exactly.

BURNETT: Trump has down more than deny the claim. She's insulted her personally in the last week. Here he is at a rally.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: Take a look. You take a look. Look at her. Look at her words. You tell me what you think. I don't think so. I don't think so.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: What's your reaction when you hear that?

MCLAUGHLIN: I'm disgusted. I think that a man who does what he did to Natasha and then turns around and says what he has said, I think that it takes what he did and adds another despicable level to it. I know what he told me was true. She wasn't in 2005 calling me in anticipation of doing something negative to him in 2016 during a presidential campaign. That's preposterous.

BURNETT: All right. Paul, thank you very much. We appreciate your time tonight.

MCLAUGHLIN: Thank you.

BURNETT: And we are standing by for Trump's arrival in Las Vegas at any moment. Jeanne Moos is next on why everyone is saying, "Billy Bush made me do it."

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:57:46] BURNETT: Watch for this next story. The excuse that's lighting up the Internet, "Billy Bush made us do it."

Here is Jeanne Moos.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JEANNE MOOS, CNN CORRESPONDENT: On SNL --

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Your beautiful, dutiful Melania.

MOOS: Melania Trump was portrayed as if she were ready to dump the Donald. But in real life, Melania didn't just stand by her man.

BILLY BUSH: How about a little hug to the Donald?

MOOS: She partially blamed Billy Bush for leading her husband on.

MELANIA TRUMP: Lead on, like egg on from the host to say dirty and bad stuff.

MOOS: But nobody had to egg on the Internet. Instantly a new hashtag was born -- #BillyBushMadeMeDoIt. As in when Trump cheated on his first wife with second, #BillyBushMadeMeDoIt. Or Ryan Lochte just changed his story, he now says #BillyBushMadeMeDoIt.

You know how Trump is always saying --

DONALD TRUMP: This whole election is being rigged.

MOOS: So, of course, someone tweeted, "Now we all know who's rigging this election. #BillyBushMadeMeDoIt."

Even noted Hillary supporter Cher got into the act. "How can Trump stand up to Putin if he couldn't stand up to Billy Bush?"

This four-year-old tweeted, "#billybushmademeputthispapertowelovermyhead."

Billy is being bush whacked. John Oliver show did a segment.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: At Billy Bush being creepy with everyone.

BILLY BUSH: How do you feel about your butt?

JENNIFER LOPEZ, ACTRESS/SINGER: Are you kidding me? You did not ask me that.

BUSH: I did.

MOOS: Now, they can add the 2005 bus scene.

BUSH: Let the little guy.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes, let's let the little guy in.

MOOS: Melania had a name for what her husband engaged in on that bus.

MELANIA TRUMP: Kind of boy talk. Boys talk.

MOOS: With a 59-year-old boy? Blame it on the 33-year-old. "President Trump, why did you nuke Brussels? #BillyBushMadeMeDoIt."

Though the Donald sure seems to be the alpha.

DONALD TRUMP: Come on, Billy, let's go.

MOOS: Jeanne Moos, CNN --

DONALD TRUMP: That's better.

MOOS: -- New York.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And thanks for joining us.

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9266 speakers\_end

[19:00:11] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, we're following two major breaking stories night. Donald Trump uncensored caught on tape speaking in vulgar language about kissing and grouping women trying to have sex with a married woman. Can he recover? We'll hear the entire tape.

And Hurricane Matthew, the deadly monster storm wreaking death and destruction across the Florida. The worst of it right now at this hour. The Governor says, some of the worst could be coming.

Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good Friday evening. I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, I want to begin with the breaking news. Donald Trump on tape openly talking and laughing about kissing and groping women, bragging about trying to have sex with a married women. Saying quote, "When you are a star they let you do it." All of this and much more recorded on a tape "The Washington Post " just released.

Now, I'm going to play this whole tape for you. But let me just tell you about it first. It's from 2005 and it is a conversation between Trump and then "Access Hollywood" which is an entertainment program. The host of it at the time is Billy Bush. That is who the conversation is with. We're going to play the entire video for you. I want to warn you though. And I mean this very seriously because we think it is important to play it for you. It is graphic and it is vulgar.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: You know, and I moved on her actually. You know she was down on Palm Beach. I moved on her and I failed. I'll admit it. I did try (bleep). She was married.

BILLY BUSH, FORMER ACCESS HOLLYWOOD HOST: That's huge news.

TRUMP: No, no, Nancy, this was -- and I moved on her very heavily in fact I took her out furniture shopping. She wanted to get some furniture, I said, I'll show you where there is some nice furniture. I took her out furniture. I moved on her like a bitch. I couldn't get there and she was married. Then all of a sudden I see her, she's now got the big phony tits and everything. She's totally changed her looks.

BUSH: Sheesh, your girl is hot as shit. In the purple.

TRUMP: Whoa! Whoa!

BUSH: Yes, the Donald has scored. Whoa! My man.

(CROSSTALK)

Look at you. You are a pussy.

(INAUDIBLE)

BUSH: Oh my God!

TRUMP: Maybe it's a different one.

BUSH: It better not be the publicist. No, it's her.

TRUMP: Yes. That's her with the golf. I better use some Tic Tacs just in case I start kissing her. You know, I am automatically attracted to beautiful. I just start kissing them. It's like a magnet.

(LAUGHTER)

Just kiss, I don't even wait. And when you are a star, they let you do it. You can do anything.

BUSH: Whatever you want.

TRUMP: Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything.

BUSH: Yes. Those legs, all I can see is the legs.

TRUMP: Ooh looks good. Ooh nice legs.

BUSH: Come on, shorty.

TRUMP: Oh, nice legs, huh?

BUSH: Oof, get out of the way, honey. Oh, that's good legs. Go ahead.

TRUMP: It's always good if you don't fall out of the bus. Like Ford , Gerald Ford , remember?

BUSH: Down below. Pull the handle.

TRUMP: Hello, how are you. Hi?

BUSH: Hi, Mr. Trump, how are you?

TRUMP: Nice seeing you. Terrific! Terrific! You know Billy Bush?

BUSH: How are you?

BUSH: Hello, nice to see you. How are you doing, Arianna? UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I am doing very well. Are you ready to be a soap star?

TRUMP: We're ready. Let's go. Make me a soap star.

BUSH: How about a little hug with the Donald? He just got off the bus.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Would you like a little hug darling?

TRUMP: Absolutely. Melania said, this was OK.

BUSH: How about a little hug for the Bushy? I just got off the bus. Here we go. Excellent. Well, you've got a nice co-star here.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes. Have absolutely.

TRUMP: Come on Billy. Don't be shy.

BUSH: As soon as a beautiful woman shows up, he just, he takes off.

TRUMP: Get over here, Billy.

BUSH: This always happens.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm sorry. Come here.

BUSH: Let the little guy in here. Come on.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes. Let the little guy in. How you feel now? Better? I should actually be in the middle.

BUSH: It's hard to walk next to a guy like this. Yes, you get in the middle. There we go.

TRUMP: Good. That's better.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: This is much better.

TRUMP: That's better.

BUSH: Now if you had to choose honestly between one of us. Me or the Donald?

TRUMP: I don't know that's tough competition.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: There's some pressure right there.

BUSH: Seriously. You had to take one of us as a date.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'll have to take the fifth on that one.

BUSH: Really?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yep. I'll take both.

TRUMP: Which way?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Make a right. Here we go. (INAUDIBLE)

BUSH: Here we. I'm going leave you here. Give me my microphone.

TRUMP: OK. OK. Oh, you're finished?

BUSH: You're my man. Yes.

TRUMP: Oh, good.

BUSH: I am going to do out show.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Oh, you want to reset? OK.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: All right. We are hearing there were gasps tonight at a Trump campaign field office when they saw this tape on national television. One campaign source telling CNN the timing of "The Washington Post " revelation, quote, "could be a death knell."

Jim Acosta is OUTFRONT tonight. Jim, what is the Trump campaign saying? They obviously like everyone in this country in many ways blindsided by this.

JIM ACOSTA, CNN SENIOR WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Absolutely Erin and they are scrambling to contain the fallout for what is obviously a devastating story for this campaign at a critical moment just two days before this debate rematch with Hillary Clinton . The Trump campaign almost as soon as that video was released by the Washington Post , released a statement from Donald Trump , we can put this up on screen. It is sort of an apology if you want to call it that.

[19:05:18] And we'll read it, quote, "This was locker room banter, a private conversation that took place many years ago. Bill Clinton has said far worse to me on the golf course. Not even close. I apologize if anyone was offended."

Erin, obviously a lot of people were offended by this including people inside the Republican Party. I talked to a top campaign advisor for Donald Trump . I asked this person, can Donald Trump survive this and this person responded it is pretty tough.

I think there is an acknowledgment inside the Trump campaign that they don't know how their candidate can survive this at this point. We can tell you that his vice presidential running mate was out on the campaign trail earlier this afternoon. Reporters in the pool who were trying to talk to Mike Pence about this were at one point escorted away from him by his staffers and then along the rope line, of the video that you're seeing right now, at one even, reporters attempted to ask Mike Pence a question about this video tape and the vice presidential running mate for Donald Trump did not respond to those question, apparently questions he could hear.

And so they are trying to figure out what to do about this right now inside the Republican Party, Erin. A big question right now. Donald Trump was supposed to appear on stage with the Speaker of the House Paul Ryan. The RNC Chair Reince Priebus tomorrow in Wisconsin. This was going to be a big moment showing the speaker of the house, who's not always throwing his arms around Donald Trump , to see these two men together.

And I can tell you, just from talking to a top GOP source from Capitol Hill, a few moments ago, this person said, the party right now is quote, "flipping out." Flipping out over what do about Donald Trump right now -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Jim Acosta, I think it's pretty safe to say for everyone watching this. This is a pretty shocking and stunning development. And when you hear Jim Acosta talking about people saying, they are flipping out, they don't know what to do or how this goes forward. This is a stunning moment.

MJ Lee is also coming to Trump campaign. And you also spoke to a close advisor to Donald Trump . What are you hearing?

MJ LEE, CNN NATIONAL POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: That's right. I mean, it really is as though a bomb has gone off inside the Trump campaign. A lot of people within the Trump world really just dumbfounded by this new video. I spoke to a close advisor to Trump moments after the story came out and they said the revelation is quote, "flat out appalling" and they said that they can't even begin to guess whether Trump can come back from this. And that this should have never happened, I wish it had never happened. It is just flat out appalling.

Now what I thought Erin was so remarkable about what this close advisor told me is that they said, if you were offended construction that the Trump campaign put out that Jim Acosta just read, that that simply was not enough. This adviser told me that, it was a mistake to say anything other than this was a grievous mistake. And to apologize and that Trump should not have used the word if, who really emphasizing that the if apology was not enough.

BURNETT: Right.

LEE: And I think that it was so telling that this advisor clearly was exasperated and said another day in the Trump world. Really goes to show that this is the kind of thing that Trump advisors have become so accustomed to having to scramble to explain away a controversy. And this I think might be in a different category. That is the question and the problem right now that a lot of advisors are worried about.

BURNETT: MJ, stay with me. I want to bring in right now the rest of our panel. David Chalian, our political director. Dana Bash, our chief political correspondent. Gloria Borger, our chief political analyst, all joining me as well.

Gloria, you know, you have Jeb Bush just a moment ago now, you know, leaders in the Republican Party, tweeting, "As a grandfather of two precious girls. I find it no apology can excuse a way Donald Trump 's reprehensible comments degrading women." We have heard Donald Trump say inappropriate things about women, we have heard it again and again and again. The question is, is this different?

GLORIA BORGER, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL ANALYST: It is -- I think it is different. I mean, if you listen to the tape. And I don't know about you Erin, but it is hard. It is hard to watch and to listen to when you think of somebody who wants to occupy the Oval Office. And the degrading term -- terminology used about women. You know, I just -- it is something that takes it sort of a step beyond. In many ways, you know, this is the October surprise in the campaign that I don't think anybody could possibly have anticipated and I think what you are going to see now is every Republican who has endorsed Donald Trump in, you know, one way or another trying to figure out what to do about this.

BURNETT: Right.

BORGER: Because do you stand with him? Do you run for the hills? Because this isn't going to help him with women. He's already bleeding independent voters. This isn't going to help him with independent voters. He has to add, not subtract. And people have their own races to run right now. So I think that this is kind of a moment in the campaign where it is going to take a turn.

[19:10:09] BURNETT: So Dana, what does that mean? I mean, where does he go from here? We're a month away. It is not as if you could suddenly say, OK, I'm out. I mean, what level here are we talking about in terms of going deaf con?

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Yes. Who knows? You know, you say, it is not like you could say I'm out. He could say anything he wants at this point. It is hard to imagine that happening. But look, the bottom-line is, you know, we're thinking about long-term for a month, month from now. But inside Trump Tower it is what is going to happen five minutes from now and most importantly what's going to happen 48 hours from now when he's going to go on the debate stage with a female opponent, somebody who wants to be the first female president of the United States.

And that's just a reality but never mind that. Even if it was a male opponent it would be very difficult to explain this away. We don't see any indication from our sources inside the Trump campaign that he wants to come out and clean it up ASAP. You heard Corey Lewandowski , his former campaign manager publicly saying that he believes that the best thing for Donald Trump to down would be to sit down, do an interview, try to control the damage as much as possible before he is sitting before tens of millions of people on that debate stage.

So, you know, that sort of question number one. But look, he's somebody who is as we know -- and Erin, you knew him way before he ran for president. He is stubborn. And he likes to do things the way he does them and the fact that they had gotten him to a point where he was reading teleprompter before everything -- the wheels came off at the last debate and then he was tweeting at 3:00 in the morning. So on and so forth.

But I'll just give you one example, I spoke to one Trump supporters who's a seasoned Republican veteran who said that he can't imagine any woman in the country voting for Donald Trump after hearing that he says that he because he is famous, he could take his hand and put it on their private parts using the "p" word. It is just hard to imagine.

BURNETT: David Chalian, you know, Donald Trump 's response was -- I'll just read it again. This was locker room banter. A private conversation that took place many areas ago. Bill Clinton has said far worse to me on the golf course. Not even close. I apologize if anyone was offended. You heard M.J. saying, look, if the anyone was offended is offensive to some people, you have pointed out though that Donald Trump has almost never used the words apologize but this is not a full apology, this is a Bill Clinton is worse. And if you are upset, I'm sorry.

DAVID CHALIAN, CNN POLITICAL REPORTER: Right. I don't think Donald Trump gets any credit here for using the word apologize. But what jumped out at me when that statement was first issued Erin, was, whoa this tells us where we are on the Richter scale inside Trump Tower because it is a statement in his name that that word appears with and that just hasn't happened before. So that just showed you I think what kind of earthquake it was inside the Trump campaign. But there are things now Erin that you have to watch for. Because it is, how does the Trump campaign come back? This is just what you were discussing with Dana.

How does the Republican Party save itself from this, which is a different calculation than how Trump tries to save his candidacy. And then how Hillary Clinton uses this because it does, you know, double down on this existing narrative that we've seen in a recent poll. One of the biggest concerns voters still have about Donald Trump are the words he uses about women or **immigrants**, his language, his tone, his temperament. This reinforces that very negative impression of him that he has been working on and I just think it up ends any progress he was hoping to make.

BORGER: You know, I mean, it wasn't so long ago we were talking about Alicia Machado. So it is not as if this happened in a vacuum. It didn't happen in a vacuum.

BURNETT: Right.

BORGER: And so if you are a suburban woman and you are still thinking about voting for Donald Trump , you have a little bit of history here. Or if you are an independent voter. And so I think this kind of piles. And not only the fact that they released a statement but that they did it so quickly to add to what David was saying.

BURNETT: OK.

BORGER: They knew what kind of hot water they were in. And they knew they had to say something. I'm not so sure it was so wise for them to raise Bill Clinton in their statement, because I'm not so sure what standing Donald Trump has now to take on Bill Clinton . It's as if he couldn't take responsibility for his own words and had to figure out a way around that somehow. BURNETT: All right. All of you, please stay with us. Next the live picture of Trump Tower in New York City. Waiting to see what Donald Trump may or may not do. We understand that he is there. He is there tonight. He's obviously trying to figure out what this means for him right now. One of Trump's most vocal female supporters, the first Trump surrogate to speak at this woman is going to come out on the show right after this.

And the breaking news. New information on the leak of this explosive tape. How did that happen?

[19:15:22] Brian Stelter has some huge breaking details on that.

And we're of course also following the breaking news of Hurricane Matthew tonight. Deadly storm hitting Jacksonville, Florida right now. This could be some of the worst it gets as the governor of that state says, the worst is still ahead. We're live in Jacksonville tonight.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:18:58] BURNETT: The breaking news, a bombshell in the presidential race tonight. An audio recording surfacing of Donald Trump using vulgar language to talk about women, bragging on tape about groping women's genitals trying to have sex with married women. And saying when you're a star, they let you do it.

Already some of Trump's own staffers admitting to CNN the story is appalling. One campaign source telling us the timing of the article could be a "death knell." That's a quote.

OUTFRONT tonight, Donald Trump supporter Scottie Nell Hughes, Hillary Clinton 's supporter Maria Cardona. Her firm does work for a pro- Clinton Super Pac. New York Times political correspondent Patrick Healy and Washington Post political reporter Philip Bump.

OK. Thanks to all. Scottie, you are the first female, you know, Trump surrogate to come out and speak since this happened. I don't know if you just heard the reporting a moment ago. Dana was saying, Dana Bash was saying, a top GOP person who supported Donald Trump said, I don't know how any woman in America can vote for Donald Trump now. This is somebody who supports him. What about you?

SCOTTIE NELL HUGHES, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Well those words are horrendous. They are dreadful. They are appalling. They are fowl. But I'll say this. The words of Donald Trump for 11 years ago are bad. But there are not near as bad as the actions of Hillary Clinton since she's been in office. There are four soldiers in Benghazi right now who are not with us right now, because of Hillary Clinton 's actions and could kill us --

BURNETT: So, Scottie, I understand what you are trying to do and you're trying to do your job, right? You're trying to turn this to Hillary Clinton . But I do just have to ask you. Has anything changed for you when you hear this about Donald Trump .

NELL HUGHES: Absolutely.

BURNETT: You have come out here for over a year. You have defended him. It is different this time?

NELL HUGHES: No. I've always said, I don't agree with some of the language he used but what this did to me personally, it proved to me that Mr. Trump has not always wanted to run for office. His entire life has not been to get elected and say things to pander to people to get elected. He was not running for office at this time. He was a part of a world that produces movies and books and songs that use this type of language, and language that I guarantee every single one of us has heard before tonight.

And yet, you know, now he's running for president. But it just shows, he's only running for president for one reason only. Because he has problems, he knows that this country has problems that he doesn't believe anybody else can fix. He wasn't a politician, he didn't want this office but he knows that America is in so much trouble he needs to help.

BURNETT: So Scottie, I want to play for you part of this tape. A brief part. And I'll explain to you specifically why in just a moment. But let me just play something he said in this tape about tic tacs and kissing woman. Here is Donald Trump .

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: I got to use some tic tacs in case I start kissing her. You know I'm automatically attracted to beautiful -- I just start kissing them. It's a magnet.

(LAUGHTER)

Just kiss, I don't even wait. And when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: So Scottie, I know a woman who heard that line today. It stopped her in her tracks. I have known this woman for years. She told me that when she heard this, she could only think of one thing and that is what Donald Trump did to her. And I want to quote what she told me, she said, "The tic tacs. That is exactly what Trump did to me. Trump took tic tacs. Suggested I take them also. He then leaned in," I am reading this -- "catching me off guard and kissed me almost on the lips. I was really freaked out. After Trump asked me to come into his office alone. I figured I could handle myself. Anyway, once in his office he kept telling me how special I am and gave me a cell phone and asked me to call him. I ran the hell out of there." That was in 2010. He was married at the time. This is the exact story that Trump said, this isn't Trump just saying something to make it up. This has happened to someone I know.

NELL HUGHES: Well, and I apologize but honestly, that's something, I don't even know that story, it's not been reported too. Mr. Trump has not said that. Has not confirmed his campaign. I can't address to that issue. I don't think it is any surprise back to the audio tapes from 11-years-ago that Mr. Trump has lied to beautiful women. Like I said, he lived in that world. That was his world. Celebrity. We see that all the time. And maybe, it doesn't excuse it but if we're going hold him accountable for the words he said 11 years ago, then we need to hold Hollywood celebrities accountable for their actions today and not allow them to be on the screen.

BURNETT: So, Scottie, I'm reporting that story right now. It is someone that I know it happened. The implication. This is just one person of course but when he told that story is that he did this to a lot of people. He wasn't kidding when he said -- he gave her tic tac. He tried to kiss her. This was in 2010. If these kinds of things start surfacing, does this change anything for you?

NELL HUGHES: Well, did it change for Bill Clinton when he ran for office? I mean, he had 17 women that claimed rape, claimed sexual assault, claimed affairs with him. And that didn't change. And in fact if Hillary Clinton would have been honest at the time as she was to her friend Linda Blair and said, she had problems in this area because he didn't have a dad in his life, maybe we wouldn't have had a 19-year-old in the oval office in a blue dress and a cigar. So if we're going look at the backgrounds and hold them accountable. But what we saw today is Mr. Trump apologized. He said this was wrong. He said he did not agree, you know, that he would not do this. It shows that he is actually evolving.

[19:23:45] BURNETT: OK. Maria?

MARIA CARDONA, DEMOCRATIC STRATEGIST: You know, Erin, I really do feel for my colleague Scottie, my colleague Corey and all of the Trump supporters who have to come on and really defend the indefensible. And we've always said that what he's done up until now and even not counting this has been indefensible. The problem with this is that Trump supporters love to say that he's running for office and people support him because he speaks from the heart. Yes that is exactly right. He does speak from the heart. And that it what should scare everybody to our core.

We have heard him now what is in his heart, what is deeply in his heart. What he talks about when he thinks the microphones are not hearing him. And as a mother, as an **immigrant**, as a Latina, when I heard this story, you know, Democratic strategist and Hillary Clinton supporters aside, it made me nauseous, Erin. It made me nauseous, it made me want to go home and cling to my nine-year-old daughter with the thought that this is a man, who by the way is now an irredeemable pervert, a predator who is seeking the Oval Office, who wants to be our commander-in-chief and represent this country around the world, who will be somebody who supposedly should be a role model and somebody that our children look up to. God forbid.

BURNETT: So Patrick, let me ask you. Your reaction here to the significance of the story. And also now, I mean I'm just saying look, I now personally know someone who came forward and said that this actually happened to them. He did this.

PATRICK HEALY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT, "THE NEW YORK TIMES ": And "New York Times " is going to be reporting shortly about another incident with a Miss Utah from 1997, temple taggart, who said that Mr. Trump came down to several of the beauty pageant contestants, and at the time kissed her on the lips. And she was just so sort of stunned by that. That sort of aggressive --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Yes.

HEALY: Right. And it brings to mind the accusation that Donald Trump hurled at Ben Carson last year when he called Ben Carson pathological. This notion that Donald Trump has this compulsive need to start kissing women like a magnet, that he has this sort of plan about how he deals with tic tacs or taking this married woman out shopping for furniture. This kind of like, sort of, pre-meditated planning. Brings things to mind, I'm not going to say, you know, on the air but sort of brings, people don't to mind like a strategy.

BURNETT: And so, we're just getting a statement in now from Reince Priebus who as we said was supposed to appear on stage in a very significant event tomorrow with Donald Trump and Paul Ryan. Here is her statement, no woman should ever be described in these terms of talked about in this manner, period, ever, period.

PHILIP BUMP, POLITICAL REPORTER, THE WASHINGTON POST : And that is striking. You know, I think that not to get into the politics of this thing but obviously that is what the ramifications are. And I think that, you know, Donald Trump 's struggle has been with women. That is not going help that. This is going to be hugely damaging to Republican women who are sort of wavering on him in general. I think that the Republican Party after the conventions when his poll numbers started to tank, there is a lot of, should we bail on him now? And, you know, I mean, if Reince Priebus is coming out and having that -- that is a harsh statement in not so many words.

HEALY: And to that point, I mean, there is also two a days before the next presidential debate and I can tell you that Hillary Clinton 's x- factor one, Hillary Clinton advisor who said but they don't even know yet how she brings this up. How do you do that in a town hall setting? You know maybe Anderson Cooper, Martha Raddatz will bring that up sort of for them. It seems inevitable and how Donald Trump handles that. And we've seen this guy get so defensive when it comes under attack or sort of shrugged things off. And locker room behavior, I just think that is not going to fly for a lot of Americans, especially a lot of undecided female voters.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you all very much.

OUTFRONT next, the breaking news with Brian Stelter on the story behind why? Why now? How did it happen? How did that tape leak? We have some breaking news on that.

And Hurricane Matthew, death and destruction right now in Florida, four dead, more than a million right now without power. The storm is barreling down on Jacksonville, some of the worst coming up in this hour. We'll be live in Florida with the latest. (COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:32:25] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: Breaking news, a newly surfaced video of Donald Trump talking about groping women. And we want to warn you. The language here is graphic and vulgar.

For those just joining, though, I do want to play it. We're going to talk about it. Here it is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: She used to be great. She's still very beautiful.

DONALD TRUMP , BUSINESSMAN: You know I moved on her actually. You know she was down on Palm Beach. I moved on her and I failed. I'll admit it. I did try and (EXPLETIVE DELETED) her. She was married.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That's huge news.

TRUMP: No, no, Nancy. No this was -- and I moved on her very heavily, in fact, I took her out furniture shopping. She wanted to get some furniture, I said, 'I'll show you where they have some nice furniture.'

I took her out furniture. I moved on her like a bitch, but I couldn't get there, and she was married. Then all of a sudden I see her, she's now got the big phony tits and everything. She's totally changed her look.

BILLY BUSH: Sheesh, your girl's hot as shit. In the purple.

CROWD: Whoa! Whoa! Yes! Whoa!

BUSH: Yes! The Donald has scored. Whoa, my man!

(CROSSTALK)

TRUMP: Look at you. You are a pussy.

(CROSSTALK)

TRUMP: Maybe it's a different one.

BUSH: It better not be the publicist. No, it's her. It's-

TRUMP: Yeah, that's her. With the gold. I better use some Tic Tacs just in case I start kissing her. You know I'm automatically attracted to beautiful -- I just start kissing them. It's like a magnet. Just kiss. I don't even wait.

And when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything.

BUSH: Whatever you want.

TRUMP: Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything.

BUSH: Yeah those legs, all I can see is the legs.

TRUMP: Oh, it looks good.

BUSH: Come on, shorty.

TRUMP: Oh, nice legs, huh?

BUSH: Oof, get out of the way, honey. Oh, that's good legs. Go ahead.

TRUMP: It's always good if you don't fall out of the bus. Like Ford . Gerald Ford , remember?

BUSH: Down below. Pull the handle.

TRUMP: Hello. How are you? Hi.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Hi, Mr. Trump. How are you? Pleasure to meet you.

TRUMP: Nice Seeing you. Terrific, terrific. You know Billy Bush?

BUSH: Hello, nice to see you. How you doing, Arianne?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm doing very well, thank you.

Are you ready to be a soap star?

TRUMP: We're ready. Let's go. Make me a soap star.

BUSH: How about a little hug for the Donald? He just got off the bus.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Would you like a little hug, darling?

TRUMP: Absolutely. Melania said this was OK.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: The chairman of the Republican National Committee responding just moments ago. Reince Priebus saying no woman should be described in these terms or talked about in this manner ever.

Brian Stelter is OUTFRONT.

OK, this tape has been there for a decade, more than a decade.

[19:35:04] And now it comes out today. Obviously, the big question is, who did it? How? You have some new details.

BRIAN STELTER, CNN SENIOR MEDIA CORRESPONDENT: Yes, we've just reported this on CNN.com that earlier this week, the producers at Access Hollywood found this tape. It had been on the shelf for over a decade.

It came up in the context of the "Associated Press" report on Monday about "The Apprentice" and how according to ex-employees on the show, Trump would talk sexually and in lewd ways and vulgar ways behind the scenes of "The Apprentice".

So, access went finding this tape, they dug it out and by Thursday yesterday, they decided to air it.

BURNETT: So, what, they were looking for interactions between him and women and they knew there was a woman in there and they just checked the tape or did someone remember there have been --

STELTER: There was a vague memory that maybe Trump had talked in this kind of way on the tape. You have to wonder though, Billy Bush probably remembered this happening years ago. And when Trump ran for president, it is notable that NBC , Access Hollywood and Billy Bush did not share this until today.

So, they were preparing to broadcast the tape. They hadn't decided when to run it and that's when it leaked today to "The Washington Post ". So, someone got this tape off NBC 's video servers, gave it to "The Washington Post ", clearly wanted to make sure it was seen.

BURNETT: So, this would seem like this was somebody who works at NBC more broadly. The entertainment unit, it's unclear. But somebody who works at ABC leaks this tape to "The Washington Post ".

STELTER: Wanted this to be seen. Now, Access Hollywood says it was going to run it. They weren't sure when but they were going to at some point. You have to wonder why this tape was on the shelf for so long and you have to wonder if they have other tapes as well. A high ranking NBC source says to me nothing else they know of from Access Hollywood.

BURNETT: OK, and Billy Bush now has come out with a statement. And what's going to happen to him in all of this. Obviously he was right there with Donald Trump and sort of encouraging this.

STELTER: That's right. He was a co-host of Access Hollywood. Now, he's on the news side of the business, on "The Today Show".

I think it's hard to imagine Billy Bush being on the show on Monday morning, right after a presidential debate, where this would be a hot source story. But here is part of the statement from Billy Bush, actually a more apologetic statement than the version we heard from Donald Trump earlier today. He said, "Obviously, I'm embarrassed and ashamed. It is no excuse. But this happened 11 years ago. I was younger, less mature and acted foolishly in playing along. I'm very sorry."

So, that's a statement from Billy Bush. Again, the question of why we didn't know about this tape sooner is the big unanswered question. But they did unearth it earlier this week and someone, somehow leaked it to "The Washington Post ".

BURNETT: Someone leaked it to "The Washington Post ".

All right. Brian Stelter, thank you very much. Obviously, significant new details there.

Gloria Borger, Dana Bash, back with me, along with our executive editor for politics, Mark Preston.

Dana, let me just start with you. Obviously, the significance from the RNC Chairman Reince Priebus coming out and saying you don't ever speak this way about a woman ever. Pretty significant. Trump is supposed to appear with Paul Ryan, with Reince Priebus tomorrow.

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Incredibly significant. Before I get to that, let me just tell you that I've just been communicating with people who are familiar with what's going on inside Trump Tower right now. And as you can imagine, it is crisis mode and damage control to the nth degree and trying to figure whether or not Mr. Trump comes out tonight.

The likelihood I'm told at this point is he probably will. The question is how, in what shape or form? And it is all very much in the air because they are trying to deal with this real time.

So, if he doesn't, don't hold me to it. It's because they're trying to work things out as we speak to try as we were talking about earlier, Erin, to stem some of the damage before he's on the debate stage in front of tens of millions of people on Sunday where this would potentially be coming up and he would be addressing it out of his own mouth for the very first time.

But as -- with regards to tomorrow and this event, that Trump is supposed to attend, this is a big annual Wisconsin unity event for Republicans. Ironically something that Reince Priebus, when he was a lowly sort of county chair started many, many years ago, about a decade ago.

And so, it's become a big thing. It is important to Reince Priebus. As you said, the speaker is going to be there, who, of course, is from Wisconsin. The governor, Scott Walker, who has signed onto the Trump campaign but is certainly not the kind of person who likes this kind of talk and who would even be familiar with this kind of talk. He's a Christian conservative and truly an Eagle Scout, actually an Eagle Scout.

So, the question is whether or not I think at this point, Donald Trump doesn't go to that event as opposed to them all canceling on Donald Trump . Or whether or not, they figure out someway around this. It is very much up in the air as well.

BURNETT: So, Gloria, what does he do? Does he come out tonight? I mean, I guess the question is, what does he say?

GLORIA BORGER, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL ANALYST: Well, it has -- first of all, he has to say more than what he said in the statement which was effectively saying if you were offended, and then saying this is no worse than what Bill Clinton has said to me on the golf course, kind of, you know, saying -- it was his way of saying it wasn't that big a deal. I don't know if he's going to come out or not. And as Dana says, what they're trying to figure out inside Trump Tower. I've just been communicating with somebody inside the Clinton campaign, a senior advisor. And my question was, well, what do you do now?

And this advisor made a point about the larger Republican Party. This advisor said we want to make Republicans say if they think he should still be president. Not just condemn what he said. But that he should be president. So, it's clear that this is going to be their strategic tactic, not only from Hillary Clinton herself.

But I think you can see this line developing in every congressional race, every Senate race and every state legislative race to anybody who has supported Donald Trump , they now can turn this around and say, do you think somebody who did this or speaks like this should actually occupy the Oval Office, and it's given them a huge new tool to use against Donald Trump --

BURNETT: Mark?

BORGER: -- and Republicans.

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Well, you know, Erin. Let's put in this context. Let's take a step back on two major issues.

One is, if this stood alone on its own, if this was the only controversial thing, you know, crass comment from Donald Trump , perhaps it is survivable, OK? He can say it was 11 years ago, I made a mistake. I shouldn't have said it. It was locker room talk. That's fine.

But it isn't. There are a number of straws on the back of the camel's back right now and guess what? It has now broken. This is the straw that is going to break the camel's back and I cannot imagine how Donald Trump is going to come back from it. In addition to that very quickly. Timing is everything.

Speaker Ryan put out a tweet today talking about how every woman should have the right to protections under sexual assault. A law was passed today. Speaker Ryan was touting it just four hours ago. How does Speaker Ryan stand next to Donald Trump tomorrow in Wisconsin? I can't imagine that happening either.

BORGER: Right. I don't see how that -- I don't see how that happens, particularly given the tape, Erin, in which Donald Trump somehow says that his power and celebrity confers this privilege upon him to grope women. And I don't -- I don't see how Paul Ryan can square that.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you all very much.

Next, we continue to cover this breaking story on our other breaking story this evening, Hurricane Matthew. A deadly storm killing at least four, right now bearing down on Jacksonville, Florida. The worst still ahead and it is striking this hour.

We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:46:27] BURNETT: Breaking news now on Hurricane Matthew. The death toll rising tonight with at least four people dead in Florida. Many more lives on the line right now. The storm right now coming up the Florida coast towards Georgia and South Carolina, a life threatening storm surge now coming.

Already, hurricane force winds, torrential rains have left more than a million people without power. The storm hitting Jacksonville right now. The governor saying the worst is still ahead.

Rosa Flores is in Jacksonville.

And, Rosa, what are the conditions like where you are?

ROSA FLORES, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well, that storm surge, catastrophic. The wind speeds and the wind gusts that we're seeing here, very destructive, just take a look at the tree that you see behind me. We've seen trees like this all throughout the city.

But Jacksonville isn't the only city getting pummeled by this monster storm.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

FLORES (voice-over): Hurricane Matthew, the worst hurricane to hit Florida in more than a decade. Early Friday, the deadly hurricane barreling into Florida's Atlantic coast, packing winds up to 120 miles per hour. Streets turning into rivers, rainfall totals could reach 15 inches in some areas. Florida's governor issuing a grim warning.

GOV. RICK SCOTT (R), FLORIDA: We are very concerned about storm surge. And the worst effects are still likely to come.

FLORES: The president weighing in, urging people to listen to authorities before it's too late.

BARACK OBAMA , PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Do not be a hold-out here because we can always replace property. But we can't replace lives.

FLORES: Fierce winds and heavy rains left more than a million without power.

In St. Augustine, at least 20 people, including some children, have stayed behind in this bread and breakfast, as flood waters threatened to pour into the building.

In Daytona Beach, winds clocked in excess of hundred miles an hour, heavily damaging this amusement park. Businesses in the city destroyed. Roofs gone.

In West Palm Beach, the storm ripping into this department store. Matthew has already killed hundreds across the Caribbean and now, it's claimed at least four lives in Florida. A 50-year-old woman died overnight, first responders unable to reach her after she suffered a heart attack.

For reporters in the thick of the storm, it was enough to leave at least one to consider a career change.

And now just to the north, Jacksonville may well suffer the most damage. The city sits right at sea level.

SCOTT: The very folks on Jacksonville, there is potential for significant flooding there.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

FLORES: Now as conditions improve, we're told that firefighters will be out cutting trees, like the one you see behind me with chain saws and tonight, Erin, 209,000 people in this city without power -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. That is, of course, the worst stuff striking Jacksonville this hour. Thank you very much.

And now to meteorologist Tom Sater in our weather center.

Tom, you know, the governor, Rick Scott , says the worst of the storm is still likely ahead. What does that mean? What do you expect?

TOM SATER, AMS METEOROLOGIST: Well, even though the storm is a category two, OK? It went down to 110 miles per hour. It's no longer a category three or four, but it's had several days at that strength to. So, the upwelling of water underneath the center of the storm is a good 25 to 35 feet high, Erin.

So, with the forward momentum and force it's been carrying for days, if it does make land fall and slams into a curved cause line in between Savannah and Charleston, we could see a higher storm surge than St. Augustine or Jacksonville. We're going to see more rainfall and probably get closer to more destructive winds.

[19:50:14] We are extremely lucky that overnight, the eye stayed off the shore of Florida by 20 to 25 miles. The difference between catastrophic damage and moderate to severe damage. But look at this model. This has been extremely spot on.

This RPM model gave us landfall in Haiti. Put the exact land fall in eastern Cuba and through the Bahamas and it stayed off shore last night. So, it looks like it's a Saturday-Sunday event, but the worst though, when you look at the radar, this bright banding here of orange in yellow, that was to the northeast all day. That's where the strongest winds and heaviest rain is.

Thank goodness it wasn't on the western quadrant. That would have cost more problems for the cost of Florida. But because it's on the northern side, it's forward momentum, moving into Tybee Islands, St. Simons, moving into and around a big concern could be, I would think around Hilton Head. There is a big concentration of pine. The pine trees, weak roots, tall broad trees. When they come down, they cause a lot of damage on threes, and on homes and power lines. Still could see a six to nine surge. Jacksonville reporting a record surge over five feet. To put that in context, Katrina had 27-foot surge. With Battery Park in Super Storm Sandy, it was 14.

But it depends on the topography and the area, of course, of concern. So, that's a big concern.

Now, let's talk about good news here. This was a gift. Jacksonville had low tide at just moments ago at 7:29, and tomorrow morning, as we get closer to Charleston, again, closest approach at low tide on Saturday morning, Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Tom.

And the city of Jacksonville is reeling tonight, which the city's -- the largest city in the hurricane's path right now, 1.6 million people. The mayor, Lenny Curry, joins me now on the phone.

Mayor Curry, thank you very much for taking the time. What is your biggest fear right now?

MAYOR LENNY CURRY, JACKSONVILLE, FL (via telephone): Thank you for having me.

Continues to be the potential for loss of life. The risk going into this with storm surge, we -- the storm surge recorded today was second highest in recorded history. Second highest, we've had. The last time we had something which beat this one was a hundred years ago to get perspective on to what we're facing.

Two days ago, I ordered an evacuation, coastal community, the beaches, cities, and yesterday additional evacuations. Again, my concern continues to be those folks that decided to stay. And we're just ready to get through this thing and go out and help those people in our city.

BURNETT: What do you say to those who decide to stay? I know the governor has been very clear, other mayors have been very clear. If you stayed, you were told to leave, first responders will not go to help those people because you are not going to risk the lives of those first responders. Is that the way it is also, of course, in Jacksonville?

CURRY: I mean, we certainly cannot and will not send first responders into conditions that aren't safe. But look, the storm is here. It is upon us. It is exiting in the near term.

For whatever reason, those who decided to stay, they did. And there is no reason to debate that. They are members -- citizens of our community so we are going to do everything that we can do help them and make sure that everyone in the city is safe.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Mayor Curry. I appreciate your time tonight. Thank you, sir. And we are following the two breaking stories tonight. Hurricane Matthew with a rising death toll in the United States and the tape of Donald Trump making vulgar comments about women. Will he address it tonight? We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:57:54] BURNETT: All right. Live pictures on your screen, Trump Tower. Donald Trump inside Trump Tower this evening. Big discussions going on in the campaign over whether he will come out and address this tape, lewd comments that he made about women in 2005.

Dana Bash is with me.

Dana, the highest women -- ranking Republican woman in the House has now come out and said something, and what is her response to Trump's tape?

BASH: It's Cathy McMorris-Rogers. She is the House Republican Conference chair. And she said that she had promised to never be shy about disagreeing with Donald Trump and in this statement, she's not. I'll read part of it.

She says, "It is never appropriate to condone unwanted sexual advances or violence against women. Mr. Trump must realize that it has no place in public or in private conversations, today or on the past."

First of all, the statement is strong and what strikes me, Erin, and I'm sure you too is where she says sexual advances or violence against women. And that's something that to hear from a top Republican, the top Republican female lawmaker saying that what she heard in that audio tape wasn't just lewd. It was suggesting violence against women, takes it to a level we've been talking about. But to hear it from her and to see it in black and white is pretty strong.

BURNETT: Yes, it is. And I was saying, you know, a woman I know said this happened to her when he had leaned in and kissed her, offered her a Tic Tac. She was freaked out, was obviously upset, used the word disgusting, was not anything that was -- he just leaned in and did it. It is appearing that this happened more than one time.

Dana, in terms of what he's going to do tonight in the last few seconds here, will we hear from him?

BASH: We don't know. Last I heard, it was more likely than not. But they are as you said huddling in Trump Tower, trying to figure out how to respond in what way, shape, or form and if.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Dana Bash. We appreciate it.

And, of course, this major breaking stories continuing this hour as we are counting down o that to that crucial debate.

Our news coverage continues with "AC360" and John Berman.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Jim Acosta, Dana Bash, Manu Raju, Brianna Keilar, Jessica Schneider, Tom Foreman, Mark Preston, Kyung Lah, Tom Sater, Jeanne Moos

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[19:00:10] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news. Donald Trump speaking live this hour in the crucial state of Nevada as new details emerged about Trump's debate strategy. Is he running out of time?

Plus, Donald Trump claimed nearly a billion dollars of losses in a year? But did it stop him from living a lavish lifestyle? Our special report.

And Bill Clinton in damage control mode after calling ObamaCare the crazy system. Is he doing his wife more harm than good? Let's go OUTFRONT.

And good evening, I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight the breaking news. It is down to the wire. Donald Trump at this hour rallying supporters in the crucial swing state of Nevada. There are less than five weeks until voting and the slew of national and state polls showing Trump trailing Hillary Clinton. Can he turn it around just days ahead of the next debate? Trump today celebrating running-mate Mike Pence's well-received performance at the VP debate and basking in some reflected glory.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I'd argue that Mike had the single most decisive victory in the history of vice presidential debates. I believe that too. And last night America also got to look firsthand at my judgment.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Now, the next all important presidential debate is just four days away. This time it will be a town hall debate. Half of the questions coming from people in the audience, just citizens of this country. Will Trump take a lesson from Pence and prep more, study more ahead of the face-off? Tomorrow, trump attends the town hall meeting in New Hampshire which is being built as the dry run for Sunday.

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie is helping Trump prepare. It was a format that the New Jersey Governor did again and again and again in the state of New Hampshire. Hillary Clinton is off the campaign trail huddling with advisors prepping for the debate. Jim Acosta is OUTFRONT tonight at the Trump rally in Reno. And Jim, obviously the pressure is now on Trump. He got the assist from Mike Pence. The pressure is now all on Donald Trump and Sunday night.

JIM ACOSTA, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Absolutely, Erin. Mike Pence did so well last night at that vice presidential debate, he was generating talk of Mike Pence in 2020. That is not the effect that the Trump campaign intended. And Mike Pence spent part of the day trying to tamp that down. But it certainly puts pressure on Donald Trump to outdo his number two.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA (voice-over): Donald Trump is taking a victory lap. Declaring the bottom of his ticket came out on top in the vice presidential debate.

TRUMP: Mike Pence did an incredible job. And I'm getting a lot of credit. Because that is really my first so called choice. I'd argue that Mike had the single most decisive victor in the history of vice presidential debates.

(CROSSTALK)

ELAINE QUIJANO, DEBATE MODERATOR: Gentlemen, the people at home cannot understand either one of you.

ACOSTA: But in the rumble of the running mates, Mike Pence was at times sprinting as fast as he could away from Trump as Tim Kaine was in hot pursuit.

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I'm happy to defend him. Most of what you said is completely false and the American people know that.

ACOSTA: While the Indiana Governor state cool deflecting most of Kaine's attacks, Democrats are seizing on Pence's defense of Trump's past comment that some undocumented Mexican **immigrants** are rapists and criminals as a defining moments.

PENCE: Look, he whipped out that Mexican thing again. He, look --

TIM KAINE (D), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Can you defend that?

PENCE: There are criminal **aliens** in this country. And he also said many of them are good people. You keep leaving that out of your quote.

ACOSTA: During the debate, Pence was talking tough on Putin insisting a President Trump would stir down the Russian leader in Syria. That is despite reservations voiced by Trump himself.

TRUMP: I would have stayed out of Syria.

PENCE: If Russia chooses to be involved and continue, I should say to be involved, in this barbaric attack on civilians in Aleppo, the United States of America should be prepared to use military force.

ACOSTA: Still. Post-debate polls show the Reganesque performance carried the night. The Indiana governor shrugged off the likelihood that Trump didn't pay federal income taxes for nearly two decades.

KAINE: He stood on the stage last week. And when Hillary said you haven't been paying taxes, he said, that makes me smart. So it is smart not to pay for our military. It's smart not pay for veterans.

PENCE: Senator, do you taken all the deductions that you are entitled too?

ACOSTA: But after the debate, when Trump's son Eric was asked by Dana Bash whether his father had in fact paid any federal income taxes over the last 20 years, his answer hardly put the matter to rest.

ERIC TRUMP, SON OF DONALD TRUMP: Of course. Yes absolutely. My father paid a tremendous amount of tax. We as a company pay a tremendous amount of tax.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA: Now, unlike the last debate. Donald Trump's top advisors are actually talking up his chances for this upcoming face-off with Hillary Clinton. Campaign Manager Kellyanne Conway is saying that the town hall format coming up on Sunday is tailor made for Donald Trump and she's pushing back on any notion that Trump is taking on a lighter schedule. Heading into Sunday, Erin as Kellyanne Conway told me earlier today, that is what Hillary Clinton is doing -- Erin.

[19:05:09] BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Jim Acosta. And now, Jason Carroll, he is OUTFRONT in Henderson, Nevada. That is where Trump spoke this afternoon. So really, tripling down on this must win state. And Jason, now we're 24 hours away from a town hall. Trump's practice run for Sunday night's debate.

ACOSTA: Right. In sun down New Hampshire, this is where it's going to take place, the same place where Chris Christie held his town hall during the primary season last year. Look, as you say, this is going to be a dry run for Donald Trump. There was a lot of criticism that he did not prepare as well as he should have for the last debate. Clearly the camp does not want to see this happen this go around. Part of the reason they are holding this town hall, where he can sharpen his skills, get more familiar with the format.

Also, there is a question though going forward, Erin, will Donald Trump learn from some of the things that Pence arguably did well during his debate? He did not take the bait when he was challenged on some of those controversial things that Donald Trump has said about Mexican-Americans or women or Muslims. He didn't interrupt as much as well as we saw Donald Trump do during his debate with Clinton. So going forward, yes he's getting this practice but will he learn from some of things that Pence did well during his debate? That is a question that remains to be seen -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Jason, thank you very much. Interrupting obvious seems to matter very much. Tim Kaine tonight admitting his own wife had criticized him for interrupting too much last night.

OUTFRONT now. Manu Raju, our senior political reporter. Philip Bump, a Washington Post political reporter. Dana Bash, our chief political correspondent. And Mark Preston, our executive editor for Politics.

So, Dana, Pence won, that is what our poll says. He prepared. He was substantive. He didn't take the bait. Is Trump now going to follow Mike Pence's lead and do serious debate prep? He has just days left and he's got to turn it around.

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: No. I mean, that is the simple, honest answer that I'm getting from sources who are familiar with Trump's preparation. His style and how he likes to prepare. Which is not a whole lot. The very fact that he is going to New Hampshire tomorrow. He wants to stay on the campaign trail. But, here is the "but." They did as Jason mentioned, convince Donald Trump that he does have to get familiar in some way, shape or form with the classic town hall format.

Again it is not just about taking questions from voters, undecided voters. He hasn't actually done as much of that as a Chris Christie or a John McCain did back in the day. People who spent a lot of time in states like New Hampshire where that is expected of them.

BURNETT: Yes.

BASH: But he still needs to have some basic skills about what do when a voter asks a question, do you stand up? Do you walk towards them? Do you address them by name? How do you show that empathy factor that Bill Clinton first did so well during the presidential town hall debate? That is the kind of thing that they have convinced Donald Trump that he needs to do. Which is why he's going to do that tomorrow night. So, preparation Mike Pence did? Not even close.

BURNETT: Not even close. Philip, I mean, so we're talking about the town hall? That's it.

PHILIP BUMP, POLITICAL REPORTER, THE WASHINGTON POST: Right.

BURNETT: That's it?

BUMP: Right. Yes, I mean, I think the point is well taken that this is a format where Donald Trump should do better. It is more casual. It's more informal. He likes having a rapport, one on one with folks in a way --

BURNETT: Right.

BUMP: -- that didn't come through in that first debate.

BURNETT: Right.

BUMP: I think it is interesting to think of this like 2012. Mitt Romney beat Barack Obama soundly in the first debate.

BURNETT: Uh-hm. BUMP: And then the second debate was a town hall that meant Obama was more casual and more comfortable. Played to his strengths. Right. Donald Trump is not a Barack Obama type politician for a lot of reasons. And I think that he will be challenged in a way to, you know, follow-up on policy and so on and so forth but it is going to be harder for Hillary Clinton goad him there as well which is one of the main reasons --

BURNETT: You know, Manu, I'm remembering, I had hosted some town halls with Donald Trump on the business side and he did like to interact with people. He let people come in and touch his hair at times. I mean, I don't know if you'd seen anything like that.

(LAUGHTER)

But I am simply saying, I know he hasn't done a lot on the campaign trail, but I have been with him in that format and he did like to be with people.

MANU RAJU, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER: This format suddenly lends itself to that. But it also lends itself to him answering very difficult questions off the cuff which we know sometimes is not Donald Trump's strength. But I would be surprised he does not take some serious lessons from not just how Mike Pence did but just the fact that he lost that first debate and he was criticized relentlessly about his tone and the way he interrupted Hillary Clinton.

I look at the way Donald Trump handled the primary debates and as instructive in this. Remember that South Carolina primary debate, Donald Trump was really a loose cannon in that debate. Attacking all his opponents. I think George W. Bush was responsible for 9/11. Then after that. The next debate. The Florida debate. He was very reserved. Muted.

BURNETT: He was completely different.

RAJU: Completely different Donald Trump. So, I would be surprised if he doesn't learn a little bit from, not just Mike Pence's performance but his own performance.

[19:10:06] BURNETT: Now, Mark, Pence did seem to try to reinvent Trump last night on some level. Here is some of what Mike Pence said last night versus what Trump has actually said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KAINE: Let's start with not praising Vladimir Putin as a great leader. Donald Trump and Mike Pence have said, he's a great leader. And Donald Trump --

PENCE: No, we haven't.

TRUMP: He's running this country. And at least he's a leader. You know, unlike what we have in this country.

PENCE: I think it is inarguable that Vladimir Putin has been a stronger leader in his country than Barack Obama has been in this country.

KAINE: Donald Trump believes in deportation.

TRUMP: You are going to have to deportation force and you are going to do it humanely.

KAINE: No nation should get nuclear weapons.

PENCE: Well he never said that Senator.

TRUMP: At some point we have to say, you know what? We're better off if Japan protects itself against this maniac in North Korea.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Does that juxtaposition matter, Mark?

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Well, facts are certainly stubborn, Erin. You know, the reason why Mike Pence was able to get away with that in real time last night is because his opponent Tim Kaine was so aggressive that he really sucked up a lot of oxygen in the air. When I say the oxygen, kind of the bad oxygen. You know, Mike Pence came across in a very calm, collected manner. Even though he wasn't necessarily answering that in the, you know, truthfulness way that he possibly could.

Heading into this though, just very quickly Erin, heading into this town hall, Donald Trump cannot come in red hot. He is going to have an audience of 50 or so people in there. They will not be interacting with him other than asking the questions. These are not these big rallies.

BURNETT: Right.

PRESTON: But this is something where Donald Trump is going to have to actually answer the question. And guess what, they can go right back Erin and ask him to fulfill their answer if they don't think they got it.

BURNETT: Hmm. That could be very interesting. All right. All of you staying with me.

Next, Bill Clinton is trying to damage control. He came out in great detail, called ObamaCare the craziest thing and he laid out why. Is he a liability or an asset?

Plus, this is Hurricane Matthew as seen from space. Pretty incredible picture. A deadly storm right now headed right to Florida, millions of Americans in its path could have one of the biggest evacuation in American history. We're going to go there live to the ground.

And what was Donald Trump's life like? When he lost the billion dollars, what was he living like? Well, we're going to show you and it is pretty stupendous.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK) [19:15:53] BURNETT: Breaking news. Live pictures, as you can see. Donald Trump going to be taking the stage there at that rally in Nevada. We know he is going to be talking specifically about Bill Clinton who called ObamaCare the craziest thing in the world yesterday. Trump tweeted moments ago, quote, "Bill Clinton is right. ObamaCare is crazy, it doesn't work and doesn't make sense." By the way those are in all quote. Those are things Bill Clinton did say. "Thanks Bill for telling the truth." That is the end of Bill's tweet. The former president tried earlier today to walk his comments back. But can you, when you were in such detail?

Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Hillary Clinton off the trail fundraising and prepping for her second debate showdown with Donald Trump on Sunday but her big name surrogates are out in force. One time rival Bernie Sanders imploring voters to look past Clinton's unfavorable ratings on Election Day.

SEN. BERNIE SANDERS (R), FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Politics is not about personality. Now I know, if you watch TV and watch national media, they think their politics is like dancing with the stars.

(LAUGHTER)

You know, it's like the Super Bowl. The World Series. It is not. It is not entertainment. What politics is about in a Democratic society, it must be about. Is which candidate will have a positive impact on your lives.

KEILAR: Sanders is trying to rally young voters to support Clinton in Iowa where early voting is already under way and Clinton has been trailing Trump in the polls.

CHELSEA CLINTON, DAUGHTER OF HILLARY CLINTON: We don't want anyone to sit out and stay home.

KEILAR: Chelsea Clinton also in the Hawkeye State but her dad is in hot water after saying this about ObamaCare.

BILL CLINTON (D), 42ND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: All of a sudden 25 million more people had healthcare and then the people are out there busting it, sometimes 60 hours a week wind up with their premiums doubled and their coverage cut in half. It is the craziest thing in the world.

KEILAR: Today in Ohio, Bill Clinton tried to walk it back.

BILL CLINTON: There are problems with it. And everybody knows it. The Republicans want to repeal the law. Their idea of solving the problem is to take 20 million people who got insurance and take it away from them. Give it all back to insurance companies again. Hillary's idea is recognize what the problem is.

KEILAR: Donald Trump is seizing on the assessment of President Obama's signature domestic achievement.

TRUMP: Bill Clinton torched President Obama's signature legislation. Remember Hillary Clinton called ObamaCare one of the greatest accomplishments. But Bill had different view. He said it is just a crazy system.

KEILAR: Campaign Manager Kellyanne Conway making it clear ObamaCare will come up at the next debate.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: I think it is a huge issue that's been left on the table in these debates. We've got now President Bill Clinton as our best surrogate. And thinking of having him in the spin room with us in St. Louis.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

KEILAR: In the final five weeks before Election Day, the Clinton campaign has all of her big name surrogates out on the trail. You have President Obama who is supposed to be in Miami today, Erin for Secretary Clinton but that's an event that was postponed due to Hurricane Matthew. He's now scheduled to hit the trail next week in North Carolina and Ohio. And former Vice President Al Gore being added to the list, he is also going to be on the campaign trail very soon -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Brianna, thank you. And now Hillary Clinton supporter Karine Jean Pierre and Donald Trump supporter Jeffrey Lord join Manu and Phil who are both back with me.

Karine, look, this was not just a casual comment from Bill Clinton as you could see from the sound bite that Brianna included in her piece. He went into detail. Premiums double. Benefits cut in half. So, people who are working hard with 25 million people, the implication was essentially just jump on to the back of the system. Does he really think he can unsay what he said? He's calling this a clarification. But that was clearly what he thought yesterday.

KARINE JEAN PIERRE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: Yes. But look, I don't think there's -- I honestly don't think there's a damager here that was done. What Bill Clinton said is that there are some people out there who are paying high insurance premium and that is a problem. Obama believes that. The President believes that. Hillary Clinton believes that. What this is turning into is the Republicans are seizing this moment, this narrative, right, to try to turn this into a discord between Obama and the Clintons which just doesn't exist. It's not what's happening here.

Bill Clinton has always been on the same message as Hillary Clinton. He has said. They have both said, ObamaCare is good but it could be better and now his words are being parsed out to be much worse than it actually is.

BURNETT: She has of course said this is a great achievement for Democrats going back to the days of Harry Truman. Staunch supporter of ObamaCare.

JEFFREY LORD, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Right.

BURNETT: That is not what a staunch supporter of ObamaCare would say.

LORD: No.

BURNETT: That is not how you would say.

[19:20:38] LORD: No. And the political point of this which I think is a serious one. I get stopped, you know, because of CNN in the grocery store. And some guy stopped me whom I don't know. And what was he upset about. He was upset about ObamaCare. He went on chapter and verse. He had a stroke, he recovered from the stroke, he had to deal with ObamaCare. He was really angry. And then included by saying, pointed finger, that is why I'm voting for Donald Trump.

So when you hear Bill Clinton say this, I can only tell you that there are people out there, regular folks, saying yes, exactly and I've had to deal with it.

BURNETT: I mean, and Manu, here is the question though. It is something that President Obama has said. This is going to be his legacy. This maybe his biggest legacy. Sure, he thinks it needs tweaks, not exactly what he wanted but this is his legacy. Hillary Clinton has said he's a staunch supporter. How much does it hurt that Bill Clinton came out and said, essentially it's spilling and it's the craziest thing in the world.

RAJU: I can tell you, Democrats in Washington and the White House are not happy about this.

BURNETT: Well, I'm sure.

RAJU: Yesterday at the White House briefing, our colleague Michelle Kosinski asked Josh Earnest, do you wish he used different words than calling it the craziest thing in the world and they said of course, that was Josh Earnest on the record --

BURNETT: Right. Admitting that.

RAJU: Admitting that.

BURNETT: Ordinarily they would not directly admit that.

RAJU: Absolutely.

BURNETT: Yes.

RAJU: And that is the double edged sword of Bill Clinton. I mean, he's one of the most naturally gifted politicians there is out there but he's also can say things that put his wife in a very difficult spot. Raises a lot of questions what he would be like as a first spouse. And it also shows why the Clinton campaign has been careful at how to utilize Bill Clinton in this campaign. While he's been doing rallies, he's been doing interviews and not getting into the situations that he could get into political trouble.

BURNETT: Right. That was his own choice that he made that decision.

Philip, but you know, this is not just about ObamaCare. OK. You have President Obama and Michelle Obama certainly in her case, the most popular surrogate for Hillary Clinton. Barack Obama has said this election is about cementing his legacy. OK? Hillary Clinton has said, she's going to continue that legacy. And yet Bill Clinton has said some pretty frankly things that Republicans would love about Barack Obama. Here he is.

CLINTON: Keep in mind unlike when I became president, a lot of things are coming apart around the world now. A lot of people say, oh well. You have to understand. It is different now. It is rigged. Yes, it is rigged. Because you don't have a president who is a change maker who Congress will work them. If we believe we finally come to the point where we can put the awful legacy of the last eight years behind us and the seven years before that when we were practices trickledown economics and no regulations in Washington which is what caused the crash, then you should vote for her.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(LAUGHTER)

BUMP: You know, I mean, I think Bill Clinton was president of the United States. Right? He spent eight years of people saying you are the president of the United States. And like he clearly thinks the best president of the United States that ever was, was Bill Clinton. Right? And so, that informs on how he looks at things. Yes, ObamaCare is not perfect and he just sort of goes off and starts talking about, you know, I mean I think that it is very easy to look at the flip side of what he said and say, well, yes, there also those 25 million people who got health coverage which I think is probably where we'll see this conversation evolve.

Yes. I mean, Bill Clinton's focus here as it has been for some time is, I'm talking about how Bill Clinton was this great president. I'm sure he wishes Hillary Clinton would talk more about his legacy. I'm sure he's very disappointed about all the topics about the crime bill that keep coming out, about all the things now seen as failures as a politics of change. But, you know, I think this is very easily explain through psychology and that's --

(CROSSTALK)

RAJU: -- intention from that 2008 primary --

BURNETT: That is use of the word legacy. I mean, legacy obviously is such a crucial word for our next president.

OK. Thanks to all. And next, Donald Trump claiming nearly a billion dollars in losses but at the time how was he living? Here is what he was telling the world?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: Trump is definitely back. Much to the chagrin of some people. (END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And Trump today reaching out to voters in Nevada. Specifically Latino voters. Not all of them oppose the wall.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I would electrify it on the top. I would put centrics on the ground to see if anybody can --

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: You will electrify the wall?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The top of it so people wouldn't go over.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:28:53] BURNETT: Donald Trump under fire for his taxes tonight. His son Eric coming into his defense speaking to our Dana Bash.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BASH: Has he paid federal income taxes over the last 18 years. Yes or no?

E. TRUMP: Yes. Of course. Absolutely.

BASH: Have you seen your father's income taxes?

E. TRUMP: Yes, I don't study the tax returns.

BASH: No. How about have you seen them? I mean --

E. TRUMP: Of course, you see tax returns.

BASH: No. Have you seen your father's tax returns --

E. TRUMP: I'm answering the question. Of course I've seen my father's tax returns.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Now questions about Trump's taxes of course have been swirling since The New York Times reported that he declared a $915 million loss in 1995. But that did not stop him from living big and lavishly, frankly.

Jessica Schneider OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JESSICA SCHNEIDER, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): To hear Donald Trump tell it, his business was back and better than ever at the end of 1994.

TRUMP: I think it's the best year I ever had. Yes. Trump is definitely back.

SCHNEIDER: Trump invited cameras to get a glimpse of his revamped Mar-A-Lago resort in this December 1994 interview. But only a year later, he declared a $916 million loss for reasons unknown on his 1995 state tax returns. Documents revealed by the New York Times, the loss may have allowed Trump to legally skip paying federal income taxes, for years. But despite that nearly billion dollar loss that could have been accumulated over years, including 1994 the year Trump claimed was better than ever, the real estate mogul was still in a buying mood.

TRUMP: I could have billions of dollars in debt but I also had billions of dollars in assets.

SCHNEIDER: At Mar-A-Lago, Trump's Florida estate, he paid nearly $2 million at the end of 1993 to buy an adjacent home to his empire, according to "The Palm Beach Post". We searched public records and found more than 2,000 miles away in Colorado, deeds from San Miguel County show Trump purchased three lots near Telluride for $1.1 million in March 1994.

Attorney Alan Pomerantz led the negotiations between Trump and more than 70 banks in the early '90s, when Trump was on a brink of personal bankruptcy, and he says Trump has a penchant for purchases.

(on camera): How would you describe his spending habits?

ALAN POMERANTZ, REAL ESTATE ATTORNEY: Lavish.

SCHNEIDER: Pomerantz says in the beginning of 1990, Trump owed a combined $4 billion to dozen of banks and about $800 million was personally guaranteed from his own assets.

It was a grim reality Trump laughed off a few years later in 1994.

TRUMP: I was walking down 5th Avenue and I said to Marla, do you see that man over there? And it was a man who was a beggar in front of Tiffany. I said, he's worth $900 million more than me.

SCHNEIDER: Trump's admittedly dire financial straits didn't stop the Trump organization from securing a $4 million mortgage for a Bedford, New York estate in Westchester at the end of 1995. Or from getting a $10 million loan to purchase 40 Wall Street in Lower Manhattan in 1996, according to New York City Public Records.

Real estate investment expert David Eisenberg said Trump's reported loss on his tax returns didn't stymie his spending power.

DAVID EYZENBERG, NYU REAL ESTATE FINANCE PROFESSOR: Tax losses sometimes have noting to do with cash flow, and he was living the lifestyle that he was accustomed to.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: I mean, living a lifestyle he was accustomed to and doing it through more debt. SCHNEIDER: Exactly. You know, Donald Trump has repeatedly declared that he is the king of debt. This summer, he tweeted about it, saying that he made a fortune off of his debt, that debt made him a great businessman. But in the same tweets, saying that he would actually fix the debt of this nation. So, we'll see.

BURNETT: Certainly a man who's built his fortune on debt and leverage and getting rid -- all right. Thank you so much. Pretty incredible to see that.

Well, Trump's loss seems huge, right? When you talk about a billion dollars. But where does it really rank? Like what are the facts? It sounds big, is it?

Well, Tom Foreman joins me now. He has put this number into perspective, which is the crucial perspective we need, Tom.

So, how unusual is it, $916 million?

TOM FOREMAN, CNN CORRESPONDENT: It's pretty unusual. Hard to imagine anyone surviving that kind of loss and moving forward. In fact, an expert with the Tax Foundation told "The Wall Street Journal" this represented almost 2 percent of all the net operating losses for businesses that year in 1995 in the United States.

Another way of looking at it, you would have to gather together more than 9,000 other average businesses and put all of their losses together to equal how much Trump lost that year.

So, how did he survive this? Well, one of the things maybe that there are unique laws that play to real estate people that don't apply to everybody else and that may have played a role here. These deductions that real estate professionals are written into the tax code.

Among the things that these tax code provision provide is the ability for people to function a little bit as an individual and as a company simultaneously in terms of their tax liability. And it allows them to use their real estate losses to offset their income. And we don't know if that's what Trump did here, but all of that was available to him. And these laws were actually put into place in the 1980s, Erin, to keep real estate people from being unfairly tax and suffering too much from market fluctuations. But what's happened to Trump and others like him is why some tax reform people think it needs to be reformed again.

BURNETT: Right. Of course, they say, you have to invest in real estate. You need years and years of investing. You want people to do it, do good times and bad. That's the argument for it. Obviously, it needs reform.

But beyond the real estate situation, how widespread is it, Tom? The practice of avoiding taxes, perfectly legally by big corporations? Do people -- do companies do what Trump did?

FOREMAN: Well, it certainly looks like a lot of them do. A new report out this week from a couple of progressive groups out there that said that if you look at the Fortune 500 companies, 70 percent of them use offshore tax havens, for example. And in those tax havens, they have put $2.2 trillion in profits beyond the reach of Uncle Sam. Now, how much does that amount to? Well, their argument is, if you could somehow claw this all back.

Now, remember, these are liberal groups that promote that agenda. But if you could bring it all back here, they say it would automatically at a 6 percent rate put $718 billion extra dollars into the federal bank account -- Erin.

BURNETT: It is pretty stunning when you think about it. And that, of course, is something Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton have said needs serious reform, which is pretty stunning when you think about it.

Now, of course, it's pretty something when you think about it.

[19:35:01] And that, of course, is something both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton have said need serious reform, which is companies parking all that money overseas.

Thank you, Tom Forearm.

And Dana Bash and Mark Preston are back with me now.

And, Dana, you know, this whole issue, you know, Donald Trump living so lavishly. It's hard to comprehend, but he was able to do it. It's sort of once you get rich enough, it seems people assume you'll eventually get back on your feet.

You asked Eric Trump directly whether his father pays federal taxes, he said yes. But obviously, there is still no proof. Is there any chance those returns come out?

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: I think it's very slim. Very slim that the returns come out.

They have gotten this far and it is hard to imagine anything beyond what we've seen even over the weekend with the reporting from "The New York Times" on that huge almost billion loss. The fact that he still hasn't done it, I don't see it changing.

The one thing I do find fascinating is the politics of this all, how the Clinton campaign is trying to use this not so much as the see, he doesn't really get business, because people do sort of see Donald Trump as a lavish guy and they know that he had ups and downs. He wrote a book called "The Art of the Comeback".

BURNETT: Right.

BASH: But more of a patriotic issue. That how can somebody who wants to be president not pay taxes to support the military, infrastructure -- things that he's now saying are important and lacking.

BURNETT: And, of course, Mark, to that point that Dana is making, Trump has touted his use of the tax laws. He says this is what someone who's really smart and who knows how the system works would do. Here's what he said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: I have legally used the tax laws to my benefit, and to the benefit of my company, my investors and my employees. I have brilliantly used those laws.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: I have brilliant used those laws, Mark, he said. The lawyer who signed off on that particular tax returns says, no, he was the one that did the work and figured out how do it.

Does this -- does this undermine Trump or just simply prove that he indeed can find smart, clever people to put in the right position?

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Well, let me keep this short. It should undermine. It should be devastating. It would kill any other politician at this point. It is not sticking to Donald Trump.

Look, I think his supporters, Erin, are looking at him and they see hope in him. They say, look, if he can do it, I can do it. They like the idea of him being the comeback kid, so to speak, and Donald Trump can simply say, oh, I have used the tax system to my benefit, but now, I work for you. That is the new line. We'll see if it continues.

But right now, the lack of release of his tax records hasn't hurt him.

BURNETT: Yes. All right. Thank you both very much.

And next, the breaking news, a massive hurricane right now heading to Florida. Massive flooding, death across the Caribbean. Our report coming up.

And outrage among some Latino voters after this remark last night.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Senator, you have whipped out that Mexican thing again.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:41:53] BURNETT: Breaking news, Donald Trump on the stump at this hour in Nevada, trying to win over Latinos, a group that makes about 20 percent of the voters in that must-win state. This after this exchange between Tim Kaine and Mike Pence.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. TIM KAINE (D), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: When Donald Trump says women should be punished or Mexicans are rapist or criminals, or Johnny McCain is not a hero, he's showing you who he is. PENCE: Senator, you whipped out that Mexican thing again.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Kyung Lah is OUTFRONT with tonight's number.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

KYUNG LAH, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): The battleground state of Nevada -- emphasis on battle.

The guy in the red Trump shirt --

JOHN ELIZONDO, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Don't forget to vote.

LAH: -- is John Elizondo.

ELIZONDO: Don't forget to vote. Don't forget to vote. Don't forget to vote.

LAH: Proud Latino for Trump.

(on camera): Do you think that Latinos in Nevada are even considering Trump?

ELIZONDO: Absolutely. Absolutely.

LAH: But the great majority are going Democrat.

ELIZONDO: We'll find out. I don't think so. I don't feel that way.

LAH (voice-over): The limo driver believes it's a mistake to think Latinos who make up approximately 20 percent of all voters in Nevada are a uniform voting bloc.

ELIZONDO: Time to wipe the crap out of Washington with Trump.

You know what toilet paper does, huh?

LAH (on camera): Certainly.

ELIZONDO: It wipes the crap from your hoo-ha! So I tell people there is a lot of crap in Washington.

LAH (voice-over): Trump's tough talk is why even though Elizondo's mother and grandparents **immigrated** from Mexico, his grandparents illegally, he backs Trump's **immigration** policy like the wall.

ELIZONDO: I would electrify it on the top. I'll put sensors in the ground to see if anybody digging through --

LAH (on camera): You'll electrify the wall?

ELIZONDO: The top of it, so people wouldn't go over it. Yes, I would. I think more of the Latinos are asking questions, especially now. LAH (voice-over): Refrigeration technician Jehovanny Molina, an **immigrant** from Guatemala, has plenty of questions. An evangelical Christian, the married father of three is looking for a higher power for an answer before November.

(on camera): Who are you going to vote for?

JEHOVANNY MOLINA, UNDECIDED VOTER: I'm not sure yet.

LAH: Why would you vote for Donald Trump?

MOLINA: I don't see myself voting for him.

LAH (voice-over): Molina's biggest problem with Trump, like many Hispanic voters, is his stance on **immigration**.

TRUMP: They are bringing drugs. They are bringing crime. They are rapists.

LAH (on camera): Then wouldn't you vote for Hillary Clinton?

MOLINA: If you would think.

LAH (voice-over): But many evangelicals are against Clinton's stance on abortion and same sex marriage.

MOLINA: Most people that I've talked to are decided, just like I am.

LAH: That undecided voter is the target for Culinary Union 226. The union touts 57,000 members, more than half of them Latino. The union says it will deliver the Latino vote for Democrats.

CHRISTINA AGUILA, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: I love this lady.

LAH: Christina Aguila takes this election personally.

(on camera): You took a leave of absence from work?

AGUILA: Yes.

LAH (voice-over): She emigrated from Mexico. She's a military mom. Her son fought in Iraq.

[19:45:00] "I'm walking because even though it is hot", she says, "and I'm thirsty, Latinos are a team fighting for our rights."

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LAH: Latino support for Clinton has remained strong, but true to its nature as a swing state, polls in the state of Nevada have swung back and forth in favor of both candidates throughout the year. All eyes will be on the state on October 19th when Las Vegas hosts the last presidential debate -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Kyung, thank you. And now, millions across the Southeast are in the path of a deadly hurricane. It could be the biggest to hit since the year of Katrina hit. Where will it strike?

And the breaking news. A contractor, another one arrested for allegedly stealing top secret classified information. Our live report.

And Jeanne Moos on Tim Kaine's eyebrows stealing the show.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: Breaking news: Hurricane Matthew barreling towards the United States at this hour and it is getting stronger. Right now, a deadly category three, winds at 120 miles an hour, 16 million in its path. And it is forecast to become even more deadly, perhaps making land fall as a category four storm.

Now, Florida could get a direct hit. Keep in mind that Katrina hit this country as a category three. This would be the strongest storm to hit the United States since at least 2005, the year Katrina hit.

[19:50:05] Tom Sater is OUTFRONT in the CNN Weather Center.

And, Tom, when do we expect this massive storm to strike?

TOM SATER, CNN METEOROLOGIST: You know, Erin, typically, it's easier to forecast the track than it is the intensity. However with this storm, it's been the opposite. I can give you an idea within a frame of several hours and maybe, you know, several miles.

But again, what we do know is it did make landfall as a four into Cuba as well, interacted with land, it's a three, and will become a four again.

But, first, let's talk about the Bahamas. There are 700 islands here that make up the Bahamas islands, 400,000 residents. But the greatest population is in Nassau, 245,000 live there, and they are going to be in the worse quadrant for the winds, and most likely go through hell tonight, in the darkness of the night, most likely many losing power.

This computer model that's usually reliable keeps it offshore. That would be best-case scenario. We're not so much in agreement with that. We think it is going to be closer to shore. We do agree with the movement and the curve.

Now, the National Hurricane Center has this strengthened to a category four, but places at a little closer to land, making landfall. And then, what is this? Curving back around.

Let me show, 14 computer models, all in agreement. Some making landfall and they all agree with the turn. But nine of the 14 want to turn back around. Is it possible not only one but two landfalls? It's unusual. It's happened before with Ivan and Gene and others.

But let me show the models. European model right now places land fall near Cape Canaveral Friday at 7:00 a.m. It's getting in agreement with the American model now and that is what you want, agreements, although you don't want to see this.

This is earlier in the American model, further to the south, near Vero Beach, at around 2:00 a.m. One thing we know for sure, the warnings have now been extended, and here's why. When you look at the larger pattern, what's going to happen here, as the storm winds approach and in red, you're going to see some hurricane warning winds, or hurricane winds that is. We're going to see downed trees and power lines, 8 to 12 inches of rainfall. If it moves more inland, it is going to create more destruction.

A power outage forecast came out today, Erin, and possibly by Tuesday, we could be looking at 7 million Americans in the dark.

BURNETT: Wow. It's absolutely stunning.

All right. Thank you very much, Tom, as we follow that.

More breaking news, though, right now. A contractor working for the National Security Agency, another one, arrested for allegedly stealing classified information, top secret. The FBI believes this man, Harold Martin, stole classified information about the hacking tool that the NSA was using to break into other country's computer systems. And, of course, the other shock here is that he works for the same company Edward Snowden did.

Pamela Brown is OUTFRONT tonight.

I mean, Pam, this is pretty stunning.

PAM BROWN, CNN JUSTICE CORRESPONDENT: It is, it's a big blow to the NSA, Erin. The FBI now accusing Harold Martin of stealing some of the nation's most sensitive secrets. Some classified at the highest levels, and as you pointed out, Martin worked at Booz Allen Hamilton as contractor to the National Security Agency, the same contractor that employed Edward Snowden.

So, the FBI believes Martin stole documents detailing a sophisticated hacking tool that the NSA developed to break in to foreign computer systems, and authorities are still trying to determine what his motivation was. Sources say that the FBI and NSA have been suspicion of Martin for some time, and then after a computer code for a U.S. hacking tool showed up on the Internet recently, you may recall that, the investigation into him intensified.

And in that case, someone calling themselves the shadow brokers was offering the tool for sale on line. The identity of the shadow brokers has not been revealed.

Now, Martin was arrested back in August but the arrest was also made public today after the "New York Times" reported his arrest.

CNN spoke with Martin's wife outside his home in the D.C. suburbs and this is what she said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DEBBIE MARTIN, WIFE OF HAROLD MARTIN: He's a good ma and that is you will all I can really tell you, OK? I would greatly appreciate it if you guys would respect my privacy and respect my family's privacy. I love him very much and he's a good man.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: And his attorneys issued a statement that reads in part, "There is no evidence that Martin betrayed his country. What we do know is that Mr. Martin loves his family and America. He served his nation honorably in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant and has devoted his entire career to making America safe."

But as I said, Erin, a major blow to the NSA after the Snowden leaks. The agency tried to prevent any future so-called insider threats -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Pamela.

And OUTFRONT next: Jeanne Moos on how Tim Kaine's left eyebrow took the world by storm.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:58:08] BURNETT: And now the eyebrow. Here's Jeanne Moos.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JEANNE MOOS, CNN CORRESPONDENT: You could say Tim Kaine browbeat his opponent --

KAINE: Slobs.

MOOS: -- with his eyebrows.

KAINE: He said, "That makes me smart."

MOOS: The debate was best summed up by the Grinch.

GRINCH: Hmm. It is a wonderful night for eyebrows.

MOOS: From the first word Tim Kaine uttered. His eyebrows rose to the occasion.

KAINE: That passion throughout life.

MOOS: His left brow in particular.

KAINE: Twitter war with Miss Universe.

MOOS: In the political universe, Kaine is famous for his levitating brow.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Tim Kaine, of course, is the people's eyebrow.

MOOS: The brows first came to national attention back in 2006.

KAINE: My fellow Americans --

MOOS: As Kaine gave the Democratic response to the State of the Union.

KAINE: From huge surpluses.

MOOS: The state of his brows was up.

KAINE: When we work together.

MOOS: Though the left brow seemed to work separately.

KAINE: We must.

MOOS: Tim Kaine's eyebrow must have its own Twitter account. "Clear eyes. Full brows. Can't lose."

By the time he was nominated for V.P. --

KAINE: Do you really believe him?

MOOS: Kaine seemed to have tamed his brows a bit. They were no longer the furry caterpillars of a decade ago.

KAINE: It's an honor tonight.

MOOS: But even the more buttoned down of Tuesday's debate launched GIFs and tweets, speculation that Kaine prepped for the debate but lifting weights for his eyebrows.

Can we all be honest and admit this VP debate is really about eyebrows versus no eyebrows?

"Fun fact, Mike Pence doesn't have eyebrows," read another tweet.

The Democrats definitely don't think Kaine's eyebrows are low brow.

They flaunt them on tee shirts. Kaine himself Instagrammed a pumpkin with an arched brow last Halloween.

KAINE: I have an uncontrollable left eyebrow.

MOOS: He once gave Jon Stewart a button.

An eyebrow raising debate may be a distraction, but how bad can it be being compared to Spock and the rock.

KAINE: He trash talks --

MOOS: Jeanne Moos --

KAINE: Hard work.

MOOS: -- CNN -- KAINE: There's a better way.

MOOS: -- New York.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And thanks for joining us.

Anderson starts now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Kate Bolduan, Jason Carroll, Jim Acosta, Dana Bash, Brianna Keilar, Kyung Lah, Erin Burnett, Kyung Lah, Sunlen Serfaty, Maggie Haberman, Barbara Starr, Lisa Ling

8311 speakers\_end

[19:00:11] KATE BOLDUAN, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news.

A new national poll out just moments ago. Did the debate hurt Donald Trump and are his attacks on a former Miss Universe taking a toll?

And Bill Clinton opens up about his marriage as Trump threatens to bring up his cheating past. Is it a coincidence?

And the videotape that Trump campaign did not want you to see. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening everyone, I'm Kate Bolduan in for Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, we do some breaking news. Too close to call. A major new national poll out just moments ago conducted completely after Monday's historic debate. That poll showing Hillary Clinton leading Donald Trump by just three points. She's up just two points from FOX's last poll and I took it couple of weeks ago. That same poll gives Clinton an overwhelming win though after Monday night's big debate.

Among likely voters who watched the debate, Clinton beat Trump by 38 points. Sixty to 22. It comes at the end of -- I think we can all agree, it's probably after a bad week for Donald Trump. A week that began with him complaining that his debate microphone wasn't working. A complaint that the commission in part confirmed late today. This is from the commission, part of it. Quote, "There were issues regarding Donald Trump's audio that affected the sound level in the debate hall." Donald Trump tonight suggesting it was deliberate.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: They just announced. It just came out a little while ago that the microphone in the auditorium, the big room was defective. And it was not -- it was difficult. And you know what, when you have a situation like that and you know it is bad. And you think you have a hundred million people watching, what do you do? Stop the show? Please fix it? It was bad. I wonder why it was bad!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BOLDUAN: Point of order. You could still hear him in the hall. And you could definitely all still hear him at home but still the mic did had problems. In the wee hours though of this morning, Trump went on a twitter tirade attacking former Miss Universe Alicia Machado. Here is the dramatic reading of the tweet. "Did Crooked Hillary help disgusting (check out sex tape and past) Alicia M become a U.S. citizen so she could use her in the debate?"

Jason Carroll is OUTFRONT tonight with much more on this. Jason, let's talk about this poll. What else does the poll tell us about the debate's impact?

JASON CARROLL, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Well, look, there is a lot that she won here. And clearly there are some good news for both of these candidates, poll shows that Hillary Clinton increased her lead with women and that Trump is still struggling with that voting bloc. The poll shows that Clinton is at 53 percent versus Trump's 33 percent. In mid-September it was much closer. Clinton at 49 percent versus Trump at 36 percent. The numbers show Clinton doing well not just with women but with non-Whites and voters under the age of 45.

But as I said, there is also encouraging news for Trump in the poll as well. The poll shows he's doing well with white men and Independents. Among Independents Trump is at 41 percent versus Clinton at just 29 percent. The poll also shows Trump's honesty rating is down. Most of those polls still say he does not have the right temperament and over half of those say that they would not be comfortable with him as president. Well now, more voters see Clinton as more honest that Trump and that she does have the right temperament -- Kate.

BOLDUAN: A little bit for everybody on that one. Thank you so much, Jason. Great to see you. A lot to talk about. So even with this impact on the poll numbers, Trump's battle with the former Miss Universe is a fight that he is not giving up it appears.

Jim Acosta is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JIM ACOSTA, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): When it comes to his battle with former Miss Universe Alicia Machado, Donald Trump is no Mr. Congeniality. In response to Machado's claim, Trump called her miss piggy for gaining weight. The GOP nominee lashed out at the pageant winner in a series of bombastic tweets in the middle of the night. "Did Crooked Hillary help disgusting (check out sex tape and past) Alicia M become a U.S. citizen so she could use her in the debate?" And this, "Using Alicia M in the debate as a paragon of virtue just shows that Crooked Hillary suffers from BAD JUDGEMENT! Hillary was set up by a con." Trump campaign which offers no prove, Machado never ever appeared in a sex tape says it is just firing back.

JACK KINGSTON, SENIOR ADVISER, DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN: I don't know Miss Machado but I've seen many interviews with her. She's not a very credible witness you might say.

ACOSTA: Hillary Clinton jumped into the fray with a tweet storm of her own. "What kind of man stays up all night to smear a woman with lies and conspiracy theories?" HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: His latest Twitter meltdown is unhinged, even for him. It proves yet again that he is temperamentally unfit to be president and commander-in-chief.

ACOSTA: Machado insists her past is not relevant. Admitting to CNN --

ALICIA MACHADO, FORMER MISS UNIVERSE: Everybody has a past. And I'm not a saint girl. But that is not the point now.

[19:05:19] ACOSTA: In a statement she says Trump's latest attacks are cheap lies with bad intentions adding Trump "insists on demoralizing women, minorities and people of certain religions through his hateful campaign. This is one of his most frightful characteristics."

Trump is also ripping into the Clintons with not so settle references to their past marital problems.

TRUMP: The Clintons are the sordid past, we will be the very bright and clean future.

ACOSTA: Raising questions of hypocrisy for Trump who's on his third marriage.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You are not worried about your past history at all?

TRUMP: No, not at all. And I have a very good history.

ACOSTA: Trump is also attacking the media. Blasting reports that he was furious at aids for spilling the beans on debate preparations. Tweeting, "Remember, don't believe sources said by the very dishonest media. If they don't name the sources, the sources don't exist." But Trump claimed -- anonymous sources too tweeting back in 2012, an extremely credible sources called my office and told me that Barack Obama's birth certificate is a fraud.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA: Now, as for that battle with Alicia Machado the Trump campaign is pointing to a former Miss Wisconsin who says, Trump comforted her when she was in the hospital battling an illness more than a decade ago. But clearly Kate, the Trump campaign wants to move on. As one advisor puts it to me, that would be an understatement and perhaps Donald Trump is starting to listen to that advice. He did not mention the controversy at this rally here in Michigan -- Kate.

BOLDUAN: But wait for 3:00 a.m. I know I will be.

ACOSTA: Yes.

BOLDUAN: Thank you so much, Jim. Great to see you.

OUTFRONT tonight, David Gergen, he served as a presidential advisor for four presidents including Reagan and Clinton. I always like to throw in Lincoln. Dana Bash is our chief political correspondent -- it never gets old, David.

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: That's not nice.

BOLDUAN: It never gets old. It is like my term of endearment for David Gergen.

(LAUGHTER)

Philip Bump is a political reporter for The Washington Post. And Maggie Haberman is here as well. She is presidential campaign correspondent for the New York Times. Great to see all of you.

Philip Bump, we have this FOX News poll out and a lot has been made of polls this week. A lot of them being bogus polls that a lot of people have been talking about. But now we have a national poll of likely voters all taking place after the debate. What we see is 60 percent of likely voters, they think Clinton won. But she's up slightly three points. What does that tell you?

PHILIP BUMP, POLITICAL REPORTER, THE WASHINGTON POST: Well, a lot of things actually. One thing is obviously one poll we try and remind people look at the trend, look at what's happening when you start averaging a lot of polls together. This is the first poll so we all get very excited about it understandably. I think it's worth nothing in that poll. Yes, she is up two points over the last FOX News poll but when it is just her versus Donald Trump, she has to gain six points.

The reason that is important is, that if people soften on the support for Gary Johnson or Jill Stein, it sounds like she'll gain some of that support. Gary Johnson of course has had a very bad week. So, I think that there is a lot in this poll which suggests the trend is moving Clinton's direction. State polls today that she was up four points and won seven points. All of those are indicators that she's getting the sort of debate bump that we would expect given her performance.

BOLDUAN: Maggie, when you look at this, if the layman's looking at this, does this tell you debates don't matter? I mean, the campaigns take a look at this national poll, yes. One poll does not a trend make but what do they take from it?

MAGGIE HABERMAN, PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN CORRESPONDENT, NEW YORK TIMES: What they're taking from it is a pretty stable race frankly. For all the talk about, it's going up and going down. To Philip's point, you have to look at the trend.

BOLDUAN: Yes.

HABERMAN: The fundamentals of this race really haven't changed very much. And they slightly favor Clinton. If you did not have these two minor party candidates in the race, it probably would favor her more. But again, that's an assumption we're making. Debates do matter. But again, we have had a series of these incidents with Donald Trump where he has underperformed or, you know, appeared (INAUDIBLE), the attack on this soldier's mother right after the conventions for example. And then the dust sort of settles and the race goes back to where it was. So I think the question is, what is going to sustain and endure over the next five weeks? I'm not clear this is it. However there is another debate in the next, you know, nine days.

BOLDUAN: Nine days? Yes. I think we all know or so. But don't worry, we're not just counting for that.

Dana, one thing did happen in the debate. You were in the debate hall, this mic issue is maybe becoming an issue. I mean, you have got Donald Trump now out there just in his last rally suggesting that it is deliberate. Patrick Healey, someone we know well of the "New York Times," he in a phone call, he tweeted out that he had a brief phone call with Donald Trump and in the phone call Donald Trump says, I want to do the next debate but everyone is talking about the mic. I don't believe -- I don't think that anybody has believed for a second that he's not showing up. We'll wait and see. But is it really the mic that was Donald Trump's problem on Monday?

BASH: No. Of course not. But, you know, there are lots of things for, or a lot of sort of avenues for Donald Trump to go to kind of lay blame. And the mic, given the fact that the debate commission has now said that there was some issue. It is a perfect fall guy, an inanimate fall guy for Donald Trump. I was in the debate hall. To be fair, I had one of these in and I have piece so was listening to it in two places. But I didn't -- I was turned around look at the audience. I didn't get a sense that people were straining to hear him at all. And to your point earlier, it is the audience that the debate commission says might have had some trouble hearing in the room which is a few hundred people. Not 80 million people watching at home.

BOLDUAN: And David, I mean, Dana is getting to it, I mean, Trump has complained that the election is rigged when he's not winning. He actually even complained that it might be rigged even tonight in his rally. The polls are rigged if he's not upping them. And now he's said the debate is rigged because the mic didn't work and he didn't do well. This is not helping kind of make those conspiracy theories go away. This is just going to fuel this for Donald Trump.

DAVID GERGEN, FORMER PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER: Oh, yes, I do. This race remains very competitive. Donald Trump can still win this election. But I do think that this poll suggests very heavily that the momentum of the race has been reversed. He was on the upswing. He was charging against her. You know, he was right very close behind her and clearly he was on the offensive. Now she's been on the offensive all week. She seized control basically of the momentum of the campaign.

And so, that's working in her favor. And as Philip points out, there are a number of state polls today which seem so confirm that. Very importantly, this poll also says once and for all that by a decisive margin. Voters who were able to hear. Whatever the defects in the microphone. Over 84 million heard and the people who answered the poll said decisively that she won the debate. And I think my history is right on this. We've had a couple incumbents who have lost the first debate and come back. Ronald Reagan lost his first debate to Walter Mondale and famously came back in the second. BOLDUAN: President Obama --

GERGEN: Barack Obama had an awful night on his first debate and he came back on the second one. I can't remember a challenger who has lost the first debate and then come back to victory and won the presidency. I've gone through it in my mind. I can't remember anybody who has ever done that.

BOLDUAN: Well, maybe he won't show up because maybe he won't believe that the mic is actually going work the next time. We'll see. Guys, we have a lot more to discuss tonight. I'm saying this in jest everyone. It is Friday night.

Coming up for us. Hillary Clinton is campaigning in Florida today as her husband opens up about their sometimes rocky 40 year marriage. Why?

Plus, Trump's boys club. The Republican nominee is surrounded by men who have their own troubled histories when it comes to women. Does it matter?

And President Obama on Air Force One this morning.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PRES. BARACK OBAMA (D), UNITED STATES: Let's go! Let's go!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BOLDUAN: Who? Who is he yelling at? We'll have to wait and see.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:17:01] BOLDUAN: Tonight, Hillary Clinton hammering Donald Trump for his attacks on former Miss Universe Alicia Machado. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Who gets up at 3:00 in the morning to engage in a Twitter attack against a former Miss Universe? I mean, he hurled as many insults as he could. Really. Why does he do things like that?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BOLDUAN: The blistering attack just hours after Clinton spoke by phone with Machado and praised her for her courage to stand up to Trump.

Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT with me now. So, Brianna, it seems the Clinton campaign is more than happy to keep adding fuel to this fire.

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Thrilled, ecstatic. Certainly more than happy to keep adding fuel to this. You know, when Hillary Clinton is not talking about her vulnerabilities and instead Donald Trump is talking about trying to defend himself, about how he treated a Miss Universe back in the '90s. It's really a good day for the Clinton campaign. One senior campaign aide saying to me, Donald Trump just can't help but going down the rabbit hole. So they are really capitalizing on that.

In the most recent way, we saw Elizabeth Warren, Massachusetts senator obviously very big with the left side of the Democratic Party adding some more fuel to the fire. She tweeted back at Donald Trump about, I think four tweets really trolling him on Twitter. Take a look, she said, "Is this what keeps you up at night Donald Trump, thinking of new and interesting ways to call women, fat or ugly or sluts?" And she also said, "a thin-skinned bully who thinks humiliating women at 3:00 a.m. qualifies him to be president does not understand American and does not fit to lead."

They had gone back and forth as you know in the past on Twitter, Kate, but this is something Elizabeth Warren tweeting to Donald Trump about this, that just guarantees that this story is going to keep on going. And keep in mind, she will be in Nevada next week campaigning for Hillary Clinton. I am assuming that she will be taking shots at him there as she has before. And this is just a story the campaign welcomes because they really think it resonates with women and with Hispanic voters who are key in states like Nevada.

BOLDUAN: That's absolutely right. I think they probably know that. Thank you Brianna. Exactly, there is something behind that.

OUTFRONT with me now. Hillary Clinton supporter Basil Smikle. Donald Trump supporter Kayleigh McEnany. Philip Bump and Maggie Haberman have not left me yet. Kayleigh, you woke up this morning. You turn on your phone, you look at your Twitter account and see Donald Trump tweet this and you think what.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Well, I think this is arguments surrogates should be making. Kellyanne Conway should be making, Donald Trump should not be making.

BOLDUAN: What's the difference?

MCENANY: Look, he was attacked and I think it is the job of surrogates to go out there and play defense and his job to prosecute a case against Hillary Clinton. And just to correct the record, Elizabeth Warren, he never, these are facts. He never called her fat. Never called her ugly. Never called her the S word. These are lies. In fact, watch the full context of the video we play 15 seconds when you watch the full two minutes, he actually says, she is beautiful, he says, you are beautiful now, I eat a lot too, I want to work out with you. America, we need to be physically fit. The full context of the video takes a much different story than what's been told.

BOLDUAN: But he also hasn't denied her original allegations that he called her miss piggy and miss housekeeping which I actually think the words that are alleged are actually way more important than talk of any weight gain.

(CROSSTALK) I haven't heard it from Donald Trump. Basil, not only did Hillary Clinton bring up Alicia Machado in the debate. She is now spoken to her on the phone. She spoke to her today. The campaign gave a read out. I mean, clearly we know that they want to talk about this more. At some point though, does the campaign threat on the take this too far?

BASIL SMIKLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY: Well, not so far because the fact of the matter is that Donald Trump had dug his heels in deeper because as Kayleigh said, it is him on the phone tweeting this as 5:00 in the morning. This isn't staff. This is him. And every time he does that. Every time he does things like that, he walks into exactly the kind of narrative that Hillary is painting of him. Having said that, I do think, you know, there are policies that Hillary Clinton's been talking about throughout this campaign.

She's talked about national service. I want those things to be amplified and magnified clearly because I care about the policy and I think most Americans do. But even if they are not because we're not in this sort of conversation about Donald Trump tweeting, what she is doing is sort of amassing ammunition on policy issues that she can talk about and delineate during the course of a debate, for example. Whereas with Donald Trump, all we're going to be talking about is these tweets and this language.

BOLDUAN: It is interesting kind of how this has played out. If you kind of compare it to over the summer, Maggie. Over the summer, the Clinton campaign as we saw they were happy they're going to sit back when he was having a problem in watch him implode. He didn't implode. That didn't helped him. He came back. I mean, look at the polls where they are today. When you see how Hillary Clinton herself has kind of been reacting to this on Twitter, on stage, does that show you that they have learned like, this is how they have to react. They have to punch, keep punching, keep punching even if it is on an issue. Is it policy?

HABERMAN: I think they realize that they're going to have to make her case more effectively which I think is what Basil is getting at. And that has not always come through in the campaign. You heard the complaint about that. I think that's part of the reason. The only reason but part of the reason why you have seen some of the drift towards Jill Stein or towards Gary Johnson, there are a lot of Bernie Sanders supporters who still are not warming to Hillary Clinton. She's having trouble energizing a core Democratic base or sections of it.

[19:22:24] But I do think that she went into, the key thing about this debate is that she went into it -- for all the talk we're doing about prep, she went into it with a strategy. Wasn't just that she's prepared. It was that she went in with a goal in mind which was that she was going to get under his skin and get him to chase everything -- and he literally chased every single thing. And so, this is to Brianna's the point about going down the rabbit hole and then he continued chasing it once he was off the debate stage. So, that's what we're seeing with Alicia Machado. One of Donald Trump's great successes in this campaign, you know, in terms of how he has carried about is he has gotten literally everybody to go along with his view of essentially the way we treat everything on Twitter where everything is exactly the same. So we're now talking about a former Miss Universe as if she should be vetted the exact same way as a presidential candidate and they are not the same.

BOLDUAN: So, let me ask you this. We haven't talked about where the focus might be in the next debate. We've seen that they want to make the focus on Bill Clinton. Bill Clinton's past. Bill Clinton today, he opened up about their marriage in a podcast for the Clinton campaign. Here is a little of what he said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BILL CLINTON (D), 42ND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: I think that she has literally spent a lifetime dealing with not only her joys and her blessings, but also heartbreaks and disappointment. Sometimes unfair treatment. Look at our blessings. We've been together for 40 years plus through thick and thin.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BOLDUAN: When talks about disappointments, sometimes unfair treatment. I mean, is Bill Clinton kind of trying to hint that the elephant in the room that they know is going to come at them? And is this a strategy to lay the groundwork to kind of lessen the blow when it comes at them in the debate?

BUMP: Well, I'm fully confident that the Clinton campaign has put a lot of thought into what they're going to have Bill Clinton is going to say in this podcast.

BOLDUAN: Yes.

BUMP: I mean, Bill Clinton tend to go sideways sometimes but, you know, this entire week, everything from the moment she started talking about Machado during the debate setting which Donald Trump happily walked into, all of it has been about college-educated women and trying to make sure that she continues to have college educated particularly white women be concerned about Donald Trump, be concerned about Donald Trump's leadership. I think that they understand that Donald Trump is trying to focus on the Clinton's past infidelities which I don't know why.

I mean, there is no indication that this is a smart political move for them. But yes, it is very possible that Bill Clinton is getting out in front of that simply by reminding people, this is a woman who's been fighting her entire life, et cetera, et cetera, which is the narrative thy think resonates that.

BOLDUAN: Have some fun with me guys, please. This is one of those things that it sounds like joke in a cocktail party, who is the one person that can make a president weight? It seems that we have an answer. Watch. (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

OBAMA: Bill, let's go! Bill. Let's go. I got to get home!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BOLDUAN: Bill Clinton. Come on, Bill. Let's go. Does this surprise anyone in this table?

HABERMAN: The answer is, there's only one other president can make a president -- of course is that president because there are these constant stories about Bill Clinton lingering forever and also sort of, turning whatever show Barack Obama is doing into his own. He is like, why do we have to leave? Aren't we in -- anyway, just too good.

Great guys. Great to see you. Thank you so much. OUTFRONT next, the man in Trump's inner circle. Do they help or hurt him?

And the video of Donald Trump that his campaign fought to keep private. We'll show it to you.

Tonight, the Trump campaign tries to use Bill Clinton's sex scandals to turn voters against Hillary Clinton. Let's go OUTFRONT.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:46] BOLDUAN: Tonight, the Trump campaign trying to use Bill Clinton's sex scandal to turn women against Hillary Clinton. But it's a questionable strategy given Trump's own history with women as well as the men he is surrounding himself with during this campaign.

Kyung Lah is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

[19:30:02] DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I do cherish women. I love women.

KYUNG LAH, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Despite what Trump says, his furious pre-dawn tweets this morning suggests a different sentiment, in one calling Alicia Machado, quote, "disgusting."

His war with the former Miss Universe escalating at a time when campaigns usually want to appeal to women. It's not only Trump, the men who surround Trump, his closest advisors have had their own personal problems with women.

STEVE BANNON, TRUMP CAMPAIGN CEO: We need to have a fight in the Republican Party for the soul of the conservative --

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I agree with you.

LAH: Campaign CEO Steve Bannon. In 1996, he faced misdemeanor domestic violence charges. His ex-wife and the Santa Monica, California, police report alleging he grabbed her. An incident the officer says left red marks on her left wrist and right side of the neck. Those charges were dropped.

Bannon would become a right wing media mogul. In a 2011 radio interview, using a derogatory gay slur to describe progressive women.

BANNON: They wouldn't be a bunch of (EXPLETIVE DELETED) that came from Seven Sisters schools up in New England.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: This is a FOX News alert --

LAH: The man behind FOX News Roger Ailes is now an unofficial Trump campaign whisperer, although Trump won't officially acknowledged his role. FOX News ousted Ailes after multiple women accused him of sexual harassment -- prominently anchor Gretchen Carlson, who received a $20 million settlement from FOX.

NEWT GINGRICH (R), FORMER HOUSE SPEAKER: You're not supposed to gain 60 pounds within a year if you're Miss Universe.

LAH: That's former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich speaking this week, depending Trump's comments about Alicia Machado. Gingrich is now a Trump adviser. He and Trump have both been married three times. Both accused of infidelity. And in 2012, Gingrich's second wife recalled this about her former husband to ABC News.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He was asking to have an open marriage and I refused.

LAH: Then, there's Rudy Giuliani, former New York City mayor and Trump backer. After Monday's debate, Giuliani spoke to reporters bringing up Bill Clinton's affair, criticizing not just him but Hillary Clinton.

RUDY GIULIANI, FORMER NYC MAYOR: She attacked Monica Lewinsky. And after being married to Bill Clinton for 20 years, you didn't know the moment Monica Lewinsky said, that Bill Clinton violated her, that she was telling the truth, then you're too stupid to be president.

LAH: But Giuliani should be able to relate married three times, he announced a separation to his second wife at a press conference before telling her his divorce and affair playing out publicly on New York tabloid front pages.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LAH: Now, not all of Trump's closest advisors are men. His campaign manager is a woman, Kellyanne Conway, and a person who has this ear arguably perhaps the most is also a woman, his own daughter -- Kate.

KATE BOLDUAN, CNN ANCHOR: That's right, Kyung. It's great to see you. Thank you so much.

OUTFRONT with me now, Republican representative from Tennessee, Marsha Blackburn. She is a Donald Trump supporter.

Congresswoman, thank you so much for joining me. Really appreciate it. So, you have Steve Bannon. I mean, Kyung laid it out. Steve Bannon, Roger Ailes, Newt Gingrich, Rudy Giuliani, Donald Trump himself, with the stories that they have, are these the right guys to help Trump prosecute this case when they have similar histories against the guy they want to attack?

REP. MARSHA BLACKBURN (R), TENNESSEE, ENDORSED DONALD TRUMP: Well, I have to tell you. I think the thing to do right now is to talk about the issues. And you have all of this, the he said/she said on the Clinton side. The he said/she said on the Trump side.

And I think what the American people want to hear and what I've heard from many so many of my constituents today is they want to hear about, why are we giving up control of the internet? What is happening with the deal with Iran with the new revelations? What is going on today in Aleppo? What happened with the Clinton Foundation and the reports that are coming out about that? Are we going to get those 33,000 e- mails?

The House had do an additional hearing yesterday on the issue or day before yesterday with James Comey. And this --

(CROSSTALK)

BOLDUAN: These are issues in the campaign, but it is interesting. What I'm hearing from you is exactly the talking point memo that the campaign has put out to surrogates, but it is also interesting that Donald Trump is not following the campaign's talking points. He's the one that woke up this morning and decided to attack this Miss Universe, this former Miss Universe again. Why isn't Donald Trump following your lead?

BLACKBURN: Well, I -- first of all have not received a talking points memo from the campaign, just so that you know that. Secondly, one he is not, I do not know. I would be focusing on the issues.

I think that's what people want to hear. They do not want the back and forth, quite frankly. They don't care and I think the more he talks about Bill and Hillary's relationship, the more you make Hillary a victim.

And I would say move away from it and let's talk about the have issues.

[19:35:03] We are getting ready to lose control of the Internet. ICANN is going to the multi-stakeholders process and it is going to happen at the stroke of midnight tonight. That is what my constituents in Tennessee are talking about most today.

BOLDUAN: In the latest poll that just came out, Congresswoman, you have Hillary Clinton beating Donald Trump 20 points with female voters and that's been a lot of the conversation has been obviously in the last week, 20 points. How do you make up ground there?

BLACKBURN: What you have do is focus on the two issues women are talking about most. First is national security, very concerned about terrorism, very concerned about ending illegal entry of drugs, heroin, opioids across the southern border. That is an enormous issue.

And you look at states like New Hampshire, Kate, that's one of the top issues --

BOLDUAN: But she's leading in New Hampshire right now in the latest poll that --

(CROSSTALK)

BLACKBURN: Right. And two weeks ago, it was a one point race.

So, you go back to focusing on those issues. You talk about jobs in the economy. Wage stagnation has been very hurtful to women over the past five or six years. And when I'm doing town halls and listening sessions or maybe meeting with a group of business women, I hear about this all the time.

When I am visiting a factory, or an employer or a large employer and meeting with women, they talk about wage stagnation and their frustration there. They talk about Obamacare and the impact of cost of insurance and also the cost of care, and how that effects their disposable income.

BOLDUAN: Congresswoman --

BLACKBURN: I like the fact that child care, there should be more emphasis on that Donald Trump rolled out a great plan. Looking at having a tax credit that women can select and elect to use. And actually write off some of that --

(CROSSTALK)

BOLDUAN: Donald Trump talked about that child care tax credit tonight. One other thing tonight he again started returning to this conversation of being concerned that the election was going to be rigged. Not only talking about -- not talking about the mic here. We're talking about the election. He says it would be a bad way to go down and really do a wink, wink, nod, nod to the crowd he was before.

Do you think the election is going to be rigged?

BLACKBURN: My hope would be that there would not. And I know there are there were some counties last time around, Florida had a couple of counties, Ohio had some counties, where you had more than the registered number of voters actually voting.

And that is a state issue. And our state and local commissions are tasked with cleaning up those roles. There were reports today that there was one county -- and I'm not remembering where it was, Kate. But they had a lot of people that were being registered. Forms that were coming this on voter registration and people were deceased, and that's the type of thing that ought not to be happening.

BOLDUAN: I'll have to look at this one. But I do find it interesting that Donald Trump only brings up the question of a rigged system when he's done in the polls and when he's lost a debate. BLACKBURN: I think the thing to do is focus on the issues. People want specifics, especially women. They are wanting to hear specifics.

How are you going to deal with terrorism? How are you going to deal with jobs growth? How are you going to deal with making certain that our military families like my constituents at Fort Campbell have everything they need do the job at hand? How are we --

BOLDUAN: We'll see.

BLACKBURN: Yes.

BOLDUAN: We'll see if Donald Trump takes your advice. That is not where he's allowed his focus to be the last few days.

BLACKWELL: I'll tell you, I am -- I am more worried about what Hillary Clinton will do or has done than I am about what Donald Trump says.

BOLDUAN: All right. I think you should also be worried about what Donald Trump says because that also leads to what he would do if he is president.

Congresswoman, thank you so much for coming on. Appreciate it.

BLACKBURN: Thanks.

BOLDUAN: OUTFRONT next, the video of Donald Trump the campaign didn't want you to see. What's so damaging it?

And a stern warning from CIA Director John Brennan, America's enemies plotting to take advantage of the U.S. election. We have special report, ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:43:12] BOLDUAN: Donald Trump on tape under oath. A deposition the campaign does not want you to see. The recording is a part of a lawsuit between Trump and a restaurant owner, restaurateur who backed out of a deal after he called some Mexican **immigrants** rapists. Trump is struggling to attract Hispanic voters.

The latest poll shows Clinton with their support, 65 percent, compared to Trump 17 percent.

Sunlen Serfaty has tonight's big number.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

SUNLEN SERFATY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Tonight, newly released video of Donald Trump testifying under oath.

TRUMP: Unbelievable.

SERFATY: The normally animated and bombastic GOP nominee taking a more serious and somber team. TRUMP: I believe my lawyer did --

SERFATY: This part of a deposition Trump made in June in his lawsuit against celebrity chef Geoffrey Zakarian. The restaurateur who backed out of opening a restaurant in Trump's new D.C. hotel after Trump said this about illegal Mexican **immigrants** at his presidential announcement.

TRUMP: They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They are rapists and some I assume are good people.

SERFATY: Trump said the controversial comments in his speech were planned.

INTERVIEWER: Did you write the statement in advance? Was it written?

TRUMP: No.

INTERVIEWER: And did you plan in advance what you were going to say?

TRUMP: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Did you talk to other people about it?

TRUMP: No.

SERFATY: But it's that statement that Zakarian says caused him to reconsider his arrangement with Trump and back out of the deal.

Trump admits Zakarian's decision hurt his business.

TRUMP: I get a lot of bad publicity because of the way they handled it. They grandstanded it.

INTERVIEWER: And how has that harmed you?

TRUMP: Just a bad day of press, a bad few days of press. I think it, you know, I don't know how I can quantify it, but I think we were hurt by the way they did it.

[19:45:05] SERFATY: Still, Trump said his campaign success justified what he said.

TRUMP: What's not like -- you know, like I've said anything that could be so bad. Because if I said something that was so bad, they wouldn't have had me go through all of these people and win all of these primary races.

SERFATY: Donald Trump's lawyers did not want this video released. Arguing it could potentially be used politically like popping up in campaign ads saying, quote, "videotapes are subject to abuse". After CNN and other media outlets filed a motion for the judge to release the tapes, the D.C. superior judge sided against team Trump, releasing the new footage despite opposition from the Trump campaign to keep the tapes under lock and key.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SERFATY: And the transcript has been previously released. So the contents were somewhat known. But it is the video element that really makes this much more striking and certainly why the Trump lawyers fought so hard against the release. They didn't want to splice up potentially used in political ads and certainly with 39 days to go, having it out there will serve as a reminder, Kate, of one of the most controversial moments of his campaign.

BOLDUAN: Absolutely right. Sunlen, great to see you. Thank you so much.

Let me bring back Maggie Haberman for more on this.

As you've been covering this campaign, why do you think they fought so hard to keep this under wraps? What do you think the impact of this video being released could be?

MAGGIE HABERMAN, CNN POLITICAL ANALYST: I think Trump is very cautious when it comes to issues about his business and I think the default tends to be to resort to legal matters. We have seen that with him over many, many years. This is not a surprise in context. I don't to be candid think the video was absolutely right to fight for its release and try to see it. I don't think it is particularly surprising. I don't think it is even really at odds with what've seen.

I do think it could be carved into an ad and look somewhat difference in the presentation and I think there was probably some concern on the campaign's part. Possibly on Trump's part. I don't think he ever wants a deposition being public. $ I this they what's he's used to from decades of business.

BOLDUAN: Yes, I think it is. Perfectly right, Maggie. Great to see you. Thanks so much.

HABERMAN: Thank you.

BOLDUAN: OUTFRONT next, is North Korea already planning to catch the president off guard? Our special report is coming up.

And Lisa Ling on why women are slugging their way into the brutal word of mixed martial arts.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:51:19] BOLDUAN: Tonight, new video of the civil war that has ravaged Syria. A baby girl pulled from the rubble, bloodied. Her hair caked with dirt. The man who rescued her, inconsolable.

The war in Syria is one of the many challenges the next president of the United States will absolutely have to face.

Tonight, a warning that America's enemies are now plotting to take advantage of the upcoming election.

Barbara Starr is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BARBARA STARR, CNN PENTAGON CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): North Korea's march towards a nuclear weapon that could attack the U.S. is now one of the CIA's top intelligence concerns for the next president of the United States.

JOHN BRENNAN, CIA DIRECTOR: These are things that the new national security team. The new president and his or her advisors are going to have to deal with from day one.

STARR: In his extraordinary interview with Erin Burnett, CIA director John Brennan revealed the spy agency already is identifying a number of immediate threats the next president is likely to confront.

LT. GEN. MARK HERTLING, FORMER ARMY COMMANDING GENERAL: From the very beginning, the North Korean young leader is going to try and do things that will cause turmoil in a new administration.

STARR: North Korea tops the list. The U.S. doesn't know what Kim Jong-un will do. A new president must be prepared for a sudden move from Kim, even within hours of taking office.

BRENNAN: That is something that the new team and the current team is looking at very closely and will need to be able to address.

STARR: Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump already have received initial intelligence briefings and have teams preparing for transition.

But the morning after the election the new president elect will start to be told about what is called the crown jewels -- the most sensitive intelligence about America's enemies.

On the list? ISIS. In a few weeks the battle to retake ISIS strongholds in Raqqah, Syria, and Mosul, Iraq, are expected to be under way. ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi is still at large and threatening the West.

But away from the battlefield, worries about the Pearl Harbor level cyber attack that could take down the nation's financial networks and then there is Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

Will Putin try to take advantage of a new president?

HERTLING: I don't think Putin will. I know he will.

STARR: President Obama's senior intelligence advisor with a warning about the next few months.

JAMES CLAPPER, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE: This upcoming transition will happen at a particularly I think difficult time. As we're facing the most complex and diverse array of global threats that I've seen in my 53 years or so in the intel business.

(END VIDEOTAPE) STARR: North Korea remains one of the most critical issues for a new president. The U.S. has little intelligence about the secretive regime and its very unpredictable leader Kim Jong-un -- Kate.

BOLDUAN: Barbara Starr -- great to see you, Barbara. Thank you.

OUTFRONT for us next, it's been called the world's fastest growing sport. Coming up, Lisa Ling on women battling women in mixed martial arts.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:58:06] BOLDUAN: What compels women to get into the brutal world of mix martial arts. In the upcoming episode of "THIS IS LIFE", Lisa Ling goes inside their fight to find out.

Erin spoke with her about it earlier this week.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ERIN BURNETT, OUTFRONT HOST: Your upcoming episode: female MMA fighters.

LISA LING, THIS IS LIFE: Yes.

BURNETT: Pretty awesome.

LING: Yes.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LING: How has MMA changed you as a woman?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: People get the image that you are aggressive and want to hurt somebody. But in my every day life I don't another being. I don't like seeing people in pain. So, it's not about that. It is about pushing yourself as far as you can go.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: What made you want to explore female fighters in this world?

LING: Well, interestingly enough, I'm someone who kind of a abhors difficulty watching UFC and males doing MMA. So, I was really curious about why women wouldn't want to pursue this kind of sport.

And we spent time with two amateurs, people who believe they could have careers in this. The clip that we just saw was actually a woman in her 40s. She's a preschool teacher. She went into it for different reasons.

She had dealt with some abuse in her life and had always been a shy and timid woman and this has given her the confidence to not only fight but deal with her personal situation much must have better.

BURNETT: So, now at the end of it, do you understand it to the extent that you would watch it? That your view has changed?

LING: Yes, because I'm looking for different things. But what's interesting about female MMA is that is the only sport that I can think of that drives men into bars to watch. If you think about it, men don't really watch a lot of women athletes. But with MMA, they go in droves and are often the main event, women.

BURNETT: Wow. All right. Lisa, thank you.

LING: Thanks, Erin.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BOLDUAN: Fascinating. "THIS IS LIFE" airs Sunday night at 10:00. Thanks so much for joining us, everybody.

"AC360" starts now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Jim Acosta, Phil Mattingly, Jeff Zeleny, Victor Blackwell

8677 speakers\_end

[19:00:10] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news. Donald Trump about to rally supporters in Wisconsin. Meanwhile top aides break the bad news about his debate performance. Will Trump change his ways?

Plus, more breaking news. Two children and a teacher shot in a South Carolina Elementary School. We are live at the scene as the details are breaking this our hour.

And my exclusive interview with the CIA Director John Brennan and what he really thinks about Kim Jong-un. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening, I'm Erin Burnett. And OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news. Donald Trump about to take the stage in Waukesha, Wisconsin still stinging from criticism of his debate performance against Hillary Clinton. CNN is learning tonight that Trump's advisors have put their boss on notice telling him the first debate did not go well. One Trump advisors says, quote, "Yes, he's been made aware."

The campaign now hoping Trump will prepare more seriously for the next debate which of course now they're fast and furious. It's only about a week away. Back on the campaign trail in Iowa, Trump returned to an old line of attack on Hillary Clinton today taking a shot at her health.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I've been out since June 16th. It's been full time. All the time. You see all the days off that Hillary takes? Day off. Day off. Day off. All those day offs. And then she can't even make it to her car.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: But Hillary Clinton and her top surrogates were in full swing today. Clinton out with her once bitter primary rival Bernie Sanders, trying to target young voters and the Michelle Obama was in the crucial battleground state of Pennsylvania, attacking Donald Trump but never actually mentioning him by name.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MICHELLE OBAMA, U.S. FIRST LADY: If a candidate thinks that not paying taxes makes you smart or that it's good business when people lose their homes. If a candidate regularly and flippantly makes cruel and insulting comments about women, about how we look, how we act. Well, sadly, that who that candidate really is.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And it was very day on the campaign trail. Election Day is only 41 days away.

We begin our coverage tonight with Jim Acosta who was at that Trump rally in Waukesha, Wisconsin. And Jim, you just got a copy of the Trump campaign talking points. And obviously they are trying to spin this situation. What are they saying?

JIM ACOSTA, CNN SENIOR WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Obviously Donald Trump wants to shift focus back to Hillary Clinton. He's been trying to do that all day long. But we just obtained these talking points from a source connected to the Trump campaign and these talking points lay out how the Trump campaign plans to do battle over these allegations being made by the former Miss Universe Alicia Machado.

One of these talking points says that if the other side is going to be bringing up people like this Miss Universe winner in the past, why can't the media bring up people like Monica Lewinsky and women that Bill Clinton has had affairs with in the past.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA (voice-over): It's a he said she said that's getting in a way of Donald Trump's quest to be crowned the winner in November.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Hillary Clinton who I happen to believe is grossly incompetent is going to increase taxes. Should be very very bad for our country. I think it would be worse than four more years of Obama.

ACOSTA: Now his fight with Hillary Clinton which is raging on after a shaky debate performance.

ANNOUNCER: You are the new miss universe.

ACOSTA: But with Alicia Machado. The former Miss Universe who says, Trump once called her Miss Piggy for gaining weight. Now a high profile surrogate for Clinton.

ALICIA MACHADO, FORMER MISS UNIVERSE: No more insults for the women. Somebody like that can't be a president.

ACOSTA: The Trump campaign fired back, releasing a statement saying, these are totally baseless and unsubstantiated claims by Miss Machado.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: He called this woman Miss Piggy. Then he called her Miss Housekeeping because --

ACOSTA: It was the Machado moment that caught Trump by surprise at Monday's debate. TRUMP: Where did you --

ACOSTA: To Trump declare himself the winner in that face-off, he's hissing he will get more aggressive and perhaps try to target Clinton with her husband's past affairs. A risky move for Trump who's had a share of infidelities.

TRUMP: I watch her very carefully and I was also holding back. I didn't want do anything to embarrass her.

ACOSTA: Trump's son Eric describes her father's restrain on the topic as a gutsy move.

ERIC TRUMP, SON OF DONALD TRUMP: I think that took a lot of courage on so many regards. And I think, you know, I think he really answered that well and took the high ground.

ACOSTA: Trump advisors maintain the GOP nominee will do more debate prep but -- next round with Clinton. But at his rallies, Trump supporters are standing by their candidate. Whether it is his battle with Machado --

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: You have a title to uphold. You may be a little out of line. But I still think he did right by what he did.

[19:05:15] ACOSTA: Or the Clintons.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I don't know that Bill's lifestyle necessarily is Hillary's lifestyle choices. But I think the character is on the table.

ACOSTA: And another sign that the Trump campaign is doing damage control after these allegations being leveled by Alicia Machado, the former Miss Universe pageant winner, Erin. We're being told by the Trump campaign that they plan to have a former Miss Wisconsin appear with Donald Trump on stage later on in this rally that's happening in just a few moments -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right, Jim. As we await. That Phil Mattingly is OUTFRONT. And Phil, Donald Trump has said at an earlier rally today in Iowa that he didn't understand how anyone could think Hillary Clinton won the debate earlier this week. But obviously we know that his advisors have come to him and said that is now how they see it, he has not. They've told him a different message. What are you hearing from your sources?

PHIL MATTINGLY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well behind the scenes, Erin, there is frustration among some Trump advisors that I've spoken to, that there were opportunities at this debate for Trump to attack and he just let them go. Part of the reason many of his advisors believe is because of that lack of debate prep. A big point that Trump tried to make going in that debate but clearly a weakness coming out of the debate. Now, that frustration doesn't just extend to advisors about Trump's debate performances, also extends according to sources to the people who are watching the reaction in the wake of the debate. Erin, I just got off the phone with somebody who was on a call, held it from Trump Tower with top Trump surrogates and the point to these surrogates I was told is quote, "not subtle." And that is, they need to change the tone about how Trump did in the debate. They need at least the public facing operation to make clear that Trump did well in the debate despite the polls, despite the narrative that we've seen.

The message I'm told from one of the people who is on the call is, Donald Trump and his team are very unhappy with how this is being perceived right now. And everything needs to be done to shift that narrative. Of course the unspoken issue there is Erin that it is not necessarily the surrogates that are the problem. It is the candidate himself.

BURNETT: All right. Phil Mattingly, thank you.

And OUTFRONT now, from a campaign manager for Donald Trump, Corey Lewandowski, who is still receiving severance from the Trump campaign. He is our political commentator. Clinton supporter Nayyera Haq who worked as State Department's spokesperson for Secretary Clinton. Our executive editor for politics Mark Preston. And political reporter for the Washington, Philip Bump.

Mark, let me just start with you. With the optics of tonight. The Trump campaign, Donald Trump going to be appearing at this rally with a former Miss Wisconsin.

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Right.

BURNETT: She is someone who said she had an incurable illness that Donald Trump was instrumental in helping her and her son financially during that horrible time. She's speaking very highly of his character. He's putting her now front and center in response to Miss Universe.

Yes. No doubt to try and redirect and also trying to push away any of the negative stories that have come out in the last 48 hours, you know, with the Miss Universe contestant winner. What's interesting about this is that Trump is continuing on with this line of -- of information. And allowing it to stay in the spotlight. So Trump obviously thinks that this is a smart strategy, you know, at this point. But who knows really?

BURNETT: So Phillip, do you agree with these prolonging the story of Miss Universe by putting a former Miss Wisconsin out there?

PHILIP BUMP, POLITICAL REPORTER, THE WASHINGTON POST: Yes. I mean, this has been Donald Trump's problem for months now. Is that he'll get hit and he will get into this prolonged fight. I mean, result of the Khan family after the conventions. Right? He just, he -- and we saw it at the debate. He has this instinctual tendency to want to hit back. And so that tends to get him into trouble. You know, I agree with Mark.

That I think there is a potential upside here and, you know the other potential upside here is that it also helps rebut these questions about how much he's given to non-profits, how much he's given to the charity by bringing up some of the (INAUDIBLE) money. But it still keeps the story going, keeps the story going tonight, keeps the story going probably into tomorrow as well and I don't see how that helps with women voters.

BURNETT: Corey, smart?

COREY LEWANDOWSKI, FORMER DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: I think what you have is, you have a series of women over the course of a 30 or 40 year business career that Donald Trump has worked with and had in the highest levels of his company. And I think what he wants to do today by bringing out the former Miss Wisconsin is talking about not just his business relationship but someone who has helped personally. Someone who had helped survive when they have a tough economic time and talk about his charitable giving, talk about the compassion, the empathy that he shows to people that many times isn't being reported.

BURNETT: So, Nayyera, let me ask you. Senator Claire McCaskill, prominent Clinton supporter, senator, sitting senator, tweeted this in response to Donald Trump. Donald Trump of course with the comments Miss Universe said that he made about her calling her fat. Senator Claire McCaskill says, the d-women senators, Democrats have talked and we're concerned about Donald weight. Campaign stress. We think a public daily weigh in is called for. Should the Clinton campaign disavow that? Is that appropriate for a siting senator to --

NAYYERA HAQ, FORMER STATE DEPARTMENT, SPOKESWOMAN UNDER CLINTON AND KERRY: Well, we're at a point, none in this campaign but just, you know, broader discourse in which we are now fighting back against some very basic things that you should not say about people. So, if you are an executive, you should not have to be told like Donald Trump is now being told, don't comment on women's weight.

Don't make ethnic remarks. Don't make racist jokes. I mean, that should be part of the standard and unfortunately now, this is something that's become very common and very easy to do. And I will say that Senator McCaskill is touching on something that Donald Trump's own doctor did talk about in the rambling letter --

(CROSSTALK)

[19:10:34] BURNETT: Trump surrogate tweeted out that Hillary Clinton needed to weigh in every day. Just imagine that.

HAQ: But the doctor did say that he is 20 pounds overweight. Trump admitted it. So, it is a challenge.

LEWANDOWSKI: This is egregious.

HAQ: Here's the thing. We've gotten to this point where, you know, sniffling and coughing is suddenly, oh my God, you have got the flu and maybe SARS. And health is every minute all the time the thing he gets back to about Hillary that a surrogate has made what I think is a passing joke and aside about his health and really the broader point is about, you should not be making jokes about people's weight because it doesn't feel good when you got it yourself. LEWANDOWSKI: When Hillary Clinton had her episode on 9/11. Whatever that episode was. She wasn't feeling well. Do you know what Donald Trump said? We wish you the best. The best health. There was no comments made, it was never tweeted about. And, you know what I saw yesterday? Howard Dean, a top surrogate for Hillary Clinton intimating, more than intimating that Donald Trump is addicted to cocaine.

Where is the media outrage from a top Clinton surrogate that the leading candidate for the president of the United States is a cocaine addict and no one raises this issue? And there is no rebuttal from the Clinton campaign that says Howard Dean is so out of line, he should actually apologize? This is egregious.

BURNETT: Let me ask you a question Mark. To Corey's point. And this is different. This is different. And I know you want to make that point. But Howard Dean did say on Twitter implying that Trump used cocaine. Then when he was asked about it in an interview, he said he sniffs, which is something users do. He also uses grandiosity which is something that a company is his problem. OK. He doubled down.

PRESTON: Right.

BURNETT: Does the Clinton campaign need to disavow something like that?

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: -- former candidate --

PRESTON: Right. Right. A former chairman of the Democratic Party as well. And almost the nominee back in 2004 for the Democratic Party. Here is the deal. It is a doctor. OK. So now he's making a judgment based upon what he seen on television, which we know that never works. We know that doesn't work.

BURNETT: Right.

PRESTON: So no. Does the Clinton campaign. Should they come out proactively and put a statement out? Strategically I would say no. If Hillary Clinton is asked about it, if there's a spokesperson asked about it. I would address it. Howard Dean doesn't work for the campaign. Much like all the stupid things that we hear from Trump supporters, on occasion. I don't think Donald Trump has to speak for all of them unless --

BURNETT: Right. I just think Phil, you know, there is a lot of pressure put on Donald Trump to constantly disavow things that people say who may or may not be affiliated with his campaign. This is similar, isn't it?

BUMP: I mean, you know, all these things are individual isolated incidents.

BURNETT: Yes. BUMP: Like I think the Claire McCaskill thing is nothing like the Howard Dean thing. The Howard Dean thing is stupid and I think to Mark's point, yes, if the campaign should absolutely say, yes, this is ridiculous. I mean, I do think though that we're also operating in this sphere where one of the candidates says, I'm not p.c. and I don't care.

And I say what I believe. Right? And it just seems like, it's a little disingenuous I think to sort of take issue with getting this sort of flak. And I also think what Claire McCaskill is doing is very obvious which is trying to reinforce the point I was making early which is that Donald Trump is fairly easy to get under his skin and that's clearly what she's trying to do.

BURNETT: All right. And you're all going to stay with me. Because next, Donald Trump is about to take the stage and joining him tonight will be a former Miss Wisconsin. One beauty queen versus another.

Plus, my exclusive interview with the CIA Director John Brennan on whether there are ISIS cells right now in the United States. And Michelle Obama going off on Donald Trump.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:16:58] BURNETT: You are looking at live pictures right now out of Wisconsin on your screen. Donald Trump is about to begin a campaign rally there and we are waiting to see what he will say to a blistering attack today from Michelle Obama. Because she at the campaign trail today delivering what may be her harshest criticism yet in the pair of speeches. Harry Potter style that the First Lady did not say Trump's name. There is no doubt though who she was talking about.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

OBAMA: Preparation matters. Temperament matters. And Hillary Clinton has it all. She's the real deal.

Being president isn't anything like reality TV. It is not an apprenticeship. And it is not just about fiery speeches or insulting tweets.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Jeff Zeleny is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JEFF ZELENY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Tonight, Hillary Clinton is desperately seeking millennials.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: The next 40 days will determine the next 40 years.

ZELENY: And she's calling in reinforcements. Hoping their glow fires up young voters still uncertain about her candidacy. Bernie Sanders at her side at the University of New Hampshire. SEN. BERNIE SANDERS (D), FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: This election is enormously important for the future of our country. It is imperative that we elect Hillary Clinton as our next president.

ZELENY: And Michelle Obama delivering a blunt message to college students today in Pennsylvania. Don't be tempted by a third party candidate.

MICHELLE OBAMA: Because here's the truth. Either Hillary Clinton or her opponent will be elected president this year. And if you vote for someone other than Hillary, or if you don't vote at all, then you are helping to elect Hillary's opponent.

ZELENY: Putting her popularity on the line, the First Lady making clear how personal this election is, after Donald Trump spent years falsely questioning her husband's citizenship.

MICHELLE OBAMA: And let me say, hurtful, deceitful questions, deliberately designed to undermine his presidency. Questions that cannot be blamed on others or swept under the rug but an insincere sentence uttered at a press conference.

ZELENY: It's all part of the Democratic effort to fill one of the biggest holes in rebuilding the Obama coalition. Persuading young voters to support Clinton as enthusiastically as they did Obama. The Clinton campaign is hoping Sanders, a one-time better rival persuades some of his old supporters to back her. She took her sit today as he promoted her tuition free college plan today.

SANDERS: -- of student debt.

ZELENY: The audience was still with former Sanders' supporters like Abby Colby.

ABBY COLBY, FORMER SANDERS SUPPORTERS: I kind of told myself that if Bernie didn't win the primary it would be rather childish of me to not support Clinton.

ZELENY: Often say, the level is excitement is among your friends for Hillary Clinton.

COLBY: I think it is definitely building. It was definitely a bitter sweet when Bernie lost the primary and Hillary won. And we just saw the first debate and we see what Hillary is up against and I think momentum is starting to build and people are starting to accept Clinton.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ZELENY: But starting to accept Clinton, that is one of the things that worries the campaign, Erin. By this point many advisors believe they should already be excited. That is why they are bringing Bernie Sanders out, Michelle Obama out and the President first and foremost. But I'm told tonight that Bernie Sanders will be stepping up his campaigning for Secretary Clinton. He'll be going back to many of those Democratic primary states that he won like Wisconsin, Michigan and others. Trying to make the case to young voters in particular. Now, millennials outpace baby boomers. That is why this is so important for the Clinton campaign to get them to the polls -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Jeff, thank you so much. Panel is back with me.

Corey, let me start with you on this. When you look at Michelle Obama. She's effective and people like her. And maybe they like her because she's not running for office or in office. But they like her. She's more popular than her husband. She's more popular than Bill Clinton and she's more popular than Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump both of whom are tied at 42 percent. Not very popular. She's at 58. Are you worried that she can get turnout up?

[19:21:08] LEWANDOWSKI: Well, I think she's a great surrogate to Hillary Clinton. There is no question about it. My concern is that you have got the first lady who is being overtly political now. I can't remember in my lifetime a first lady who's out formally attacking the nominee for the previous party. So I don't remember Laura Bush doing this. I don't remember Barbara Bush doing this. As a matter of fact, I don't remember Hillary Clinton doing this.

So you have a first lady who has unbelievable high approval numbers right now. But I think what's going to happen as you engage with the last five and a half weeks of this campaign. You know, her being aggressive for Hillary Clinton and her going out attacking --

BURNETT: You think that's going to hurt more?

LEWANDOWSKI: Look, I think her going on and attacking Donald Trump is going to hurt her. Look, the question is, why is the First Lady doing this? And when was the last time a sitting incumbent president had the coattails to carry their party next nominee? One time in the last 40 years is when it happened.

HAQ: It's a really easy question to answer why Michelle Obama is doing this. And that's the fact that they have been in office for eight years and there is an entire generation out there, the millennial voters that we keep talking about who only know these two as a formative president of their lifetime. Michelle Obama as, you've admitted, is very real, very approachable. She's seen as the leader in her own right. That is very appealing to people. She's not going to do things similar to first ladies from 15, 20, 30 years ago.

She's on snapchat. She has -- celebrity. This is very appealing not just to millennial voters but people who want to see a first lady whose more relatable, who was not somebody who is staying inside the White House but as a woman with intelligence and opinions in her own right. And that I think the particularly in terms of her not using Donald Trump's name is another sign of what we saw the one line that keeps resonating with people, particularly I think women, that when they go low, we go high. She's addressing --

BURNETT: She keeps saying that.

HAQ: She keeps saying that. And Hillary repeats that line herself too because it resonates. It is a way that for people in this very vitriolic political environment to be able to actually have conversations about what's going on, without getting really deeply personal.

BURNETT: Okay.

PRESTON: Can I just say -- very close to Michelle Obama, the First Lady. This is very personal for her. Donald Trump had said for many years now --

(CROSSTALK)

PRESTON: She doesn't like Donald Trump says that her husband is not a U.S. citizen, right? Donald Trump wants to unwind everything that her husband has built up. And as far as the name thing goes, it is about respect at this point. As someone very close to her said to me, she's never named names with him and you can draw your own conclusions about that. She hates him so much.

BURNETT: It's just a sign of disrespect --

PRESTON: I am not going to put his name out there. And look, he has a hundred percent name ID so everybody knows who he is anyway. But yes, there is a personalness.

HAQ: It's a way to be very classy but still get the political point across.

LEWANDOWSKI: Hillary Clinton's problem isn't Donald Trump when it comes to millenials. Her problem is Gary Johnson. Right? She has absolutely no connection to millennials.

BURNETT: Well, I don't know about that. But the Quinnipiac poll --

LEWANDOWSKI: None. Gary Johnson is doing significantly better.

BURNETT: She is winning the 18 to 34 vote. Quinnipiac poll late last month by two points against Gary Johnson. So, that is almost tied and five points against Trump. I mean, that is incredibly tight. You're right about that.

BUMP: Well, when you put them head to head, there is a huge gap. I mean, if it is just Clinton versus Trump. And that is the decision that they are trying to force here. That's why they got --

(CROSSTALK)

They're trying to say, this is their choice. Yes. And Gary Johnson, yes, he'll be on the ballot and a lot of this, you know, to be honest is the same sort of petulance we see from everyone who isn't -- who backs the wrong candidate, who backs the losing candidate. Right? This was a group that is very strong. Bernie Sanders, you just saw the interview right there. And now they are, you know, these are folks that like an Independent sort of candidate who was running as a Democrat and now they are looking at Hillary Clinton, they don't really see that, that sort of toying with the Gary Johnson. But what the campaign is doing is they're trying to say, look, that is not the choice. The choice here is Hillary Clinton --

HAQ: Well what the campaign is doing is getting Hillary out there in a variety of settings and taking the moment from the debate that a record number of people watched and carrying it through to new audiences like millennials, women and people of color.

BURNETT: But most people in this country --

HAQ: Donald Trump by contrast is doing exactly the same thing he's always done.

BURNETT: But people want Gary Johnson on that stage. Americans want --

PRESTON: On the debate stage.

BURNETT: Yes.

PRESTON: Yes. But there are rules. And he's never going to be on that stage. He's got 15 percent. His words would -- up yesterday. I'm sure Donald Trump would love to see Gary Johnson on the stage.

BURNETT: Yes.

LEWANDOWSKI: Gary Johnson campaign is a bad day for Hillary Clinton because he's taking votes directly away from her and same with Jill Stein.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you both. All of you, sorry.

OUTFRONT next, Dr. Ben Carson on what Donald Trump needs to do to win the debate. He is my guest. And breaking news, a shooting at an Elementary School in South Carolina today. Some shocking details as this is coming in. We're going to bring you the very latest in our show. We'll be back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:30] BURNETT: New tonight, you're looking at live pictures. That is Donald Trump rally in Wisconsin. He's going to be there. A state Trump lost to Ted Cruz by 13 percentage points. But in the past few months, the race there has tightened between Clinton and Trump.

OUTFRONT now, former Republican presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson who of course has endorsed Donald Trump.

And Dr. Carson, thank you very much for coming on the show tonight. In the audience in that rally tonight is going to be a former Miss Wisconsin, Melissa Young. She is obviously is a very positive view of Donald Trump says that he helped her out during a very tough time. Her appearance though comes on the heels of Hillary Clinton slamming Donald Trump for criticizing the weight of the former Miss Universe Alicia Machado.

[19:30:07] Do you think this entire controversy about Trump's comments on Machado caught him off guard? BEN CARSON (R), FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE; ENDORSED DONALD TRUMP: I think that that is the kind of thing that is going to continue to occur. People -- that is basically a bomb that's thrown out there in order to distract. And Donald Trump's winning card will be to be able to disregard that and refocus on the things that are important.

There is a reason that two to one the people in this country think that there is a major problem and that we're on the wrong track. Those are the things that need to be addressed.

I would like to see them both address those things because they have such varying philosophies on how to attack these things. So, let's put those philosophies out there for the American people to be able to make a real judgment of the direction they want to go.

BURNETT: So, let me ask you. When you say that you should disregard what was said and refocus, what was something he obviously did not do in the debate and several times when Hillary Clinton said things about him. He engaged in what she said. He played defense even in the case of this. Now, here he is still two days later talking about it, bringing out Miss Wisconsin.

Have you told him specifically what you think he can do differently or better at the next debate?

CARSON: Well, I don't want to get into private conversations but he's certainly heard loud and clear. Remember, this is his first one on one debate. And I think there is a learning curve for that. I think he will have learned a lot from this. And I think you will probably see a bit different way of approaching it for the next debate.

BURNETT: And when vow say he's heard loud and clear. He's heard loud and clear. Look, it didn't go well. You need to make changes.

CARSON: Well, I don't know that I would say it didn't go well. But it didn't go as well as it could have. Remember, in 17 out of 21 polls, particularly online poll, which tend to be people who are very engaged, he won. So, I don't know that you can necessarily pick the few where he lost and that that represents what everybody thinks.

BURNETT: OK, I'm just going to only say, just for point of clarity, for everyone to know, those online polls are ones where you can vote as many times as you want. So, that is why we don't use them here. The scientific polls did show that he lost. But I'm not trying to argue with you but I just want our viewers to understand.

I want to ask you about Eric Trump --

CARSON: So, sort of like what happens in some of the city where is don't, you know, monitor the voting appropriately. And that is one thing that I think is very important. Should be important to both sides.

BURNETT: So, Eric Trump said it took courage. He said it took courage for his father not to go after Bill Clinton in the debate for his infidelities. Trump said he might hit harder next time by raising that particular issue. Would it be a mistake in your view to bring that up at a debate?

CARSON: Well, it's certainly -- again, I want to emphasize, the things that are so critical to our nation right now, you know, fiscal responsibility, terrorism, **immigration**, schools, you know, prison reform, fairness for everybody in our society. I think is important to point out what the differences are. But the most important thing is to really lay out a program.

He has a very strong program. You know, for instance, on regulations, and has said that he's going look at all the regulations and get rid of the ones that are not helpful to the people of the United States, barely touched on that.

Those are the kinds of things that I think will really resonate. This other stuff, as you noticed, when I was campaigning, I didn't even go near that stuff because it just doesn't make any sense and it's not what's important.

BURNETT: All right. Dr. Carson, thank you very much. I appreciate it.

CARSON: Thank you.

BURNETT: And we're following some breaking news in Washington. A major defeat today for President Obama. Congress overwhelmingly voting to override President Obama's veto of a bill that allows 9/11 victims to sue Saudi Arabia for that country's alleged role in 9/11.

And this is really stunning defeat. It's the first successful override of his veto during his nearly eight years in office. The Senate vote, by the way, stunning, 97-1. The House, 348-77.

Late today, President Obama told Jake Tapper that the victims deserve support and compensation, but he believes overriding his veto is a big mistake.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Sometimes, you have to do what's hard. And, frankly, I wish Congress here had done what's hard. I didn't expect it, because voting -- if you're perceived as voting against 9/11 families right before an election, not surprisingly, that's a hard vote for people to take, but it would have been the right thing to do.

[19:35:13] And I am concern and this is not just my concern. General Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs, said this is a bad idea. Secretary of defense said it was a bad idea. And then we found out some of the people who voted for it said frankly we didn't know what was in it. And there was no debate of it. And it was basically a political vote.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: The president says that bill will allow Americans to be subject to lawsuits of this sort who are overseas. You can see all of Jake Tapper's town hall with President Obama tonight at 9:00.

Next, two students and a teacher wounded by a shooter in a South Carolina elementary school. A terrifying scene today and the details are just coming in. We're going to be live on the scene.

And CIA Director John Brennan on Kim Jong-un and North Korea's nuclear weapons.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOHN BRENNNA, CIA DIRECTOR: He thinks this is his ticket to greatness. I think it is his ticket to oblivion.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:40:07] BURNETT: Breaking news: an elementary school shooting tonight leaving three injured, two children. Another man, the gunman's father was also killed. The attack taking place in Townville, South Carolina, about two hours east from the state's capital. Police say the alleged gunman, a teenager, is now in custody.

Victor Blackwell is live OUTFRONT in Townville, where the shooting happen.

A pretty horrifying scene, Victor, today. I mean, what are you learning a about exactly what happened?

VICTOR BLACKWELL, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Erin, two young boys and a teacher shot here an a playground at this elementary school. The teacher shot in the shoulder, one boy shot in the leg and a second boy with more severe injuries flown to a trauma center about 30 miles away in Greenville, South Carolina.

And we're told this happened very quickly. A call came in just before 2:00 of a person on campus with a gun, turns out it was a teenage with a handgun. Investigators say they're told this boy was 14 years old, and it was a volunteer firefighter who tackled him and took him down. He was then sent off to police custody tonight.

Now, we know that after the shooting, minutes later, there was another call that came in about three and a half miles down the road, a man was found shot to death. Investigators told us that man was the shooters father, 47-year-old Jeffrey Osbourne. So, a connection do that scene but no connection to the victims here.

Were these boy, was this teacher, they were targeted? We don't know.

But I can tell you, my producer and I, we made the three and a half mile drive from where Osbourne was found dead and the school and this was the first public building. So, this could be a random shooting. We still have not gotten information from investigators.

But we can tell you, the teacher and the student were shot in the shoulder and leg respectively have been released. But that boy who was flown to the trauma center, he under went emergency surgery and is still at the hospital, Erin.

BURNETT: And, Victor, before we go, the gunman. I mean, there's some eerie similarities here just when you look at the headlines of what happened in Newtown, a teenage boy killing in this case his father going to school.

Do you have any sense about the motive?

BLACKWELL: Why he did this? Investigators have not said if they know and not made that public. We can tell you they have searched a truck that was here. Potentially, he drove to this location for evidence. That was just sent away.

We do know that South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley is here meeting with families. Potentially, we'll hear from her later. But investigators have said that there is no evidence of terror here, or that it's racially motivated. And you remember the last time we were here in South Carolina, covering a shooting, it was the shooting at Mother Emmanuel last June when Dylann Roof walked on that church and killed nine people -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Victor, thank you very much.

And OUTFRONT next, my exclusive conversation with the director of the CIA, John Brennan. We'll talk about Donald Trump's relationship with Vladimir Putin.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: New tonight: investigators now believe they have identified the two men seen on video removing a pressure cooker bomb from luggage in New York City. Law enforcement officials say they worked for an Egyptian Airline. They were visiting New York. And they are talking to officials overseas to try to find the men. It comes as the father of the bombing suspect still insists that no one in his family knew what Ahmad Rahami was up to.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

INTERVIEWER: Do you think he did this by himself or?

MOHAMMAD RAHAMI, BOMBING SUSPECT'S FATHER: He did everything by himself. He buy everything by himself. He order online. He did it by himself.

INTERVIEWER: Did anybody see him building the bomb?

RAHAMI: Nothing. Nobody.

INTERVIEWER: Something suspicious going on in that bedroom?

RAHAMI: Nobody, believe me. I guarantee.

(END VIDEO CLIP) BURNETT: I interviewed the CIA Director John Brennan earlier and asked if he believed that Rahami acted alone.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JOHN BRENNAN, CIA DIRECTOR: Well, it's unclear and I think the investigation is continuing to go on and what type of associations or affiliations he may have developed over time. But I think what is clear is that he was able to carry this out with a relatively limited amount of support. What he did in terms of placing those IEDs, these are thing that individuals are able to do, acquiring materials that are available in the open market, and they go online and they see, whether it's ISIL or al Qaeda, providing them the recipes to pulling this together.

So, these individual, lone actors, they may be encouraged. They may have contacts. They may have associates. But at the same time, a lot of them are able to carry this out totally on their own.

BURNETT: So, are you concerned there could be ISIS cells here or operatives here, and you may not know about them or know what about what they are planning because they are actually using messaging services that are encrypted in such a way that you actually can't see them?

BRENNAN: Well, I think any good counterterrorism professional, and I know I've had conversation with Jim Comey on the FBI, you cannot assume that there is nobody in the homeland. What you need to do is to be able to continue to uncover and use intelligence what they might be doing here, who's in contact with whom, and their operational security is really quite advanced and they make it difficult for law enforcement and intelligence to identify them.

So I think we have to assume that there is something here in the states.

BURNETT: You've talked before about ways they would try to come into the United States, whether by directly coming to the United States and not familiar with their name. You've also talked about **refuge** flows as a way to come. We saw that obviously in the Paris attacks. Are you concerned about that in the United States?

BRENNAN: I think ISIS and ISIL have demonstrated a real versatility in terms of how they're going to carry out their nefarious plan, goals, to take advantage of whatever medium is available and whether the way to get people here, whether or not it's again, connecting with people through digital domain and cyber contacts. Whether it is sending people here legally and having individuals who are not on our radar screen, who may not be on a watch list who come here and apply for visa and get into the United States, as well as people who may want to take advantage of the **refugee** flows.

BURNETT: So, do you feel confident with **refugees** that you're able to tell who they are and what they are about? I mean, I know some countries can't even do that. They don't even know who those people are. So, do you know who all these people are? BRENNAN: Nothing is going to be a hundred percent guaranteed, that's for sure. But in terms of tapping into all the information that we have, all the bits of data that resides within the U.S. government, I have confidence that we have done a very thorough job of pulsing those individuals who want to come here against the data sets.

[19:50:13] So that if there is any indicator that they have contacts with terrorist organizations or they may be coming here for nefarious purposes, that we are going to be able to identify that data that associates them with that.

BURNETT: You know, you have said in some remarks recently that ISIS is a greater threat an al Qaeda in some ways. Sort, when it comes to your knowledge of what their planning, how important is human intelligence right now?

BRENNAN: It is critically important. There is no single intelligence capability that's goings to give us the insight we need. So, human intelligence in terms of having people who have the access, who have the eyes and ears that we need in order to reveal what ISIS may be planning.

BURNETT: So, when you're talking about al-Baghdadi's inner circle or groups like that, do you have eyes and ears?

BRENNAN: What we are doing is very methodically, deliberately removing individuals from the battlefield of ISIS, a number of senior members of the organization. There as Abu Muhammad Al-Adnani, who was removed in a coalition strike, as well as (INAUDIBLE), these are two very senior members of the organization. I'm confident that we're going to be able to remove other members of the organization. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, his time is limited. So, it's just a question of whether he's going to be removed this week, this month, next month, or in the coming months.

BURNETT: So, the question of why is al Baghdadi still alive? The answer is not for much longer.

BRENNAN: Well, the answer is, the reason why he's alive is that they really do practice tremendous operational security. They know that we are looking fur them but it is a significant challenge.

BURNETT: So, the former Defense Secretary Bob Gates wrote in recent op-ed, which I'm sure you saw about a lot of the challenges. But one of them was North Korea. He said North Korea would have nuclear weapon capable of striking United States mainland within the first term of the next president.

You are the one who actually has the intelligence. Is that true?

BRENNAN: We are looking at Kim Jong un's continued development of his ballistic missile capability and he has a number of ballistic missiles with different types of ranges, whether medium range or intercontinental range. And we also know he's continued to develop his nuclear arsenal. One of the things very we're concerned about is mating those nuclear warheads with those ballistic missiles and they could deliver to a target.

Now, whether or not he could do that with confidence that it is going to survive the drama that exists, as you send something into the range of going after the United States, I think is uncertain.

BURNETT: When it comes to human integration again North Korea in many ways seems to be a black hole, sort of -- it appears often they are surprised often in the most recent tests that he was conducting. Do you have intelligence -- human intelligence on what's happening in North Korea?

BRENNAN: Well, we have intelligence that gives us a sense of what he is continuing to try to do. I'm not going to go into details about the nature of our intelligence, but I must tell you that this is an intelligence challenge. It is considered to be a hard target --

BURNETT: How would you describe him? What are the right words? When you think of him as a leader, what he's capable of doing, how do you describe -- what are the words you use for Kim Jong-un?

BRENNAN: A megalomaniac, calculating. I wouldn't say he's reckless at this point, because I think he's taken steps that really go up to the brink. But do not go past it, that would generate some type of action against him from either regional players, the United States.

He is determined, in terms of having North Korea acknowledged as nuclear state. He is delusional, because he believes that the world is going to accept a nuclear North Korea and allow it to maintain that arsenal. And he thinks this is his ticket to greatness. I think has his ticket to oblivion.

BURNETT: Hacking is a very big issue. Obviously, right now, everyone is dealing with it. You dealt with the personally because it happened to you with your personal e-mail. The DNC has been hacked. U.S. intelligence sources say it was Russian that was responsible. Do you expect, would you be surprised by some big leak in October that comes out that is very influential in this election?

BRENNAN: I think what's clear a lot of e-mail systems have very vulnerable to this type of hacking. So, as we get closer to the election if there are actors or countries that have particular objectives, either to discredit or help to burnish the credentials of individual candidates, I am concerned that they are going to use this time to release that information.

BURNETT: And again, of course, Russia has -- is everybody pointing the finger on this, getting involved in this election. Donald Trump has said many positive things about Vladimir Putin again and again. Here are some.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I think I get along very long with Vladimir Putin.

[19:55:02] Putin is a nicer person than I am. I like him because he called me a genius. If he says great things about me, I'm going to say great things about him.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: What's your reaction when you hear that?

BRENNAN: Well, as director of CIA, I don't involve myself in campaign politics. I will say though that when I look at Russia right now, we know that Mr. Putin has been very aggressive on the foreign policy front but also very aggressive in the cyber realm.

And we know that Russians are very active in that area. They have done some things in the past years that tried to effect certain elections in different countries. So I think what we have to be very wary of what the Russians may be doing. I think we have to be careful about believing some things they say publicly or disavowing any types of activities they may be engaged in.

Russia is an adversary in a number of areas and as the CIA director --

BURNETT: And it is a word you used, anniversary.

BRENNAN: Yes. When I look at what's going on in Syria right now, I'm very annoyed and frustrated the Russians have not been following through on their commitments to apply pressure on the Syrian regime to stop its horrific bombing of innocent men, women and children in places like Aleppo.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And you can see more of my interview with the CIA director this weekend on OUTFRONT CNN International program. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: And thank you so much for joining us. Don't miss our town hall with President Obama tonight at 9:00.

"AC360" starts now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Wolf Blitzer, Sara Murray, Jake Tapper, Dana Bash, Jeff Zeleny, Anderson Cooper, Michael Smerconish, John King, Jeffrey Lord, Van Jones, Kayleigh McEnany, Michael Nutter, Erin Burnett, Paul Begala

9589 speakers\_end

[19:00:20] ANNOUNCER: Tonight a must-see debate. Two bitter rivals going head to head for the first time.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Donald Trump is not qualified to be president.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Hillary Clinton is unfit to be our president.

ANNOUNCER: Donald Trump, still trying to convince voters he can be presidential. While staying unpredictable and on the attack.

TRUMP: She doesn't have the strength, the stamina, or the ability.

ANNOUNCER: Hillary Clinton trying to rebound from setbacks. Arguing that experience and steadiness count.

CLINTON: The man you can bait with a tweet is not a man you can trust with nuclear weapons.

ANNOUNCER: Both candidates fighting to seize momentum in the final stretch of a close and polarizing race.

CLINTON: We need to stop him conclusively in November.

TRUMP: She's been there for 35 years.

ANNOUNCER: This is CNN's coverage of Clinton versus Trump in their first presidential debate.

CLINTON: It's a game to him. Everything is a game.

ANNOUNCER: Offering starkly different visions for the nation.

TRUMP: She's done nothing but mistakes. She's got bad, bad judgment.

ANNOUNCER: Two nominees. One stage. And America's future up for debate.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: And this is the stage where Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are about to compete face to face for the first time. It is the most important moment yet in this campaign, and arguably, the biggest night in modern American political history. We are coming to you from the spin room which is right next to the debate hall on the campus of Hofstra University here in New York.

Welcome to all. I'm Erin Burnett with this special edition of OUTFRONT on this debate night in America. Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump are heading into an extremely high-risk task tonight with the presidential race now according to polls a dead heat. Every word, every gesture they could potentially win or lose vote and there are only six weeks left until the election. With so much riding on one night, on 90 minutes, we are told that both Clinton and Trump were involved in last-minute debate prep just earlier today. Now, this is expected to be the most watched political debate ever. Ever. And we here at CNN are covering it like no one else can.

Wolf Blitzer is inside the debate hall with more on what to expect. Wolf?

WOLF BLITZER, CNN ANCHOR: Erin, the candidates take the stage in two hours. Two hours from now. They'll stand there behind those lecterns for the entire 90-minute debate. There won't be any commercial breaks at all. Viewers will see Trump on the left. The candidates' positions were determined, by the way, by a coin toss. Hillary Clinton will to the right. Right of your TV screens. Her lectern is shorter than Trump since he's considerably taller than she is. The moderator, NBC News anchor Lester Holt, will be seated in front of them.

His first question will go to Hillary Clinton. That was also determined by a coin toss. Outside the debate hall, people are gathering for this historic debate. As we countdown to the introductions and the first questions. We're going to talk to Senator Bernie Sanders about Hillary Clinton's debate strengths and her weaknesses. He knows firsthand what it's like to mix it up with her on the debate stage. Also this hour, we'll speak with Donald Trump's vice presidential running-mate, Mike Pence, about the challenges the Republican nominee faces tonight.

Let's bring in Jake Tapper. Jake, maybe 100 million Americans will be watching this, millions more around the world will be watching it. The polls right now, the national polls, the battleground polls show this is neck and neck across the country.

JAKE TAPPER, CNN ANCHOR: That's right. And the big question for Donald Trump is, can he reassure the American people that he has the temperament and he has the knowledge and experience to be president? Hillary Clinton has really tried to make this election a referendum on him, and voters have really concerns about his temperament and his background. So all night she's going to be trying to delegitimize him. Meanwhile, he's going to be trying to show the American people that a President Trump can be something that they're comfortable with.

BLITZER: It's fascinating. Dana Bash is with us as well. Dana, this is going to be a real challenge for Hillary Clinton after Donald Trump for that matter. One-on-one. He had several debates with a lot of Republican candidates. Hillary Clinton, I don't know if she's ever faced someone like Donald Trump in a one-on-one debate.

[19:05:02] DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Right Wolf, few have. You're absolutely right. There are going to be huge challenges, first time challenges for both of these candidates starting with Trump. The only time he has had a small number was four opponents which is not so small and that was in CNN's debate in Miami. For the most part he has debated on crowded stages and he was able to kind of recede into the background when he didn't want to engage on an issue for whatever reason.

He obviously can't do that tonight. It is one-on-one. And for Hillary Clinton, she has had a number of one-on-one debates in this campaign, alone, and of course in 2008 against Barack Obama. But nothing, nothing compares to the wild card that is Donald Trump.

BLITZER: And as we say, the stakes could not be higher, indeed. Erin, back to you.

BURNETT: All right, Wolf. And we're getting some new information from inside the Trump campaign right now. For that, let's bring in Sara Murray. Sara, what do you have?

SARA MURRAY, CNN POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Well, Erin, right. Now as we are preparing for the debate, Donald Trump is taking a little bit of time to relax. He's at a hotel near the debate site. He's with his family. Taking, you know, a few moments to himself before the debate starts this evening. But make no mistake, the campaign even as they have mocked Hillary Clinton for how intense her debate prep has been is taking this very seriously. Donald Trump did a walkthrough of the debate hall earlier.

That's something he tended to skip during the Republican primaries. And he also fit in another session of debate prep earlier today at Trump Tower before he came over to the debate site and while there's all this expectations, management, all of these mind games going on leading up to the debate, privately, some in the Trump campaign admit that they do believe that Donald Trump will be graded on a curve, they do believe he'll be graded on different standards and that voters don't necessarily expect him to know quite as much as Hillary Clinton does about national security or about the inner workings of the government, so that is something that could certainly work to his benefit tonight -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right, Sara. I just want everyone to know, you know, here in the spin room, there's been a couple of big gaggles as we call them. Mike Pence actually just walked behind me. He's obviously going to be on later this hour with us. And Mark Cuban, the celebrity star guest of Hillary Clinton also was here. I had a moment to speak to him briefly. Very excited to be here. Says he was invited directly by the Clinton campaign, of course.

And Jeff Zeleny has more on Clinton's last-minute preparations today. Jeff, you have just learned as, of course, Mark Cuban and his celebrity, you know, star hood just come here through our press spin room. JEFF ZELENY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Erin. Hillary Clinton is also at a hotel just a short distance from here at Hofstra University, and like her opponent, she is using this opportunity to sort of collect her thoughts and rest. I just talked to a senior adviser who's been in touch with her and she's not practicing anymore. She is refining her points and really, you know, looking for a couple moments to make a standout in her fight with Donald Trump.

No presidential candidate in modern history at all has had as much debating experience as Hillary Clinton. They know she will need all that. But right now, at this hour, she is with her husband, the rest of her family. Thinking about this big moment ahead tonight. She is actually not doing a walkthrough of this stage we're told, at least that is her plan right now. She has seen what it looks like.

Some of her aides have looked at it there, but she has been doing these debate practice sessions standing in front of a podium at the very same hour the debate will be tonight, 9:00 Eastern Time. She is ready for this debate, her advisers believe, but they also are saying, look, she's going to use this as an opportunity to make her case to 100 million people. Don't necessarily look for as many fireworks as Donald Trump might be expecting -- Erin.

ZELENY: All right, Jeff Zeleny. Thank you very much. And now let's go to Anderson.

ANDERSON COOPER, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Erin, thanks very much. We got a complete panel here to my left, I've got all our Trump supporters and our Clinton supporters. And also to my right, I have our analysts and our reporters. Let's start with them.

Michael Smerconish, host of "SMERCONISH" and the "MICHAEL SMERCONISH" program. Nia-Malika Henderson, CNN senior political reporter. Gloria Borger, CNN chief political analyst. And David Axelrod, CNN senior political commentator, former senior Obama adviser and host of "The Axe Files" podcast. Just in terms of historic events, I mean, it's an overused word. But I mean, this really is history in the making tonight.

DAVID AXELROD, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Absolutely. We've never had a reality show star in a presidential debate before. That's history, but honestly --

COOPER: And a female candidate of a major party.

AXELROD: I was joking.

COOPER: I know you were.

AXELROD: But really, this -- it's also historic because this is a very close race. It's been tightening in the last several weeks. It's now in the average about 1.6 separating the two and in the battleground states, it's been tightening and people are going to be looking at this debate for cues. It will probably be the most-watched debate. The first debate often is. And this is the -- this is going to be a very important test for both of them. For Trump as was mentioned, to show that he has the presidential meddle, the temperament, the command, but for Hillary Clinton to connect with people and give them an authentic sense of where she wants to lead and why she wants to be president, and so I think they're a test for both of them.

COOPER: Not just enough for Hillary Clinton to know lots of facts and have, you know, talk about her policies, she's got to sort of I think Paul Begala talked about this the other day, kind of paint a picture, kind of an overview of what she wants for her presidents.

[19:10:23] GLORIA BORGER, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL ANALYST: And why she should be president because she cares about you. And how her presidency would affect your life. I mean, when you step back and you think about this, on paper she is the most qualified person probably in my lifetime ever to run for the presidency. When you look at her resume. Donald Trump is the first presidential nominee, I think, since Ike Eisenhower, not to have been in elective office before.

So they couldn't be more different even on that score. And I think for him, he's got to prove that he's qualified. We all know what the polls show. People wonder about his qualifications. But for her, it's more about your life and how she can fix it. Because everybody kind of knows that she's got the resume.

COOPER: It's almost, I mean, Michael, is it an easier bar for Donald Trump, because if he just shows people that he can be president, that they can imagine him president at the end of this debate, if this is a change election, I mean, he has an advantage there.

MICHAEL SMERCONISH, CNN ANCHOR, "SMERCONISH": The fact that you're asking me that and I do agree with the proposition, i think it shows that the Trump campaign has succeeded in adjusting the bar to their specifications before this debate even begins. I would say that the big challenge for him is to remind himself that all of those debates in which he succeeded in primary and caucus season matter not now. This is a completely different audience. And that which got him here could also prevent him from going further. Because those red meat stirring one liners I think will not play well for the type of general election audience that he needs to reach this evening.

COOPER: And also, the audience in this hall is probably very different, I mean, they're asked not to clap, not to kind of voice their support or their disdain one way or the other.

NIA-MALIKA HENDERSON, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL REPORTER: Yes, and he feeds, as Gloria said, feeds off of the crowd. He is great dispensing red meat, he's very funny at times but he has said this before, and I think he said it in an interview with you, a town hall, he said that he can act differently for different people. And that's what he'll need to do tonight. And we've seen him do that. He's done it mainly by reading off a teleprompter. He won't have a teleprompter tonight.

But I think, you know, he's a performer. He understands. I think the stakes here. And listen, he comes in here with the momentum, right, he comes here -- in here with a lot of upside where he can come out of this debate continuing this momentum. I think if you're a Democrat, you're worried tonight, you're worried about the high stakes for Hillary Clinton, and can she meet those? Can she pull away from Donald Trump? So, I think, you know, he comes in with a head of esteem.

COOPER: You know, David Axelrod, I think back six weeks ago and to John King at the magic wall looking at the path to 270 electoral votes and he had a tough time finding a path for Donald Trump. I just talked to him in the last hour, there's now a very clear path.

AXELROD: Yes, that's why they call the magic wall, you know, it changes. But the -- look, I think that's -- these races are very changeable. The intense coverage has an effect on these campaigns. We said last summer after she had this very strong convention, it was going to take a while to have this settle in and he made changes in his campaign --

COOPER: Right, which were effective.

AXELROD: He's become a much more disciplined candidate. The question in this debate is once he gets past the first two-minute question and they get into that discussion period, can he carry on a prolonged discussion on, you know, complex issues? And if the answer is yes, he can take a big step forward here. If the answer is no, it will reconfirm some of the concerns that people have about him.

BORGER: And, you know, the audience he's going to be feeding off of tonight is one person. It's Hillary Clinton. He's going to have to be responding to her directly. It's not going to be the energy from the audience. It's going to be what Hillary Clinton says about him. And we haven't really seen that dynamic before one-on-one with him.

COOPER: Interesting.

BORGER: And so it's different.

COOPER: We're going to talk to our partisans I guess you would say coming up a little bit later. Trump supporters and Clinton supporters. We'll talk to the last person who debated Hillary Clinton, Senator Bernie Sanders. He'll share his unique take on the potential pitfalls Clinton needs to avoid tonight and what he's expecting. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:18:43] BURNETT: And we are less than two hours away from the start of what may be the most anticipated presidential debate ever. I don't even know if we have to say "may." I think it fairly is. Hillary Clinton versus Donald Trump. But first, a female presidential nominee of a major party going up against one of the most unconventional White House contenders in American history.

We're back with special edition of OUTFRONT live in the debate site here at Hofstra University. Just outside New York City which of course is the home base of both of the nominees. It is local for both of them tonight. Senator Bernie Sanders is the last person who debated Hillary Clinton. And he joins us now from Vermont. And Senator, thank you very much for being with us.

SEN. BERNIE SANDERS (I), VERMONT: My pleasure.

BURNETT: You know what it is like to stand on a debate stage with Hillary Clinton one-on-one. What -- what do you say, what was the hardest part about debating her?

SANDERS: Well, I think the hardest part is understanding that despite what the media may think, this is not a night of entertainment. It's not a Super Bowl. It's not the World Series. Tonight, the American people are going to be looking at somebody who will have enormous power in influencing the direction of our country, 320 million people, and the rest of the world. And I hope that we focus on the issues. The differences between the candidates. One candidate, for example, Donald Trump, wants to give hundreds of billions of dollars in tax breaks to billionaires. The wealthiest people in this country. Is that really a good policy for working families? Donald Trump does not believe that climate change is real.

He thinks it's a hoax. Despite what the entire scientific community says. Is that a very good approach for the future of this planet and for the lives of our kids and our grandchildren? Donald Trump will appoint another conservative, he said, to the Supreme Court which means that Citizens United, the disastrous Supreme Court decisions that allow billionaires like Sheldon Adelson and the Koch Brothers to buy elections and undermine American democracy. That will continue. Hillary Clinton wants to overturn Citizens United. So I think what we have to do is focus on the issues, and not see tonight as an entertainment show.

BURNETT: All right. Now, you did say recently, though, you had some criticism for Secretary Clinton on one thing. And perhaps it's related to what you're talking about now, Senator. You said she needs to, in your words, get away from all of this personality stuff, and, in your words, start talking about the real issues which actually sounds like what you were just saying there. Your frustration. What did you mean when you said --

SANDERS: Well, I think the criticism was more --

BURNETT: This personality stuff?

SANDERS: Well, that's what media does. They make this what kind of shoes will Donald Trump be wearing? Who is he huddling with right now? How is his hair going to look tonight?

BURNETT: Right. But you have this criticism of her. This was a criticism of her.

SANDERS: No, it's not a criticism. It's the criticism of the media. Let's talk about which candidate is going to be better for working families. Now, I know, in my state and all over this country, you got millions of people trying to make it at nine, 10 11 bucks an hour. I think, Hillary Clinton thinks we need to raise the minimum wage to a living wage. That's not Donald Trump's position. I believe that as a nation we have struggled for a long time to overcome bigotry and racism. Donald Trump is making the cornerstone of his campaign, in fact, bigotry. Dividing us up.

Latinos and Blacks, and Muslims. Trying to divide our nation up. I don't think that that's good for the future of this country. So my hope is that we can focus tonight and in the future on the differences of opinions, very real differences between the two candidates and when we do that, I think most people will perceive that Clinton is the superior candidate.

BURNETT: As you know, though, Senator, you know, appearance and style matter a lot in a debate. Right? It's not just the ideas, it's the art of it.

SANDERS: No. No, I don't know that.

BURNETT: And perhaps, the entertainment.

SANDERS: Let me just say this. Let me just say this. Because I, with all due respect, I disagree with you. When I debated Clinton, it was a very interesting phenomenon. Most of the time, not all of the time, the media seemed to think that Clinton looked more presidential and she, quote-unquote, won the debate. But you know what, you go online, we did much better because people listened to what I had to say. So I do not agree that style and looks and how you comb your hair is what the important issue is. I believe --

BURNETT: Okay.

SANDERS: -- that it is what the candidate thinks. I'm sorry.

BURNETT: So, let me ask you though, on one thing. I just want to ask you on one thing. Because in terms of the style, Hillary Clinton obviously is the first woman to ever be on the stage like we're going to see tonight. And you obviously were debating her in that capacity as well. There was one time as you remember when you were talking about people shouting and after that, she came back and said, that's how people talk about women but not about men. And there was another time when she was talking and you kept saying, excuse me, excuse me, excuse me and were interrupting her and people interpreted that as sexist. Is that something you think could happen to Donald Trump tonight?

[19:23:40] SANDERS: I have no idea. I mean, I think, you know, I what we look at is Hillary Clinton is a candidate for president of the United States. And I would hope that both of the candidates are respectful of each other. I don't believe that when I participated that I was rude. Others may disagree, but, you know, I would hope that there is a thoughtful, intelligent debate on the real issues of facing the families, working families, of America.

BURNETT: And a final question to you in terms of your advice. What is your final piece of advice to her tonight going up against Donald Trump? SANDERS: I would simply say, she doesn't need my advice. She does these things very well and has a lot of experience in them. I would -- she understands that she's up against an entertainer. Donald Trump is an excellent entertainer. He's had successful TV shows. And that's his campaign. It's entertainment. I would say that in contrast, what she has got to do is focus on the real issues. Stay focused on the issues impacting the American people.

How do we raise the minimum wage to a living wage? How do we get pay equity for women? How do we make colleges? She has a proposal that would provide free tuition at public colleges and universities for any family making less than $125,000. That's a big deal. Stay on message. Keep talking about what impacts the average Americans.

BURNETT: All right. Senator Sanders, thank you very much for you time tonight.

And next, Donald Trump's poll comeback. He has been rising in the polls and the race for the White House tonight is now in a formal dead heat.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:18] BLITZER: As we countdown to tonight's historic debate, we have a brand new snapshot of the presidential race showing Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump in a dead heat. As they get ready to debate here at Hofstra University tonight. Clinton now leads Trump by only two points in CNN's poll of polls. That's an average of the five most recent surveys of voters nationwide. The race also is a virtual tie in the critical battleground state of Pennsylvania.

A new CNN/ORC poll shows Clinton just one point ahead of Trump among likely voters. It's equally close in Colorado and that's another key swing state where our new poll shows Trump one point ahead of Hillary Clinton.

John King is over at the magic wall for us. He's looking at the shift in this election map.

[19:30:02] What are you seeing, John?

JOHN KING, CNN CHIEF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Wolf, what we are seeing is just remarkable as we get ready for this first very consequential presidential debate. Look at the map of 2012, this is the Obama/Romney race.

Now, if you're Donald Trump, the only way to win is turn several of the blue states red, right? He has to take away wins that Obama had. If we looked at this map five weeks ago, I could not circle one blue state and tell you Donald Trump was ahead or in a tie.

Here's the situation today, let's use green for a minute. Donald Trump is ahead in Iowa. Donald Trump is a little bit ahead in Nevada.

Let's switch colors. Donald Trump is either a little ahead or in a tie in battleground Ohio. He's keeping North Carolina which is a red state for Romney last time. As you just noted, he's very competitive in Pennsylvania, it's a dead heat. He's very competitive, a dead heat in Florida and he's now competitive out in Colorado. Up one point in our poll, down a point or two if you average out all the polls.

Look at that right there. Six or seven states carried by Obama where Trump is now competitive. What does that mean? Still advantage, Clinton, Wolf. We look at this map and we say, if the election were held today, we believe Secretary Clinton would get at least 272 electoral votes. You need 270 to win the White House.

But we need to watch this very closely now. We have Pennsylvania leading Democratic. Another poll or two showing a tight race. Might have to reconsider that.

Let me show it to you this way. Let's assume Trump keeps that Nevada lead, can win Florida, can hold North Carolina and can win Ohio, look how close that would make this race -- 272 to 264. At that point, a month ago, we were saying Donald Trump has so few paths, so few options. If he can get to 260, 264, Pennsylvania could do it. Michigan could do it, even just Colorado could do.

So, a month or so ago, Donald Trump had to throw to an inside straight, now he has more menu options as he looks to the path to 270.

Now, I just talked to Joel Benenson, the top strategist of the Clinton campaign. He disputes some of these state numbers, but he does acknowledge this is a tighter race now that it was four, or five weeks ago.

How does Hillary Clinton counter this? Wolf, the most important thing for Secretary Clinton is try to take a couple big prizes away from Donald Trump. If she can win North Carolina, for example, forget about it, Donald Trump can't get to the presidency. If she can hold Florida, 29 electoral votes, forget about it.

So, out of these first debates, they'll see how things go tonight, then they'll go state by state. Look for Clinton to spend a lot of time in North Carolina, to reinforce Pennsylvania and get out to Colorado to check a state they think they're going to win but are a little nervous, Anderson, because of new poll numbers. No question, very competitive going into tonight. The winner tonight has a different map tomorrow.

ANDERSON COOPER, CNN ANCHOR: Very competitive, indeed. John King -- John, thanks very much.

Let's talk to our panelists. Trump supporters, Clinton supporters as well. How pleased are you where Donald Trump is, and what do you attribute the fact that things have changed so much in some of these states for Donald Trump in the last six weeks?

JEFFREY LORD, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Yes, he really has (INAUDIBLE) one of the things when you go back and look at other presidential elections, 1968, 1992 for Bill Clinton, events beyond the candidates' doing, riots in 1968, both after Dr. King's assassination and at the Democratic convention, Richard Nixon was running on a law and order theme.

In 1992, the riots in Los Angeles seemed to play against President Bush and then-Governor Clinton was out there saying I'm the one who cares, these riots happen because of Reagan/Bush budget cuts, et cetera. It fit the Clinton narrative.

What we're seeing here I think with the terrorist attack in New York, with the events in Charlotte, I'm talking television pictures here, the images. Let's not forget the image of Secretary Clinton, herself, and her health scare there on September 11th. I do think those things make an impact watching an electorate on television.

COOPER: Van Jones, is that do you think what's changed?

VAN JONES, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: That's some of it, and frankly, Donald Trump stopped doing dumb stuff every day. Let's not forget (AUDIO GAP)

He was slipping on a banana (AUDIO GAP) and marbles every day the whole summer. So, he stopped doing that. That let some people get more comfortable with him.

Hillary Clinton has got to not fall into a particular trap, though. She's so interested in stopping Donald Trump from dragging us backwards she forgets to tell us how she's going to take us forward. She actually has plans.

It's not just a personality thing. They both got bad personalities according to a lot of people. But they have plans.

If you look at her plans, she should talk about them more. Economists at Oxford looks at both their plans, they said Donald Trump's economic plan will cost us 3 million jobs, Hillary Clinton will get us 10 million.

I want to hear her talk more about how she's going to take us forward. Most people got the memo that Trump will take us backwards.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Bu here's the problem about Hillary Clinton when she talks about policy, Hillary Clinton is the embodiment of the status quo. I go back to an interview I saw in June, where she was asked what will you to that differs from what Obama has done for the economy? Her answer was, create more green jobs.

That is not a viable answer of how you will change --

JONES: I like that answer a lot.

(CROSSTALK)

MCENANY: How you will change and this is an electorate that really is craving change.

A poll stuck out to me last week, the CBS battleground poll of battleground voters, 55 percent wanted big change, and 43 percent wanted some change.

[19:35:06] That's 98 percent of voters saying they want some sort of change. Tonight on the debate stage, you're going to see the embodiment of change in Donald Trump and the embodiment of he status quo in Hillary Clinton.

JONES: Kayleigh is right in this regard. She's been I think afraid to make the case we need change because it might offend Obama. I think the way she can handle that is say, look, Obama got us out of the ditch, we're now ready for takeoff and I can tell you someplace beyond we were able to go.

But she doesn't make that case. She sounds like she's for the status quo when she's not.

COOPER: Mayor Nutter?

MICHAEL NUTTER, CNN POLITICAL CONTRIBUTOR: Well, it's interesting. I mean, Kayleigh says having policy ideas is somehow representative of the status quo. This is a policy job. The job is to lay out a vision, lay out policies and then implement them. That's what you do when you're an executive.

So, that's not the status quo. That is a job. That's what happens when you get elected to an executive job. You have policies, you have a vision and then you implement.

MCENANY: When your policies are a duplication of the administration's policies, that is, in fact, the status quo.

NUTTER: Nowhere near --

MCENANY: Donald Trump has given novel idea, a novel economic plan and that is what we're going to see tonight is change.

NUTTER: He has ideas, he has no policies, and he has plans. He has ideas.

COOPER: We're going to take a break here. We're going to have more with our panelists. We're going to go inside the candidates' playbooks with two former debate coaches and talk to the vice presidential nominee, Mike Pence.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:40:17] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: Millions of Americans will be watching what happens on this stage tonight with Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton face off in their first debate. Right now, at this moment, we are getting new information about how Clinton and Trump have been preparing for tonight's historic event. Of course, now they're just both nearby getting ready to come over for the actual main event.

Let's bring in our Jeff Zeleny.

And, Jeff, what have you learned about how Clinton is spending these final moments?

JEFF ZELENY, CNN SENIOR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Erin, tonight, we're getting new details about these practice sessions she's been having. Now, they build a scaled debate stage inside a conference room near her home in Chappaqua where she's gone the last three nights to simulate the exact time of the debate.

Now, playing the role of Donald Trump, her longtime aide Philippe Reines, a sharp-tongued New Yorker. He's been throwing insults at her but spending the most time on that private e-mail server that's caused her so much grief. But he's also brought up a long list of topics that Trump might use. From Monica Lewinsky, to her paid Wall Street speeches.

Now, others in the room include her debate coach, Ron Klain, a former adviser to President Obama, of Vice President Biden and Al Gore and Karen Dunn, Clinton's longtime lawyer. Her team of advisers so small and intimate, even Bill Clinton was not included for most of those sessions, Erin.

But Hillary Clinton has been instructed above all not to lecture tonight. But search for moments of levity instead -- Erin.

BURNETT: Very interesting. Interesting when you say Bill Clinton wasn't there for most of it.

Let's go Sara Murray now and the other side of it, details on how Donald Trump has been preparing.

And, Sara, I know you have some new details. Of course, we know it was unusual in terms of his preparations. But what else have you learned?

SARA MURRAY, CNN POLITICS REPORTER: Well, that's right. Donald Trump hasn't been playing by the old rules throughout the presidential race and true when it comes to debate prep also.

Now, Hillary Clinton, other candidates, they like to do full mock debates wearing make up, using a podium, but Donald Trump really prefers more of this rapid fire roundtable. That's included his campaign manager Kellyanne Conway, as well as his campaign CEO Steve Bannon. They're helping Trump shape both his messaging and tone. Ousted FOX News executive Roger Ailes has also been weighing in on this process.

But Trump is also relying on New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, as well as former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani. Both of these men are practiced politicians. People he sees as his peers. People that can help him both on substance but also the showmanship that comes to debate and as to some recent sessions, they've added RNC chairman Reince Priebus to the mix as well.

Now, Jared Kushner is Trump's son-in-law and taken an active role in basically all aspects of this campaign. No surprise to see him involved in debate prep as well. Now, of course, their goal is to ensure that Donald Trump is prepared for whatever comes tonight, but that he's not over-rehearsed.

BURNETT: All right. Sara, thank you very much.

Now we're here on the practice debate stage. We're going to prepare you for the history-making matchup.

I'm, of course, Erin. Here along with Paul Begala and Lanhee Chen. Lanhee prepped Mitt Romney in 2012 and Marco Rubio to go against Donald Trump earlier this primary season. So, you have prepared someone to go up against Donald Trump and, of course, Paul Begala, you're the head of super PAC, but you also were preparing Bill Clinton.

PAUL BEGALA, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Right.

BURNETT: So you've both been in these positions before. Okay. So candidates take debate prep incredibly seriously. We've seen that with Hillary Clinton, right? I mean, she's been doing it at the same time every night so that she's ready, getting her mind completely in this.

President Obama actually got John Kerry on a replica stage in Nevada so that he would have the exact same stage. Donald Trump, though, has not done it this way, right? It's been people sitting around a table getting him ready. Paul, is that a mistake?

BEGALA: Well, we'll see. I think, yes. I think familiarity matters. OK? If you're going to -- I can go out in my driveway and shoot hoops and lower the basket down to six or eight feet. It would be great, you know? I'd look like Kevin Durant. But at some point, they're going to tip it off and the hoop is going to be ten feet high.

So, I think preparation that mimics the authentic event matters.

LANHEE CHEN, FORMER ROMNEY PUBLIC POLICY DIRECTOR: To be fair, though, Paul, I think it's a very individualized process. You have to know the candidate. You have to kind of figure out what is it she or he wants to do, what are their weaknesses, what are their strengths? And playing to that I think is very important as well. So, the process really can't be cookie cut. You really have to get in there and see, what do they need, what do they not need and go from there.

BURNETT: All right. So in terms of what we know of each of them, how they have done this so far. Let's take a look at the attacks, the Donald Trump attacks --

BEGALA: My favorite part.

(LAUGHTER)

BURNETT: Senator Sanders was lecturing us a few moments ago about this isn't entertainment, of course, he's right, this is a very, very serious moment. Part of the reason people watch these debates is to see who can score the point and win and that is why people are so mesmerized by them.

[19:45:02] Here is how Donald Trump has taken down some of his competitors earlier in this process.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIPS)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I never attack him on his look, and believe me, there's plenty of subject matter right there, that I can tell you.

JEB BUSH, FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I'm talking right now. I'm talking.

TRUMP: You can go back. You're not talking. You interrupted me.

Don't worry about it, little Marco.

So far, I'm doing better. You know, you started off over here, Jeb. You're moving over further and further. Pretty soon, you're going to be off the end.

SEN. TED CRUZ (R), TEXAS: But you're not beating Hillary.

TRUMP: If I can't, hey, if I can't beat her, you're really going to get killed, aren't you?

(END VIDEO CLIPS)

BURNETT: OK. All right. So Paul, how does she prepare? Even if that isn't the Donald Trump who shows up --

BEGALA: Right.

BURNETT: No matter what, Donald Trump is clever with the quick line that comes to his head. It isn't a rehearsed putdown. It just will come to him. How does Clinton prepare for that?

BEGALA: Well, I think, she's got to play her game. She's not an insult comic the way that Trump is, but I tell you what, she's pretty tough. This is a woman who faced down Ken Starr, who faced down that Republican committee who's investigating Benghazi. But some of them seemed quite partisan.

I think she's pretty ready for Trump the insult comic. I think the greater challenge is going to be the sedated Trump. I guarantee you, his debate prep is 100 CCs of Thorazine, a powerful antipsychotic sedative. That is what she's going to have to deal with. Boring Trump. Can she -- that's why she's got to play her game, not hers.

BURNETT: So, Lanhee, when Senator Clinton plays offense, she does it very differently than Donald Trump, OK? Here's a little taste of her during the primaries.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Senator Sanders voted against the Brady bill five times.

When you got to the Senate in 2007, one of the first things you did was vote against Ted Kennedy's **immigration** reform which he'd been working on for years before you ever arrived.

Senator Sanders, you're the only one on this stage that voted to deregulate the financial market in 2000.

With all due respect, Senator, you voted for regime change with respect to Libya. You joined the Senate in voting to get rid of Gadhafi.

We had Republican support, we had a president willing to sign it. I voted for that bill. Senator Sanders voted against it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: All right. She knew every single voting record. In this case, it's going to be knowing every negative detail she can find about Donald Trump's business record, right? How will that play?

CHEN: Well, she's very good at the delivery of information. She knows the facts. She knows the record.

Now, that can be important to a certain degree. But she's got to be able to demonstrate the human side of all of this. If she's going to attack on Donald Trump's record, she's got to be able to say, look, you have this record on Trump University, and here's what it means for Sally May and Jimmy -- for whoever, right, that had been affected by this. To humanize it. I think it' very important.

It's not just about delivering the information which she can do, it's about personalizing it and demonstrating she understands why Donald Trump might be bad for the American people.

BURNETT: And they each have a catchphrase that they use all the time that we notice by watching this again and again, that they would each use. "Believe me" is Donald Trump's and "just the facts" is hers. We'll see how of course that all plays out tonight.

All right. As we get close to the start of tonight's historic debate, we're going to be looking at some of the biggest names in the audience tonight and who is actually staying home. We'll be joined be Donald Trump's running mate, Mike Pence, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:50:46] BLITZER: We're just over an hour away from a presidential debate that promises to be unlike anything we've seen in modern American politics. We're live here at Hofstra University. We're counting down until the first time Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump will go head to head on issues. What happens tonight could tip the balance to what is now a dead heat just 43 days until the election.

Tonight, both candidates will have close family members in the audience. Donald Trump will be looked out, he'll see his wife, Melania, along with his adult children, Donald, Jr. Ivanka, Eric and Tiffany. Trump's 10-year-old son, Baron, won't be attending the debate tonight. As for the Clintons, Chelsea Clinton will be in the audience to support her mother. We're told Bill Clinton will be on site, doesn't sit in the audience when his wife debates. There could be a last- minute decision for him to be here in the debate hall.

The Republican vice presidential nominee Mike Pence is with us right now.

Jake, you have some first questions for the presidential nominee.

JAKE TAPPER, CNN ANCHOR: Governor, thanks so much for being here. We appreciate it.

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: You bet. Exciting night.

TAPPER: So, we've all watched the Republican primary debates and during those debates, Donald Trump -- I know he considers himself a counterpuncher, but he certainly threw a lot of insults out there, whether it was choke artist or basket case, little Marco, et cetera. I'm wondering, does he consider the general election debates to be different than the primary debates in terms of tone and tenor?

PENCE: Well, I think what you're going to see the same Donald Trump that we've seen throughout this campaign. He's going to be -- he's going to be told truth teller, he going to speak plainly. But, I think, tonight, it's an opportunity for him in a real sense for him to lay out that vision to make America great again.

I mean, the crowds that we see, the momentum that's showing up in polls that is all evidence of the fact that he's really given voice to the frustrations and aspirations of the American people and I think tonight is a night when he can in front of the vast majority of this country literally lay out those policies that he's been laying out in speech after speech and share a positive aspirational vision for the country.

TAPPER: So, we should not expect to see same kind of zingers that we saw during the primaries? Is that how to interpret that? Or who knows?

PENCE: I think, who knows. We'll see where it goes.

Look, Donald Trump's got broad shoulders. You know, he's able to make his case and make a point. I think what most Americans want to see is both candidates take the platform, maybe in front of 100 million people in this country, and really lay out their vision.

And they're such different visions for the country and I think they're two different visions for the future. Hillary Clinton, it's status quo, it's more of the same, policies that Donald Trump and I and millions of American think have weakened America's place in the world, stifled America's economy. Donald Trump has a vision to have American standing tall in the world again, rebuilding our military, restoring our country with the policies that Ronald Reagan used, that John F. Kennedy used. That's the contrast I hope that after 90 minutes, the American see and that they can make their choice.

TAPPER: So, let me ask you. You referred to him as a bold truth teller. I'm sure fact checkers would take issue with the concept of truth teller. Has the candidate, has the nominee familiarized himself with some of the issues that fact checkers and others have pointed out he's not accurate on and will he adapt accordingly to what the facts are, what the truth is?

PENCE: Well, I think Donald Trump always speaks straight from his heart and straight from his mind. That's why he's made the connection with millions of Americans he's made, Jake.

But you bet. I think going into this campaign as a busy campaign schedule has allowed, he's taken some time, talked to the team, thought through these issues and in speech after speech around the country, ever since the convention, you've heard the details of these policies be laid out and I think he'll be reflecting on all of those things tonight. But my hope is as the debate goes forward, these two candidates and especially my running mate is going to have an opportunity to lay out that positive vision for the country because I truly do believe -- I truly do believe it's the right course for America, he has the right leadership qualities and I'm looking for a great night.

[19:55:03] TAPPER: Dana?

DANA BASH, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONENT: I want to ask you, Governor, about your own debate prep, because it's a week from tomorrow. You talk about Donald Trump having broad shoulders.

PENCE: I do.

BASH: What do you mean by that?

PENCE: I just -- I think Donald Trump embodies the American spirit. He's strong, he's freedom loving, he's independent-minded, he's willing to fight for what he believes in. I think that's why you saw him, you know, roll through a 17-way Republican primary in one debate after another. And it's that kind of strong leadership I think that the American people I think are really looking for here in home and abroad.

BASH: So you're not referencing his masculinity there?

PENCE: Oh, not a bit. Not a bit.

BASH: OK.

PENCE: Look, I -- you know, what I'm referring to Donald Trump is really someone who I think has made a connection with the American people because he represents the kind of leadership that we want to see once again in the Oval Office.

BASH: You have your own debate a week from tomorrow.

PENCE: I do. BASH: You told me a couple weeks ago you are practicing pretty hard, you're doing mock debates, you're studying. You have some differences on Donald Trump on policy issues. So when you're asked questions, are you going to talk about your position or Donald Trump's?

PENCE: Well, we're going to talk about our positions. We're going to talk about the agenda of the Trump/Pence team. I am doing a little preparation for it and a little bit more traditional than my running mate.

Look, he's preparing for tonight for his entire life. I mean, to be around him is to be around a man who's been a builder. He's built a -- he's someone who loves -- his family loves this country and I think tonight, people are going to see that life time of experience and that authenticity come through.

And for my part, my focus the last four years has been and continues to be on leading the state of Indiana. So I've been brushing up on all those Washington issues I used to deal with full time when I was in Congress, but I'm looking forward to a good debate next week.

BLITZER: The candidates will be on the stage in about an hour from now. Any last-minute advice you have for Donald Trump?

PENCE: Well, my only advice to him is be yourself. I mean, I've come to know him over the last several months. We talk every day. We campaign often times a few times every week together.

And, you know, I've seen him when the klieg lights are off. This is a good man who I believe will make a good president of the United States and going on to the stage tonight I think is the best opportunity he's had in the course of this campaign to present himself to the American people and I'm excited about it.

BLITZER: Governor, what has surprised you the most as you've gotten to know this man?

PENCE: Well, you know, I didn't know him at all. I'd met him once in a meeting shaking his hand one other time. I will tell you he's a bigger-than-life personality, he's a great, successful businessman.

But the thing I saw when we were down in Baton Rouge, the thing that I see backstage, he's simply one of the most kind and gracious people I've ever been around in my life. He takes time with people. He takes an interest in people and I expect he has the mind, he has the leadership to be a great president.

But make no mistake about it -- he's got the heart of a great president, too.

BLITZER: Ask one more question.

TAPPER: One last thing. We're going to hear I'm sure tonight something about Hillary Clinton asking about Donald Trump, why hasn't he released his tax returns. And perhaps even the moderator will bring it up. He, is as you know, the first major party presidential nominee since 1976 to not release his tax returns.

For somebody who has made his life as a business, for somebody about whom there are questions about where his ties are and whether or not that would affect his job as president, doesn't he have an obligation to the American people to release them?

PENCE: Well, I think Donald Trump's made it very clear, Jake, that he will release his tax returns when the routine audit is complete.

TAPPER: What about the ones before the routine audit, 2008 or before, which were not covered in this for audit which satisfy critics?

PENCE: I mean, the information about his finance life is available online right now. We both, as all the candidates have in this race, fully complied with what the federal law requires about financial disclosures. And people can take a break, even before the debate starts and go and read over 100 pages of his filings. But --

TAPPER: It's not the full disclosure that every other candidate since 1976 has offered the American people.

PENCE: Well, as I said, I think those tax returns are going to come out in due course, but I think the reason why he's made the connection that he's made with millions of Americans, I saw it again today when hundreds of people gathered to just hear little ol' me up in Milford, New Hampshire. I see it in the thousands that turn out for rallies for Donald Trump.

You see it in the momentum that's even evident in polls now because he's talking about the issues the American people are most passionate about and that is the security of this nation, the safety of bringing law and order back to our streets, getting this economy moving for every American again and having a Supreme Court that will uphold our Constitution and ending illegal **immigration**. Those are the issues I expect you're going to hear a lot about tonight.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Deborah Feyerick, Brynn Gingras, Evan Perez, Drew Griffin, Jamie Gangel, Ivan Watson, Kyung Lah

9960 speakers\_end

[19:00:10] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news. Federal charges just filed against alleged bomber Ahmad Khan Rahami. We are learning the FBI knew about Rahami more than two years ago.

Plus, was he radicalized in Afghanistan and Pakistan? A former classmate and coworker OUTFRONT tonight.

And did Donald Trump use money from his foundation to settle his own business lawsuits? I'm going to ask his campaign manager Kellyanne Conway. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening. I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news. Federal charges filed moments ago against alleged bomber Ahmad Khan Rahami. The charges including use of a weapon of mass destruction and the bombing we're also finding out that that dumpster moved 120 feet. That windows were shattered as high as three stories. Much more about the fingerprints and where he even bought the material. Some of these on eBay. This filed in New York where 29 people were injured on Saturday night.

And as I said, some of those materials from eBay according to this federal complaint. This comes as we are learning a lot more tonight about the missed signs on Rahami's background. The FBI interviewed Rahami's father more than two years before the bombings following on a tip that he had called his own son a terrorist. Earlier today, his father spoke to reporters outside the family's chicken restaurant in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Why did you call the FBI two years ago? What happened?

MOHAMMAD RAHAMI, FATHER OF AHMAD RAHAMI: Because he's doing bad.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He's doing bad. Why did he do bad?

RAHAMI: He struck my son. He hurt my wife. And I put him to jail two years ago. (END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And today we're learning much more about Rahami's wife. Her name is Asia Bibi Rahami, a Pakistani woman. Her married her while he was overseas. And here is something important. She was in the United States until just days before the bombings.

Deborah Feyerick begins our coverage OUTFRONT tonight. And Deborah, what do you know at this hour?

DEBORAH FEYERICK, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Well, what we do know is the wife now does appear to be cooperating with authorities and she could provide critical information as to where Rahami was during his time in Pakistan and Afghanistan to areas that officials call high risk. Rahami himself, the terror suspect still not talking.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

FEYERICK (voice-over): Two years before allegedly detonating a bomb in Manhattan, Ahmad Khan Rahami came to the attention of the FBI in New Jersey. In 2014, agents interviewed Rahami's father Mohammad. Following a domestic dispute in which he allegedly called his son a terrorist.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Why did you call the FBI two years ago? What happened?

MOHAMMAD RAHAMI, FATHER OF AHMAD RAHAMI: Because he's doing bad.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He's doing bad. Why did he do bad?

RAHAMI: He struck my son. He hurt my wife. And I put him to jail two years ago.

FEYERICK: At the time, Rahami had just returned from a year-long trip to Pakistan and Afghanistan. Officials tell CNN, FBI agents did not interview Rahami. After conducting internal database reviews, interagency checks and multiple interviews, the FBI ultimately concluded, it was family dispute.

WILLIAM SWEENEY, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR IN CHARGE, FBI NEW YORK: We reported the domestic incident some time ago. The allegations were recanted and I don't have any other information. We'll keep digging.

FEYERICK: However because of his repeated trips to areas associated with terrorists when Rahami returned to the U.S. in 2014, customs and border patrol agents pulled him aside for extra screening. A law enforcement official telling CNN that information was sent to the FBI before the family dispute. While the FBI so far does not believe Rahami was part of a terror cell in the Newark, New Jersey area, investigators are digging on Rahami's connections in the U.S. and overseas to determine if he had any help.

COMMISSIONER JAMES O'NEILL, NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT: Moving forward, we have to identify everybody involved and see what their backgrounds are. See where they have been. See what they have been up to.

FEYERICK: Rahami allegedly built at least ten bombs. Eight pipe bombs and two pressure cooker bombs. A federal law enforcement force tells CNN, Rahami used a highly volatile chemical explosive easy to make it home. The material is so powerful it could create an even bigger blast than the one caused by the Boston bombers. Tonight, investigators are learning more about what could have inspired Rahami. After a shootout with police, investigators discovered he had a notebook on him with a bullet hole. According to a law enforcement official, it referenced the Boston marathon bombers and American born al Qaeda cleric Anwar al-Awlaki killed in Yemen by a U.S. drone strike.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

FEYERICK: And that pressure cooker bomb exploded just in a -- right behind me. It blew out all the windows, shattered windows just across the street. And it was so powerful that it propelled that dumpsters you said across this six-lane highway basically. This street here, 23rd street. I spoke with an explosive expert earlier today and he told me that he's very surprised that given the sensitivity of the compounds he was using in that pressure cooker that that device didn't detonate sooner -- Erin.

[19:05:18] BURNETT: All right. Deb, thank you very much. I want to go live to Brynn Gingras now. OUTFRONT live outside the hospital where Rahami is being treated in Newark, New Jersey. And Brynn, what do you know about his condition? Is he talking to police cooperating at this time?

BRYNN GINGRAS, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Not just yet, Erin. We know from police that Rahami is listed in critical but stable condition and will likely survive according to officials after undergoing surgery for several gunshot wounds. Of course those he experienced in that gun battle with Linden police officers just yesterday. So, at this point because of his medical condition, authorities have not had a chance to talk to them but we're told federal authorities of course are eager to do so.

We should also mention that Peter Hammer, the second Linden police officer that was injured in that gunfight, he was released from the hospital today to his fellow police officer whose stood in line cheering for him. He gave a sort of salute back to them and you could see that he had that wound on his forehead. A graze wound that he experienced during the gun battle with Rahami. His fellow officer Angel Padilla was released just yesterday -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much Brynn.

OUTFRONT now, our panel Bob Baer, former CIA operative Art Roderick. Former assistant director for investigations at the US Marshals. Jeffrey Ringel, a former FBI special agent and Evan Perez, our justice correspondent.

And I want to spend this time here going through the breaking news. There is a lot of significant details Evan here in these charges that we are looking at.

EVAN PEREZ, CNN JUSTICE CORRESPONDENT: That's right. A number of things, including the fact, the key thing which we've been reporting for a couple of days now. The fact that the unexploded bomb was frankly the linchpin on this case. There were 12 fingerprints that were recovered from the unexploded pressure cooker device that was found on 27th Street. That was key to helping identify him. We also, according to these documents, the prosecutor, the FBI investigators were able to find lot of evidence from cell phones, including cell phones that belonged to family members.

Cell phones in which he appears to be exploding practice devices near -- very near to that home in Elizabeth, New Jersey that we've been showing a lot. The chicken restaurant that has been shown a lot. It appears that this journal that we've also talked about which was recovered, there is a lot of ramblings as we've described it. Including a reference to wanting to carry out jihad, hoping that he's able to carry out jihad before the FBI is able to catch him.

He makes references to Anwar al-Awlaki, Nidal Hassan, this is the terrorists who killed people at Fort Hood in Texas as well as to what he refers to his brother Osama bin Laden. A mix of ideologies that are seen to animate him, to influence as he was planning to carry out these attacks. And as you've mentioned at the top of the hour there. The FBI recovered evidence that he bought the components that were used for make these bombs on eBay. These were common things that you could easily buy.

BURNETT: Yes.

PEREZ: And he bought them just in the last couple of months in June and July. Was able to buy these on eBay. So he's been planning this for a little while.

BURNETT: Yes.

PEREZ: We previously reported that he bought multiple flip phones, were the phones that are believed to have been used to carry out or to at least be attached.

BURNETT: Pull the trigger.

PEREZ: As the triggers for some of these devices.

BURNETT: So, Bob Baer, let me ask you because as Evan is talking about here. I mean, we are learning he was buying citric acid. He was buying circuit boards. He was actually buying hardened lead milling balls, all of these things on eBay. All going to this the same address. It appears that he really was living in fact in this home on top of the family chicken restaurant. And yet none of this triggered anything.

BOB BAER, CNN INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY ANALYST: Yes, exactly Erin, the problem is we've been promised with these databases that they would be combined in something that set up, you know, red flags on the FBI assessment travel to Balochistan -- to Quetta. A whole year in Pakistan. That is long time to disappear. This all should appear in databases or that, you know, the ICE databases, but it doesn't.

The fact is these databases are not unified, if you like. And they don't work. I mean, this guy should have been, you know -- they should have looked into him again after the first FBI interview. But it is not entirely FBI's fault. They are just overwhelmed with leads. Unless they can tie it to one overt act in the name -- for terrorism, they can't do much about this.

BURNETT: And so let me just ask you Art about something else we are learning. I want to be clear though. That he did send most of these to a Perth Amboy address where he worked. All right? So, he worked there. But it looks as if he was at this time at the Elizabeth home where the chicken store was. They do say that they found a video of him, okay, on a family member's phone from the cellular phone belonging to a family member of Rahami of him igniting a bomb. Now, we don't know whether he filmed -- but obviously this means, he appears in the video. OK. So it would appear someone else made the video of him doing an explosion they said just a couple of days before the Chelsea bombings.

[19:10:36] ART RODERICK, FORMER ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR INVESTIGATIONS, US MARSHALS: Well, it makes sense that he would be out testing this type of device. What's disturbing here is it is on a family member's video. What happened? Why wasn't there a phone call made? It was previous reports of domestic disturbances of the brother's having a violent confrontation, a stabbing occurred.

The father actually named him as a terrorist back a couple of years ago. The FBI did an interview. I mean, this really should have triggered something in the family's mind that why is he out behind the chicken restaurant blowing stuff up. And why wasn't any phone call made? I mean, this must have been some pretty low grade explosions for nobody to hear them.

BURNETT: So, Jeff, let me ask you. On this front, right? They are saying that the video was filmed at or in the immediate vicinity of that Elizabeth residence. Right? Kind of big place. It is not a big place. It was on a family member's phone. So, again the implication is someone else filmed it so someone else knew that this was going on.

JEFFREY RINGEL, FORMER FBI SPECIAL AGENT: Right.

BURNETT: And yet none of this was put together as Art pointed out to a guy who his father reported him two years to the FBI as a terrorist.

RINGEL: Right. I think there is another example of, you know, see something, say something. But so often I think we hear after an incident is when people say, oh, I should have reported that but no one seems to do it at the time. And, you know, so again people see something they don't like or the family members see this, they should have either contacted local law enforcement or contacted the FBI.

PEREZ: One of the things that is emerging I think in talking to law enforcement official whose have been -- who are doing this case. You know, they tell me the thing that's emerging now is the fact that there was pretty much a dysfunctional relationship within this family. BURNETT: Yes.

PEREZ: So that is some of the context here. I think in hindsight, of course, all of these stuff makes sense but at the time certainly as the FBI was looking at this in 2014 --

BURNETT: Right. They said, oh it is a domestic issue in the family --

PEREZ: And certainly when the father recants and says, oh no, that was just in my -- in the passion of the moment I said that. But I don't really mean that. They spent actually a couple of months looking into this. And getting -- looking at the reports that were received from customs and border protection. They looked at his travel. They had looked to some of the reports that were filed by people who interviewed him when he came back into the country. And they didn't think it added up. Now, I will tell you this. This was 2014. If this case, I think came up more recently, perhaps things might have turned out differently.

BURNETT: All right. All staying with me. Next, Rahami's close friends speaks out for the first time. What he's saying about his family life that could shed new light on the investigation tonight.

Plus, inside a bomb lab for a closer look at the devastating effects of a pressure cooker bomb as we are learning the horrific details tonight of just how damaging this bomb was. And President George H.W. Bush says, he is voting for Hillary Clinton. Trump's campaign manager is our guest.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:16:41] BURNETT: Breaking news on the suspect allegedly behind the series of bombings in New York and New Jersey. Tonight, Ahmad Rahami's relatives telling investigators they have not had contact with him since the bombings on Saturday morning. This includes family members who lived with them in an apartment above their chicken shop. Of course we're finding out tonight that on a family member's phone, there was video of him exploding an explosive device just days ago. Court documents showed that that family was in turmoil.

Drew Griffin is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DREW GRIFFIN, CNN SENIOR INVESTIGATIVE CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Friends of Ahmad Khan Rahami point to a lifelong feud between the eldest son and his strict father who brought his family here seeking asylum but also trying to hold on to a strict family tradition of their home country, Afghanistan.

EHSAN, FAMILY FRIEND OF BOMBING SUSPECT: For him, it was his father. It was just tension. It was his part too. He should have listened more to his father. Maybe, you know, stayed in school.

GRIFFIN: This long-time friend of the accused bomber says in his teens Rahami was outgoing, funny and looking forward to a future in law enforcement. But in high school, he got his girlfriend pregnant and Ahmad struggled to make jobs support payments. There was more stress and this family friend says, it led to one of the most dramatic events in Ahmad Rahami's life. The time his father literally abandoned him in Pakistan.

EHSAN: He told me himself that he was basically left there and then he had to find his own way back. Which I'm sure traumatized him for life. That I'm sure scar him.

GRIFFIN: The friend who doesn't want to be identified says it was a shock when Ahmad actually came back.

EHSAN: He left and they took away his way of coming back and that was about it. And it hurt him a lot. And that night like when he told me he said it in a very devastated way.

GRIFFIN: During the multiple trips back and forth to Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ahmad and his brother married Pakistani cousins. He asked the Congressman to step in when his wife had visa issues.

REP. ALBIO SIRES (D), NEW JERSEY: She was issued a new passport and then after they got a new a passport, they found out that she was 35 week pregnant and they would not give the entry visa and they said that they would give other visa once she had the baby.

GRIFFIN: After she was allowed into the U.S., Rahami and his wife tried to get away from the troubled family life moving into this apartment but a friend says they couldn't afford it, were evicted and ended up back in the family apartment governor the chicken shop.

EHSAN: It was not good what happened. That was a violent night, there was blood --

GRIFFIN: Court documents show a family in turmoil, lawsuits over big debts incurred by the father. And allegation of child abuse by the mother. The tight quarters led to family fights in 2014 the violence escalated. Ahmad pulled a knife and according to this arrest warrant attacked his brother stabbing him in his left leg. Today, Rahami's father briefly told reporters, he is the one who called police.

EHSAN: It was a very bad situation for Ahmad. Because he was trying to live with his parents and his wife and kids. But I guess drama just unfolded that night between them.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

GRIFFIN: This friend Erin is not excusing any of the actions of Ahmad Rahami. He just came forward to explain the terrible home life that Ahmad was trapped in. He blames his friend for making terrible decisions to try to get out of it -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Drew Griffin, thank you very much.

And OUTFRONT now, Ahmad Rahami's former classmate and coworker Amarjit Singh. And Amarjit, let me just ask you. What was your reaction when you first heard that he was a suspect in the bombings?

AMARJIT SINGH, FORMER CLASSMATE AND CO-WORKER OF BOMBING SUSPECT: Little as I know Ahmad Rahami, when I get an alert on my phone, I was at work. Didn't pay any mind to it as much. Just looked at it and then, you know, put my phone away and then saw his picture. Still didn't really, you know, pointed it out because I didn't really got any contact with him for such a long time. And after my mom asked me to send a picture over to her so she could have it in her phone, that is when I looked close before sending it to her. And I zoomed in a couple of times to see if that is really him or not. And I was starting, you know, I was just in shock, seeing that was Ahmad that I knew. From back when he used to work with me.

[19:21:04] BURNETT: And you know we just heard, you know, another one of his friends talking about his feud with his father and, you know, of course we now know his father Amarjit accused Ahmad of being a terrorist in 2014. What was their relationship like?

SINGH: I didn't get in touch with Ahmad around that time. Last time I think I spoke to him was around 2012. He used to work with me basically around between 2011 to 12. And his relationship with his father when he spoke to me during work times, which was 6:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. A lot of times in between. He spoke to me, told me -- like he didn't really get along with his father as much. Due to because he had a daughter that was not in his race.

BURNETT: All right. So you also know I know during the time that you knew Ahmad. He became more religious as you described. We're just learning tonight, you know, that he had posted a journal a letter where he talked about Osama bin Laden and other members of al Qaeda. That he talked about jihad. What was he like in terms of his religion?

SINGH: He never spoke about any of that. And he was more, about, you know, just going to pray and wanted to raise his daughter religious. Every time he want to go come and meet his daughter to his mom, bring her to her mom and, you know, just do it the right way so she won't feel like she's out of the race and not the same religion so they could feel more comfortable with it and probably accept him more I think.

BURNETT: All right. Amarjit, thank you very much for taking the time to be with us. And my panel is back with me now. I mean, we're starting to piece together Evan more about this family. And you just heard Amarjit talking about the relationship with the father. How fraught that was. You are now learning more tonight about Rahami's wife, his current wife. The Pakistani woman.

PEREZ: That is right. She had a pre-planned trip. A trip that she had planned for sometimes. Bought the tickets. Traveled overseas. We don't know exactly when she traveled. However she was on her way back we're told by sources and when all of this went down, she was intercepted. She was stopped in the United Arab Emirates. And the FBI worked through the UAE authorities, Pakistani authorities, today they were able to take a statement from her, she went and spoke to the FBIlegal attache in the embassy there in the United Arab Emirates and provided a statement.

The FBI does not believe that she had anything to do with this but they certainly wanted to talk to her because she, you know, might have seen certain things. We don't know exactly everything she said but they describe her, officials described her as being cooperative with their investigation.

BURNETT: And Bob Baer, I know this begs the question. There is her. There is also the fact that we now know he was doing his training or bomb building, at least some of it, right there in those tiny quarters by the chicken restaurant. It appears very clear that somebody knew something was wrong.

BAER: Oh Erin, I think absolutely. When you hit, you know, HMTD, when you hit with a hammer and explode, you hear it. It is a crack. It sounds like a bullet. So the fact that, you know, he was testing the stuff in the backyard. He clearly had problems inside the family. He's going off to Quetta, the rest of it. They could have added this up and saw it was going very badly. I'm not paying attention to the father talking to the FBI and saying, he's a terrorist. Because he didn't provide any proof of that. But two years later, when he's testing these explosives, oh absolutely. And the wife not knowing anything, it would surprise me. The family always knows something is going on at some point.

BURNETT: And again, the question here we that still don't know whether others were involved and the complexity, three different types of bombs at least that we are aware of and some of them requiring some real expertise or knowledge to build.

RODERICK: We were talking earlier, Jeff and I. And we were specifically talking about that. That on the one hand he seems to be somewhat knowledgeable about what he's doing putting these -- the complexity of the explosive that went into the pressure cooker was -- you know, takes some knowledge to put that together.

BURNETT: Yes.

RODERICK: But then where his placement of the bombs and, you know, was he dumping the bombs in Jersey? The pipe bombs that he threw in the trash can that were found by the two homeless gentlemen. So there is a real paradox going on here. On the one hand his knowledgeable. On the other, he's pretty inept.

BURNETT: And so Jeff, how urgent is the search right now to find others who may have --

RINGEL: Well, fortunately he's in custody.

BURNETT: Yes.

RINGEL: And so the investigation now is going to be building the motivation and also building anybody who may have assisted.

BURNETT: Right. That's what I am saying. RINGEL: So, I mean, I think right now it is not going to require the 24/7 like past weekend required. But all of the law enforcement assets are going to be pushing to exploit the information as quickly as possible so that they can determine if there is somebody else out there and to trail them and apprehend them.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you all. And next, Donald Trump son compares Syrian **refugees** to skittles. Trump's campaign manager is my guest.

And costume agents alerted the FBI about Rahami's travel to Afghanistan and Pakistan. They did alert the FBI. So, how did he slip through the cracks?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:30:23] BURNETT: Breaking news: the former President George H.W. Bush says he is voting for Hillary Clinton. Sources close to Bush tell our Jamie Gangel that he shared his plans during what he believed was a private gathering. Kennedy at that gathering first leaked the news.

Jamie joins me now.

So, let's just start with the significance of this. A Republican ex- president coming out and publicly saying he's voting for a Democrat for the highest office in the land.

JAMIE GANGEL, CNN SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT: Right. So, in any other year, this would be a big, big surface. But with Donald Trump, let's face it, we've had a lot of Republicans defect. And I think there are splits in the Bush family.

BURNETT: But this is the first former president.

GANGEL: But this is the first former president, and remember, he was chairman of the Republican National Committee. He was the party chairman. So, this is -- it's a big deal.

BURNETT: And are other Bush family members following suit?

GANGEL: So, we have been reaching out to Bush 43, repeatedly, and he is sticking with his guns. He's sitting this one out. He's not going to say anything. The only thing his spokesman reiterated today was he is going to do everything possible to reelect Republicans to Congress but he will not say who he's voting for.

However, the Bushes do not vote as a flock. Jeb Bush told me he's going to not vote for Donald Trump and he's not going vote for Hillary Clinton either. He has not decided who's going to vote for. Maybe he'll write someone in.

His son, George P. Bush, who's the Texas land commissioner, is voting for Donald Trump and is trying to get other Republicans to vote for Trump. So, it's a mixed bag. And Barbara Bush, last time I saw her, she said, "I'm sick of Donald Trump and I don't know how any woman could vote for her." She's not on the record as voting for Hillary Clinton, but in her usual candid way I think we know.

BURNETT: Where she's going.

GANGEL: She's not voting for Donald Trump.

BURNETT: Right. It is pretty amazing, though, as you say, for a former president to come out and say that. It's one thing to not say anything at all.

All right. Thank you very much, Jamie.

GANGEL: Thank you.

BURNETT: And OUTFRONT now: Donald Trump's campaign manager Kellyanne Conway.

Kellyanne, thank you so much for being with me. I want to give you a chance to react to this news, that Jamie just -- was breaking. The former President George H.W. Bush says he will vote for Hillary Clinton. That, of course, is not just voting for Donald Trump. It is voting for Hillary Clinton.

What is your response to that?

KELLYANNE CONWAY, DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Well, I respect the 92-year-old former president very much and his decision. And I think Americans are very grateful to the Bush family for his service. That is his right.

It is ironic that he would vote for the wife of man who knocked him out of the race. Bill Clinton defeated George Herbert Walker Bush, Bush 41, Erin, in 1992, for his reelection. But, look, this was a bruising primary, and Jeb Bush really failed all expectations, that he would be the, quote, "electable", the predominant person on the stage. I mean, he lasted through South Carolina, got out of the race before March 1st.

So, I know there are a lot of hurt feelings there. That is his right. I think what's most disturbing about this report to me, Erin, is that someone divulged a private conversation. It doesn't seem it was meant for public consumption and that is always very bothersome to me.

BURNETT: Originally saying to a member of the Kennedy family at the private gathering, as you point out. He has, of course, since come out and said it and said to Jamie. But, yes, fair point. It was originally meant to be private.

I want to ask you Kellyanne about another story that is breaking tonight. This is "The Washington Post" report, reporting that Trump may have violated laws against self-dealing through his foundation. And I don't know if you got a chance to read it. But they lay out several donations he made to charities in order to settle lawsuits. One of them involved Mar-A-Lago. It was a $100,000 donation to a veterans' charity and it was to settle fines that Mar-A-Lago owed Palm Beach about some dispute over a flag pole.

Of course, it is illegal to use a charity's money to benefit yourself or your businesses.

Are you concerned at all that Trump may have broken the law?

CONWAY: No. And I would point out in the second paragraph of that story that you mention, Erin, it says "may have", and later on the story, it says the IRS may want to look into it. But, of course, they haven't.

And let's go back. This is classic Donald Trump. He wanted to raise the American flag as high as he possibly could over Mar-A-Lago. I think a lot of Americans at this point would applaud that, and, of course, the town or the county said he couldn't do it. I had to be smaller. So they started assessing a $1,250 a day fine.

So, the way that they, quote, "settled" it was for Mr. Trump to donate $100,000 for a veterans' group. I don't want that to be lost here. And so, the money went to veterans.

You know, the Trumps Foundation started with Mr. Trump's money. He was sole owner for a very long time. And I want to point out, too, that the Trump Foundation has no permanent staff, no paid staff, no overhead, no one from the Trump family takes a penny as salary or as benefits.

Contrast that to, as we know, the slush fund otherwise known as the Clinton Foundation. As we speak, they have their international donor fly in so they can pick up all kinds of foreign cash to coincide with the U.N. General Assembly.

So, I think there's absolutely no comparison between these two foundations, especially when you think about Hillary Clinton being a public servant, a secretary of state, while the Clinton Foundation was doing a lot of its cash collecting.

I know when they left the White House, they were, quote, "dead broke". But, boy, are they worth a quarter of a billion dollars now and it's no coincidence that it went along with the Clinton Foundation and her time with the State Department.

BURNETT: So, let me ask a couple of questions that you raise there, because you mentioned in "The Post" saying may have, and you are right, it does say may have. It goes on to quote a lawyer Jeffrey Tanenbaum who advises 700 nonprofits annually and his quote was, "I've never encountered anything so brazen", saying, "it's as blatant an example of self-dealing as I've seen in a while," again, referring to that Mar-A-Lago. That was another one with a golf course, as well, to settle a dispute -- a donation was given from a foundation to charity.

Can you categorically say there was no self-dealing? Or at this point, are you not sure? CONWAY: Well, I've been talking to the people who are responsible for the Trump Foundation today, trying to get some facts and some figures. And so, I know this is all developing. We need to gather information.

But let me tell you something. It's very important for people to you said what happened in these cases. Donations went to veterans groups. Donations went to another person's foundation in another instance.

The idea that the money -- when people hear self-dealing, Erin, you know what they think immediately, that it's going or the plane rides and fancy hotels and expensive meals and certainly salaries and overhead. Again, that sounds to me like the Clinton Foundation where a report this weekend said about 6 percent of their money got to charity. A lot of it was wasted in overhead. That is not --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Kellyanne, the point, though, is the Trump Foundation and if this was settling a lawsuit that enabled Donald Trump's business to benefit, whether it be Mar-A-Lago or a golf course, that would possibly then be self-dealing?

CONWAY: How -- I'm sorry, how did his golf course benefit from him redirecting moneys that mistakenly came to the Trump Foundation? He redirected them to someone else's private foundation based on a hole- in-one contest. They were misdirected to his foundation, I'm told by his accountants and attorneys. They went to the right foundation after that.

How in the world did his business benefit from that? How did Mar-A- Lago benefit from him giving $100,000 to veterans. The veterans benefit. And I think that's great. I applaud him for doing that. All he wanted to do was fly the American flag higher.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Business, of course, benefitted by the lawsuit going away and being settled, right? That would be how the business benefitted.

CONWAY: Well, there are man lawsuits y against people. That's -- I think that is a bridge too far. I think you are making things up based on facts as they are not reported in this story, which also uses a lot of conditional phrasing, I would like to point out.

But look, foundations exist to help charities, to help those in need. And Mr. Trump has been increasingly generous throughout his career. I'm up in his office here in Trump Tower routinely when he is writing -- he is signing checks privately to help people that isn't even part of the foundation.

I mean, could you imagine? I know you can imagine, Erin. Can you -- you can only imagine how many people have asked Mr. Trump for his time and his resources and his connections and his money privately. And he does that. He doesn't have cameras in there. It doesn't go through foundations. And, by the way, everybody should also note that foundation dispersements, as you know, under federal law are all a matter of public record. That is how this "Washington Post" reporter seems a little obsessed with Donald Trump these days, that's how he got this information in the first place. So, it's a matter of public record.

BURNETT: Yes, it is a matter of public record when it comes to the foundation. And you mentioned that he writes private checks. Obviously, part of the issue here, for some people, is that Trump has not donated to his own foundation since 2009. He did up to that point and then he no longer did.

CONWAY: For decades. For decades, Erin.

BURNETT: But since 2009 -- OK.

CONWAY: This foundation started in 1987. Let's be fair here. If we're going to throw words and figures around, let's be fair to Mr. Trump. The foundation as I understand started in about 1987. For a very long time, Donald Trump was the only donor to the foundation.

BURNETT: Yes.

CONWAY: I think people think that there's no history before 2009. Let's be fair to him. And you say that some people think this is an issue.

I don't see it in a CNN poll anywhere. I see jobs, economy, terrorism, healthcare, **immigration**.

[19:40;03] I mean, Good Lord, just down the street from us right here, we had this terrorist -- this radical Islamic terrorist whose ex-wife says he hates gay, he hates America, tried to kill people. Thank God he didn't. But he certainly scared a whole heck of a lot and he certainly injured many people who have our prayers here at the Trump campaign.

So, I do want to talk about issues that Americans are talking about, but this isn't on the list.

BURNETT: I would say, Kellyanne, one thing though, of course, when you talk about the private checks and private donations, everybody would know what they were, there would be no issues if he just put out his personal taxes, because that's where all that would show up, so that's the only thing I would say on that, is all that would be out there for everybody and quiet perhaps some of this, which I will say I do believe is a real issue to have full financial transparency. And I said that with Mitt Romney as well.

CONWAY: One thing you wouldn't see in his tax returns is $16.5 million for some advisory position at Laureate University that Bill Clinton gets. You wouldn't see $ 21.5 million speeches for 92 speeches that Hillary Clinton gave. She gave speeches for free now, nobody seems to want to listen to them. She doesn't get this rally crowds that Donald Trump gets anywhere. So, I think if we're going to use foundations as an issue, we actually -- that would be great if actually people want to do some fair even- handed reporting about the foundations at work here, because the Clintons are very involved in their foundations, seem to have financially benefitted, seem to have used through the foundation to help, not to have necessarily the victim this is the earthquake in Haiti get all the money they were expecting, but certainly to help their friends and allies and colleagues get special favors and be granted access, yes, at the State Department. That's in their -- made very clear through some emails, but also around the world.

BURNETT: So, Kellyanne, I want you on the record about another news story out there today. Of course, the tweet from Donald Trump Jr. He tweeted a graphic yesterday that likened Syrian **refugees** to Skittles.

The tweet was, "This image says it all. Let's end the politically correct agenda that doesn't put America first. Trump 2016."

And then the graphic said, "If I had a bowl of Skittles and I told you just three would kill you, would you take a handful? That's our Syrian **refuge** problem."

Now, obviously, he got a lot of criticism for that. Mars Candy who owns Skittles actually put a statement out saying, "Skittles are candy. **Refugees** are people. We don't feel it's an appropriate analogy."

Look, Kellyanne, I know that you and the campaign have an issue with the lack of vetting that's possible with a lot of Syrian **refuges** with the increase in Syrian **refugees**, but do you believe that this analogy specifically was appropriate?

CONWAY: Well, the analogy was not -- I don't think it is as you just characterized it.

But what I do think, what we do know is that many Americans are very concerned with the lack of vetting that's going on. We see what's happening all across Europe, Erin. The lack of vetting there and just sort of, sure, just come on over. That's been a disaster. Many women have been raped and you know that there's been -- look at Germany. Look at the problems in France.

And, of course, you know, it's really a shame to those **refugees** who want to come here through the regular channels and who are law-abiding peaceful people. Which of course is most of them. It's very -- it's a shame that people are resisting vetting programs that would actually just keep out those who want to do us harm.

The idea that Hillary Clinton's plan wants to increase Syrian **refugees** by 550 percent is very concerning to many Americans. They know what's happened. They know there's homegrown terrorism here. They know people are coming into our country like in San Bernardino and they know they are being radicalized and they come here on fiancee visas. They killed 14 innocent coworkers, whose biggest crime is giving them a baby or bridal shower at work, and going to a Christmas party? So, people aren't blind. They know -- they want to have a country where people who are coming in are known to our authorities, those who are in charge of this. And we have to start giving local law enforcement and our federal authorities the tools they need. Many of them tell us, tell Mr. Trump and our campaign all the time, they feel very hamstrung. They feel like they can't do that their job.

So, you know, careful vetting of countries that are, again, where there aren't -- there is not vetting going on now, where we don't have strict vetting processes at all. And which have a history of terror or exploiting terror I think is incredibly important. It matches up with what many people are saying. As Mr. Trump has said just this week, twice on the campaign trail because he actually does rallies with people, not fundraisers with donors only, he has said **immigration** security is national security. That's actually a phrase that resonates with many Americans.

BURNETT: So, Kellyanne, I want to ask you about something with Donald Trump. He was very critical of Hillary Clinton not taking reporter questions, as were we at CNN. That's a changed in recent days. And Trump himself has actually not held a formal press conference in 55 days. The last formal one was on July 27th.

Will he do it again? Really start having press conferences? Hillary Clinton, I mean, just to fair at this point is now doing this almost every day.

[19:45:02] CONWAY: Well, when Hillary Clinton is in front of the press, she's got the press asking her these -- they might as well just ask her, lovely blouse, where did you get it today, Mrs. Clinton? I mean, some of these questions are not journalism. Some of them are just, it's great to see you, do you think this is will hurt Donald Trump because he -- I mean, did you see this question from a Bloomberg reporter yesterday?

And so, you know, she also gets words like bombing scrubs from any -- I watched CNN all weekend and what are they saying? Donald Trump called it a bomb before it was a bomb. It was a bomb.

And nobody -- and very few people were mentioning from a journalistic point of view that Hillary Clinton also said the bombings or the bombing --

BURNETT: But again, the question Kellyanne is --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Is he going to take questions?

CONWAY: Sure, he'll take questions but, Erin, we're very -- listen, we -- Erin, I have to respectfully disagree because Mr. Trump is out there. We have the press pool with us every day. He's in public places at rallies, with voters. Not at fundraisers where the cameras are not allowed like which she does constantly. And the press is right there to covering anything. And you know what? They really do. A lot of the people who travel with us don't give us a positive tweet. Don't give us positive stories. Are they not there yesterday in Fort Myers where was with Mr. Trump? There were 10,000 people inside and we had 31,000 RSVPs for a place that only held 3,500 people. I mean, it's just incredible.

We don't get these stories from the whole press pool. So, sure, maybe he'll take a question here and there but, you know what? He gives press availability every day by doing these rallies in these swing states where he is every single day and they are there with him. We don't get fair questions.

Just last night CNN added in the word "racial" that he never mentioned with profiling. Your network added in racial to make it look like he has said "racial profiling" where he never had. So, you know --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: I want to interrupt you there, I want to interrupt you there, because that was a lower third as we call them on our screen. It actually happened during this hour and I want to make it clear the word "racial" should not have been put in quotes.

CONWAY: Thank you.

BURNETT: But I want to ask you something about this though. But a lot of other people were happy to describe it as racial profiling without putting quotation marks around it because Donald Trump continually does speak about profiling related to Muslims. So, if it isn't racial, what specific profiling is he talking about?

CONWAY: Well, how about a profiling where hypothetically speaking a man who then has pressure cooker bombs in New Jersey and New York, father tells the FBIor tells authorities, "My son is a terrorist" and then they drop it. They don't investigate it. He's not on a watch list.

BURNETT: He did recant just to be clear.

CONWAY: Let's start -- the father recanted and did they look in this man's journals? When he was caught yesterday sleeping in a bar in the middle of the morning and the authorities caught him, we just so impress with law enforcement. We in this campaign can't show enough love and gratitude and respect towards our law enforcement. And you saw it on display again yesterday. You saw on display again yesterday, law enforcement in Linden, New Jersey, capturing this criminal.

And what was in his journals? They found anti-American pro-ISIS stuff in his journals I read in the paper today. He had been to Afghanistan. His wife or his ex-wife said he hates gays. He hates America. He is a terrorist. His father said he was a terrorist.

I mean, if the FBI -- if authorities are going look the other way, then at least we have a presidential candidate who's telling the Americans who say, I'm so tired of looking the other way. We don't have a vetting process. We don't have borders.

We have people just so worried about political correctness that this -- look what this did the other night. People were injured.

BURNETT: OK. This issue, though, of profiling and whether it is racial, ethnic, religious -- all of them, for many, under the same umbrella.

CONWAY: He didn't say that.

BURNETT: But let me ask you, because it's not just what you would probably call the mainstream media that is saying this and having these questions, OK? It's come up on FOX News several times, where they have interpreted this and ask these questions in similar ways. Trump many times has indicated that he supports profiling based on ethnicity. Let me just play so you can hear it, Kelly.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIPS)

BILL O'REILLY, FOX NEWS HOST: Another thing you said that was very controversial is you want to profile. You want to profile Arab or Muslim men. How would that work?

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Well, we have no choice. Look, Israel does and Israel does it very successfully.

In San Bernardino, they saw bombs laying around the apartment. People saw it. And they wanted to be -- they called it racial profiling. We didn't want to call in because of racial profiling. In other words, a lawyer got to them and said, you got a problem here. You knew it was a -- say racial profiles.

But, look, we have whether it's racial profiling or politically correct, we better get smart. We are letting tens of thousands of people into our country. We don't know what the hell we're doing.

I want surveillance of certain mosques, OK? If that's OK.

(END VIDEO CLIPS)

BURNETT: So, Kellyanne, if it isn't religious, if it isn't ethnic, if it isn't racial, what is it?

CONWAY: It's based on what he just said, which is, look at San Bernardino.

[19:50:01] Let's use an actual real world example instead of hypotheticals here. In the real world, San Bernardino happened. There are 14 families who will always feel grief because people look the other way. You saw all the reports afterwards, CNN went right out there, and you had people saying, yes, I thought it was kind of weird or I saw bomb-making devices or whatever they had said at the time. It wasn't like if they are just hanging around my house or your house, Erin, and saying, frankly, all the peaceful people of many different ethnic backgrounds, and saying, gee, I didn't see bomb making materials. I mean, the idea that people feel they have a reason to be suspicious and don't feel comfortable to say that. I mean, I talked to Mayor Giuliani about this. We used to have police officers were able to patrol certain places of worship based on reasonable suspicions, and that's just all gone away.

Again, we -- I just want to say that we in this country, Mr. Trump's message is that we in this country, if we're going to have a country, it would be nice too know who's here and why they're here. In the case of this Ahmad Khan Rahami in Linden, New Jersey, he had been to Afghanistan and his wife said he came back, hating America. Hating gays. Being so angry. His father called him a terrorist.

I mean, if this doesn't raise suspicion among law enforcement, what in the world will? How many more people have to die or be afraid, or be injured in Chelsea, New York, Erin, for us to wake up?

BURNETT: All right. Kellyanne, thank you very much. I appreciate your time tonight. Thank you.

CONWAY: Thanks.

BURNETT: The campaign manager, as we said, Kellyanne Conway, for Donald Trump.

And next what Kellyanne was just talking about. Bombing suspect Ahmad Rahami spent extended periods of time in two of the world's breeding ground for terrorist. It is a fair question. What happened to him there? We are live in Afghanistan.

And as we learn more about the explosives he's using, we're going to go inside a bomb lab to witness the devastating potential.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:55:35] BURNETT: And back to our top story, the breaking news. A law enforcement official at this hour telling CNN that U.S. Customs and Border Protections officers notified the FBI and other agencies about the suspect Ahmad Khan Rahami's overseas travels. The FBI and others were specifically flagged after Rahami returned from a yearlong trip to Pakistan and Afghanistan. The trip may have been a turning point.

Our senior international correspondent Ivan Watson is OUTFRONT tonight in Afghanistan on the ground in Kabul.

Ivan, what else do you know about that trip to Afghanistan?

IVAN WATSON, CNN SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: He made a couple of trips, 2011 and 2013. That one lasted almost a year according to U.S. officials. On the first trip, he's found a Pakistani wife.

Now, we're told by U.S. officials she's in the United Arab Emirates right now and she's cooperating with U.S. officials and expected to return to the U.S. some time in the coming weeks. Rahami, according to U.S. officials, was subjected to additional questioning, screening, when he came back to the U.S. from these trips and when he was asked why he was spending so much time in these countries, he said that he was visiting relatives, that he was attending an uncle's wedding, for example. We don't know exactly what he was doing on the ground. The Afghan and Pakistani governments have not spoken about his case to the press yet, but you better bet that U.S. government is reaching out to both governments to try to get more information. It's worth noting that both the Taliban and the al Qaeda in the Indian subcontinent, Erin, have both denied any links or any connections to Ahmad Rahami or to the bombings in New Jersey and New York -- Erin.

BURNETT: And let me just ask you this. This -- OK. All right. Thank you very much, Ivan. Obviously live from Kabul.

We're learning more tonight about the bombs themselves and I want to get to the latest just coming in, because we're learning here from federal officials at this hour that Rahami bought what he needed to make his bombs on eBay and shipped them to where he worked, which was Perth Amboy, New Jersey, near where he lives.

Officials say the pressure cooker bombs contained aluminum powder, ammonium nitrate, ball bearings, all of those things, he just went and bought on eBay, had shipped to one place, didn't raise red flags. How destructive can these easily obtainable materials be in a bomb?

Kyung Lah is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Three, two, one.

KYUNG LAH, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): The power of a pressure cooker bomb.

Packed with explosives and bolts, this is what a terrorist can do. Buy materials in a hardware store, using knowledge pulled off the internet, weapons of war now on America's street.

Pressure cooker bombs used in the attack in New York and at the Boston marathon.

DET. BRANDON MARTIN, LAPD BOMB TECHNICIAN: Anything you can think of to turn something on or off can be used to initiate a device.

LAH: Flip phones, motion detectors, says L.A. bomb technician Brandon Martin connected to simple pipes.

MARTIN: You can add your own shrapnels to it. This will be adding nails to it, so when it explodes, it send these nails off at, you know, a thousand feet per second.

LAH: The pressure cooker just a bigger version.

MARTIN: Put a lid on it and confine it so it locks everything in there. The thing about these things like is they can just easily fit into anybody's backpack, you know? And you walk down the street.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: A pressure cooker bomb with a frag pack inserted.

LAH: At New Mexico Tech, we asked them for an up close look at just how damaging a pressure cooker bomb can be. We won't show how but this test bomb will be filled with explosives. A plywood set up to simulate people.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You will get an indication of the blast and the fragment impact.

LAH (on camera): To give you an idea of safe distance, that white truck that you're looking at, that's where the pressure cooker is. We're standing five football fields away. But even here isn't considered safe. We're going to be standing right behind that bunker.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Three, two, one.

(EXPLOSION)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That is where the pressure cooker was on the ground. And you can see it's actually created a crater.

LAH: Where is the shrapnel?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So, the shrapnel has expanded out like bullets from a gun. It's gone out in all directions. If you look at the plywood, we can see some holes in the this chunk of plywood.

LAH: If a person was standing where this plywood was?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: They are going to be severely injured.

The globalization of knowledge is what it is today. And so, as much as you can learn anything on the Internet, I think that is what we're faced with.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And that was Kyung Lah.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Evan Perez, Jason Carroll, Brynn Gingras, Pamela Brown, Jeff Zeleny, Juliette Kayyem, Phil Mattingly, Sara Sidner

8016 speakers\_end

[19:00:11] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, breaking news, the prime suspect in a series of terrorist bombings charged with attempted murder. Did he act alone?

Plus, new details tonight about the suspect, Ahmad Khan Rahami. His multiple trips to Afghanistan and Pakistan. Was he ISIS?

And Donald Trump says the U.S. should start racial profiling. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening, I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news. Charged. Ahmad Khan Rahami charged with five counts of attempted murder of a law enforcement officer. This is just the beginning here. Bail set at $5.2 million. That suspect now wounded, under arrest in a New Jersey hospital tonight after a bloody shootout. Authorities believe Rahami is behind a series of bombings this weekend in New York City and in New Jersey. So far, Rahami is not cooperating with investigators and it is not clear whether he had accomplices or acted alone.

(GUNFIRES)

Police responding after a man resembling the bombing suspect was spotted sleeping in the doorway of a bar. You can hear the gunshots continuing here. According to New Jersey police, Rahami then pulled out an automatic gun. He shot one officer, striking him in his protective vest. A second officer then shot through his police cruiser's windshield. That shot nearly struck him directly in the head. Moments ago, CNN spoke with Jamie Reyes who was friendly with the family, the Rahami family, describing the suspected bomber as a friendly, easy-going, young father.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JAMIE REYES, FRIEND OF AHMAD RAHAMI'S FAMILY: I saw him, like, two weeks ago. I say hello to him, I spoke to him, how are you doing, how's your daughter, how's everything? And everything was fine. I mean, he looked a little stressed out, but nothing of a concern.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: His last known residence was an apartment above the family- owned chicken restaurant that you see right there in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Investigators raided the apartment just hours before Rahami was captured today. Elizabeth, New Jersey, is also where multiple bombs were found in a trash can on Sunday night. Just 500 feet from a commuter train station.

Evan Perez begins our coverage OUTFRONT. And of course Evan, this is just the beginning of the charges here. You have New York, you have federal. But this is now starting. He's been charged.

EVAN PEREZ, CNN JUSTICE CORRESPONDENT: That's right, Erin. The five charges for attempted murder, that's for the gunfire exchange with the Linden police officers. These charges were filed tonight by the union county prosecutors there in New Jersey. We, as you mentioned, we do expect that the federal prosecutors will file their own charges. Now, it's not clear whether that will be brought in New Jersey or in Manhattan. The U.S. attorney for Manhattan mentioned this morning at a press conference that he fully expected that there would be terrorism charges, additional charges that would be brought against this suspect, and as you mentioned, there could be the possibility of state charges here in New York as well.

BURNETT: Evan, you are also learning a lot more about something so crucial to this. When you think about the fact that this person, perhaps with help, was able to place bombs in multiple cities over a two-day period. You're learning more about what was in the bombs. The bomb-making material.

PEREZ: That's right, Erin. The crucial part of this is what went into making these bombs. This is somebody who had enough expertise to make at least two different types of bomb, maybe three different types of bombs. The question is, how did he learn to do this? Now, the two pressure cooker bombs that were found in Chelsea, one of them was unexploded. They've analyzed it and they found an explosive known as HMTD. Now, it's not a very common use of these explosives in these jihadi attacks, in these terrorist attacks. We've seen it -- we've seen terrorists use TATP in multiple attacks in Paris and here in the United States, even, but this one, HMTD, we've last seen it in 2005 in the London bombings.

So the question that authorities have right now is where did he get the chemicals, the precursor chemicals that he used to make these bombs here? We know he included ball bearings and BBs in the pressure cookers that make them more lethal and so the question is, did he have training, perhaps from some of his travels in Afghanistan and Pakistan? Or was it something that he took off the internet? There's a lot of recipes for these bombs on the internet -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Evan.

Jason Carroll is OUTFRONT in Elizabeth, New Jersey, where the suspected bomber was last known to have lived. And Jason, I know you're learning about Rahami's travel out of the United States for extended periods of time. Afghanistan and Pakistan. Even marrying a woman in Pakistan. All of this in the past few years.

JASON CARROLL, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: But what we're doing is we're piecing together information that comes to us, Erin, not just from U.S. government officials, but from people out here who knew the family as well. And, yes, once again, this man visited Afghanistan and Pakistan several times for several years during the last several years. And I can just give you some of that information right now. He spent time in both countries in 2011. He married a woman in Pakistan also in 2011. Went back there in 2013.

[19:05:30] He actually filed paperwork at one time to bring that woman here to the United States, but apparently never followed through on it. We should also point out that according to some of the folks that we spoke to out here, Erin, he also had a relationship with a woman here in New Jersey, the two of them had a baby girl. As far as we can best tell, they never got married. There was a question in terms of why he initially went to Afghanistan, and I spoke to two who know the family. They say it's because actually that Ahmad Khan's father told him he wanted him to go back to Afghanistan because he needed, quote, "discipline."

And when I asked one of these people, I said, well, what was he like when he came back? Was he a different man? Was he a changed man? This young man told me that he felt as though that he was different and when I asked him to define how he was different, was he more reclusive, was he radicalize? He said, he couldn't put a finger on it, but he said culturally, he said he was, quote, "different." Also, we should tell you, since we've been out here, we noticed a lot of law enforcement officials coming in and out still serving that search warrant, we've seen them bring out several boxes. A bomb-sniffing dog was out here as well as investigators continue to try to put together a motive for what happened -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right, Jason, thank you very much.

And OUTFRONT now, Art Roderick, former assistant director for investigations for the U.S. Marshals. Bob Baer, former CIA operative. The former Boston police commissioner Ed Davis who of course was in- charged with the investigation into the Boston marathon bombings. And Tim Clemente, former FBI counterterror agent.

Art, OK. So, here's what we know. We have charges. We have a suspect who is not cooperating right now. And we have a lot of uncertainty over whether there are others who were intimately involved in this. They know -- we know two additional men were on surveillance camera taking one of these bombs out of a duffel bag. Right now, police are saying they're not sure these guys were involved. They're moving away from that idea. But what do you make of that?

ART RODERICK, FORMER ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR INVESTIGATIONS, U.S. MARSHALS: My gut feeling is telling me that there's no way this guy could have done this by himself. I mean, he made -- if he was the one that made the bombs and planted all these bombs, I mean, there is evidence that he did have fingerprints on them.

BURNETT: Yes.

RODERICK: I just can't imagine that this guy all by himself did this in three different cities and made the mistakes he made by planting them in the wrong location, planting them in places where there wasn't much traffic. If you looked at the bomb in Seaside, New Jersey, all it basically did was blow the bottom of a plastic trash can off.

BURNETT: Yes.

RODERICK: So, I mean, when you look at these devices, only really two of them went off. The third one went off based on the robot cutting a wire. So, I mean, when you're talking about ten explosive devices, only two actually went off. One of them went off in an area that was pretty secluded. The other one just went off on its own and didn't really cause any damage. I mean, this guy made a lot of mistakes. He's pretty inept at being a terrorist.

BURNETT: And commissioner, let me ask you, though, because, you know what Evan is reporting. Look, yes, and it is miraculous that these bombs, you know, in the case of the one in New Jersey, was placed -- the race, the marine race started a few minutes late so nobody was running by at the moment. I mean, some of this was luck that something horrible didn't happen. But three different types of bombs, Evan is reporting, that he may well have made. Do you think he could have done that on his own?

ED DAVIS, FORMER BOSTON POLICE COMMISSIONER DURING MARATHON BOMBINGS: Well, Erin, I would tend to agree with Art. I think that the -- it does appear as though there was someone else involved. And you know, there's a big repetitive issue here about being able to make these bombs by looking at the internet. I've done work, this technical work before. Trying to find out where exactly to put the trigger inside a cell phone is a very dangerous thing to do. Especially if you're hooking that stuff up to explosives. A lot of these guys blow themselves up.

The fact that they didn't blow themselves up, the fact that they were using cell phones as detonators shows a level of sophistication that we didn't see in Boston. And I really believe that they don't do this by looking at the internet. They have to have someone show them how to do it. And it's strange to me that there are so many statements coming from the investigators that these are lone wolves, that there's nobody else involved in it. And it just doesn't seem possible.

BURNETT: What do you say, Tim?

TIM CLEMENTE, FORMER FBI COUNTERTERRORISM AGENT: I would agree. It looks like this individual with no experience that we know of probably was not capable of building these devices without losing three or four fingers, at least, in the experimental phase. Generally, bomb builders are known by the fact that they either have their hands in tact or they don't. The ones that do have their hands in tact are the experienced ones that learned from other experts. For somebody to be a newcomer to the game and be able to make eight or nine devices with a highly sensitive explosive, like HMTD, is -- it's not plausible to me.

[19:10:25] BURNETT: And what do you make, Bob Baer, of that explosive as Evan is reporting? HMTD used in the London bombings but not in some other recent bombings. What do you make of the use of that? Not as common as TATP, for example.

BAER: I find it highly disturbing. I agree. He probably wasn't alone in making these bombs, I've made HMTD. Very unstable. It's a great initiator. You'd have to know your explosives. It's not somebody that went out and bought black powder and played around with it. This guy knew what he was doing. He was either taught when he was in Afghanistan or Pakistan or there's an accomplice. All these bombs, and I totally agree, pipe bombs, you've got to know how to put the top on them or you do blow yourself up. So, the chances of this guy just waking up one day and getting on the internet by himself and putting this together are close to zero to none.

BURNETT: So, Commissioner Davis, I mean, from what all of you are saying, is when the time is of the essence here. As they are trying to find accomplices or anyone who may have helped. And right now we understand that he is not cooperating. So then, what next? How do they find others?

BAER: Well, they drill down into all of the social media connections that he had. They speak to all of his friends and all of the people around him to see what he was speaking about and what he was doing in his day-to-day life. And then they look very closely at his foreign travel. If he was in tribal areas of Pakistan or in Afghanistan and maybe at a -- or in some proximity to a training camp. The other guys on the panel are much better at answering those questions as to how that works, but all of those avenues are being pursued now by a whole raft of federal, state and local agencies. They will get the information. There's a lot going on right now, still. Make no mistake about that.

BURNETT: All right. We're going to talk about that foreign travel because it is so crucial. He went through secondary screening. No flags raised. The latest on the condition also of the bombing suspect. We now have that. That is him today after the shootout going to the hospital. And we are learning much more about him. Was he radicalized overseas and was he near a training camp? That report next.

Plus, should Rahami be held as an enemy combatant? That debate heating up tonight.

The attacker who stabbed nine people in Minnesota mall wearing a security guard uniform in the name of ISIS. ISIS is claiming them as one of their own. Was he?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:16:33] BURNETT: Breaking news tonight about the suspected New York/New Jersey bomber. A law enforcement official telling CNN that Ahmad Khan Rahami so far is not cooperating with authorities after being shot by police on the streets of a town called Linden, New Jersey.

Brynn Gingras is OUTFRONT live outside the hospital in New York, New Jersey, where Rahami is being treated. And Brynn obviously heavy police presence. What can you tell us about him tonight? BRYNN GINGRAS, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Erin, actually there are cops at every entry point of this hospital making sure vehicles that are going in are supposed to be in there. We know Rahami that has undergone surgery according to a local county prosecutor's office here. The hospital, though, will not comment on if he's out of that surgery or what condition he currently is in. They will only say that he is being treated here. We do know, though, from the video that he certainly sustained some sort of injuries to his arms and to his leg but he was alert when he was put into that ambulance.

And as you already mentioned at that point we know he had not been talking to authorities. We don't know yet if he has talked to authorities since he's been here at the hospital so we're still working to find that out. I also want to mention also being treated are those two officers, Linden police officers who encountered Rahami and got into that shootout. One an 18-year veteran. She was shot in the bulletproof vest. We're hearing it's possible she may be released from the hospital tonight.

And then the second officer, a 23-year veteran of the Linden Police Department. We're told by the Linden Police Department that he was actually hit by bullet fragments in his forehead. It's -- they say that Rahami is actually shot at his patrol vehicle and the bullets hit his windshield and lucky for him, it looks like those bullets ricocheted and look like how he got that grazing wound. We know, Erin, that President Obama did call both of those officers today to thank them for their bravery and service -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Brynn, thank you.

And tonight, disturbing new details are emerging about Ahmad Rahami's history, including numerous visits to Afghanistan and a Taliban stronghold in Pakistan. He then came back to the United States.

Pamela Brown is OUTFRONT with the breaking details tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PAMELA BROWN, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Twenty eight-year-old bombing suspect Ahmad Rahami bloodied as he's carried away on a stretcher moments after a shootout with police in Linden, New Jersey, a few miles from an apartment where his family lives above this chicken restaurant they run. The sound of gunfire captured on this amateur video.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: He's a very friendly guy. You'd never suspect this. I went there so much, he'd give me free chicken here and there.

BROWN: The family is from Afghanistan, according to law enforcement sources. Rahami was born in Afghanistan and came to the U.S. in 1995, several years after his father arrives seeking asylum. He became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 2011. Rahami went to high school in New Jersey and attended Middlesex College there majoring in criminal justice, but he never graduated. Law enforcement officials say Rahami traveled to Afghanistan several times in recent years. A family friend tells CNN Rahami went there on vacation. UNIDENTIFIED MALE: He left his country, Afghanistan like four years ago.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: How do you know that?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Well, that's what his little brother told me. He's on vacation to Afghanistan. I was like oh, all right.

BROWN: CNN has also learned Rahami spent a year in Pakistan from 2013 to 2014. Although Rahami underwent routine questioning upon his return to the U.S., that never raised any red flags for U.S. officials and he was not put on any terror watch list. CNN has learned Rahami's family filed a lawsuit against the city of Elizabeth in 2011 claiming discrimination based on their Muslim religion. The family said city officials harassed them, arbitrarily ticketing their 24-hour restaurant, first American fried chicken, and claimed community members taunted them saying things such as, quote, "Muslims don't belong here" and "Muslims make too much trouble in this country."

MAYOR CHRIS BOLLWAGE, ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY: The city council was getting complaints from the neighborhood at which time they voted to close it at 10:00 which led to some clashes with the Police Department because the police were enforcing the city council ordinance.

BROWN: The lawsuit was closed without a clear ruling.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BROWN: And in 2014, Rahami actually contacted a New Jersey congressman's office saying that he was having issues getting his wife to the United States. This congressman tells us that it turns out her passport was expired so she wasn't given an **immigrant** visa. Once her passport was renewed, it turned out that she was pregnant and the U.S. consulate over there said that they wouldn't give her an **immigrant** visa until she had the baby. This congressman says, it's unclear what happened after that. Unclear if she ever made it to the United States -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Pamela, thank you very much.

I want to go straight back to our panel. And let me just start with you, Bob. You just heard Rahami traveled to Afghanistan multiple times including to a Talibanstronghold. So, this meant he got secondary screening when he returned to the United States. But he just said he was visiting family or whatever it was and nobody noticed anything or thought anything of it?

[19:21:34] BAER: Well, Erin, you got to look where he went. Quetta. You and I couldn't go there. We wouldn't make it out of the airport alive. Simply being an American, you're either support it by the Pakistani government, the ISI or the Taliban. A couple months ago, all the lawyers were killed in the town in one suicide bombing. It's about as dangerous as you can get. And you certainly don't go there on vacation nor do you go to Kandahar in Afghanistan on vacation. Too dangerous. All controlled by the Taliban. By other radicals. So that's inherently suspicious and if I were **immigrations**, I would have done more than a secondary check. I would have asked him precisely what he was doing there and ask him for his phone and the rest of it because if you can't answer those questions, something is terribly wrong. And I think this guy slipped through the net here.

BURNETT: I mean, Tim, would you agree? And we also know at one point he was over there for almost a full year. It wasn't like it was a quick in and out visit. A full year in a place, of course, where there are terrorists and terror training camps.

CLEMENTE: That's exactly what's there, Erin. And I agree with Bob. There's literally no other reason to go there. Even if you have family there, it's much safer to have your family meet you in a third location that would not be considered a terrorist stronghold, but instead, he spends a year in these areas that are nothing but terrorist strongholds. Whether it's the Taliban or now ISIS in that area.

So, you know, obviously our screening processes aren't working. I think people cry foul and say that we're profiling when we look closely at somebody like this coming from that area, but, you know, as we saw in San Bernardino, the same influences and the same area caused the same problem here.

BURNETT: And Art, of course, the San Bernardino shooter was -- his wife came from Pakistan and of course was his accomplice. And we are learning about now that there was a woman, a wife in Pakistan.

RODERICK: Right.

BURNETT: And a baby, perhaps. He also had a child with another woman here. But that child. Now they're saying they're not sure if she ever came to the United States. This is something obviously that they are sure of and just not telling us, right? This is a check on the computer.

RODERICK: Right. I would think that they already have that information. The minute I heard this report, it took me right to San Bernardino because San Bernardino actually showed the issue with the fiance visa, that they really weren't checking into those as heavily as they should. And the minute I heard this, I thought oh my gosh, here we go, San Bernardino again. Where exactly is his wife at this point in time? So it sounds like they know where she is. They're just not telling us where she is.

Either he didn't follow through and she is still over in Pakistan with this child, but it just shows, and Bob is right, red flags should have been popping up all over the place, and they should have been a lot more than just a secondary screening done. When this individual came back from those locations. For an extended period of time, he was over there. After he was naturalized. So there are all kinds of red flags in this case also.

BURNETT: Commissioner, what would you say, would you agree with this, it appears he slipped through the net?

DAVIS: I think so, Erin. There's a profile developing here, and, you know, racial profiling is bad, but profiling is something that is necessary for us to do to protect ourselves. We have situations here, Tamerlan traveled to Dagestan, met with radical clerics.

BURNETT: Right.

DAVIS: Came back and was able to build a bomb. The same thing is happening here. We can't allow that to happen. There's got to be some sanctions against people that go into training camps. They shouldn't be allowed back even if they're American citizens. There has to be something that stops this.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you, all, very much.

And next, you're talking about profiling, and racial profiling. Specifically Donald Trump says, the United States has to do it. Is his message resonating and his reasoning?

And a bomb exploding on a busy New York street. Why was the city's mayor so slow to admit this was terror?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:20] BURNETT: Breaking news tonight. Donald Trump defending a call for racial profiling. He says it will keep the country safe from terror attacks. Trump also arguing moments ago that the United States' current **immigration** laws made the attacks in New York, New Jersey and Minnesota this weekend possible.

Jeff Zeleny is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JEFF ZELENY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Tonight, the bombings in New York and New Jersey impacting the presidential race.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: This is a fast-moving situation and a sobering reminder that we need steady leadership in a dangerous world.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Hillary Clinton talks tougher about my supporters than she does about Islamic terrorists. Right?

[19:30:00] ZELENY (voiceover): One week before their first debate, a new test for Trump and Clinton, already on a collision course over who's better equipped to be commander-in-chief and who has better judgment.

Trump quickly seizing on the Afghanistan-born suspect to make an **immigration** argument.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Let me state very, very clearly, **immigration** security is national security.

ZELENY: He also said police should be allowed to racially profile suspects.

TRUMP: They're afraid to do anything about it because they don't want to be accused of profiling. In Israel, they profile.

ZELENY: Clinton accusing her rival of fueling hate, blasting his call to ban Muslims from the U.S.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: We know that a lot of the rhetoric we've heard from Donald Trump has been seized on by terrorists, in particular, ISIS, because they are looking to make this into war against Islam.

ZELENY: With the election in 50 days, voters sending mixed signals on the qualities of Trump and Clinton. Asked who's a strong and decisive leader, Trump leads by eight points. As for who has the temperament to serve as president, Clinton holds a wide 20 point advantage. Both candidates reacting in real-time to fast-moving developments in the bombing investigation on the streets of New York and New Jersey, and a multiple stabbing at a Minnesota mall -- all being investigated as acts of terror.

Trump taking to Twitter, "Under the leadership of Obama/Clinton, Americans have more experienced more attacks at home than victories abroad. Time to change the playbook."

At a rally today in Florida, Trump echoed the call.

TRUMP: That's all we need is four more years of Obama except worse.

ZELENY: And Clinton delivering a pointed response to Trump for linking her and the president to attacks on home front.

CLINTON: It's not grounded in fact. It's, you know, meant to make some kind of demagogic point, and the facts are pretty clear.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ZELENY: Now, it's an open question how the terror attacks will affect the presidential race, or if they will at all. But Clinton is trying to make the argument that she is the experienced candidate here in this time of crisis, but Donald Trump is saying it is time for change. Her experience is not what the country needs -- Erin.

ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: All right. Jeff, thank you.

And OUTFRONT now, the former assistant homeland security secretary and CNN national security analyst, Juliette Kayyem, a Hillary Clinton supporter, and the former CIA director and ambassador, James Woolsey, a senior adviser to the Donald Trump campaign.

Let's start with racial profiling, Juliette. Donald Trump says the country is too politically correct, police are too afraid. These terror attacks could be stopped if they just have the courage to racially profile. What do you say?

JULIETTE KAYYEM, CNN NATIONAL SECURITY ANALYST: I sort of go with every major police chief out there who says the worst thing we can do in our counterterrorism efforts today is to begin to be racially profiled. No one's ever accused me of being politically correct. So, there is a tactical reason why you don't want this as stated U.S. policy, besides the fact it's illegal, I'll give Trump that.

The reason why is, if you actually think that the threat is one in which we'll be better found because of reaching out to communities of interest and engaging our Arab allies abroad, the last thing you want to do is antagonize those very populations. But there is actually an even bigger reason why you don't want to racially profile, because the profile will then change, right? So this is all known, there's no police chief that's going to say this should be stated policy, and neither the Bush administration nor the Obama administration, just to show you how outside the norm this is of national security policy, would say racial profile should be a stated or explicit policy.

BURNETT: So, Ambassador Woolsey, what do you say, when she says if you racially profile, they'll just change the profile, the policy will not work?

JAMES WOOLSEY: Well, you certainly don't want to just racially profile, but if somebody robs a bank who's a WASP and has -- is folically challenged as am I, and you put out a description, you don't want to have everybody chasing after African-Americans who have a full head of hair. I mean, you got to describe categories of people and I don't look on that as profiling.

I think it's important to be able to zero in on the category of people you are looking for, but you certainly should not just racially profile someone that -- I think that way lies craziness.

BURNETT: Juliette, Donald Trump is making the case Israel does it. You heard him say it. Let me give him a chance, what he said earlier when he on why the United States should do what Israel does. They do racial profile. Here he is.

(BEGIN AUDIO CLIP)

TRUMP: But Israel has done an unbelievable job and they'll profile. They profile. They see somebody that is suspicious, they will profile. They will take that person in. They'll check out. Do we have a choice? Look what's going on, do we really have a choice? We're trying to be so politically correct in our country.

(END AUDIO CLIP)

[19:35:03] BURNETT: Is Israel something the United States should look at, then, Juliette?

KAYYEM: I don't know what Israel he's talking about, but Israel certainly also has a much greater and, in fact, existential terrorism problem. That's why we support the nation of Israel.

The idea that if you profile, this solves the problem, let's just be clear here -- Trump does not know what he means by profiling, right? I mean, I think that that's clear. What Jim and I mean, and what we both seem to disagree with is you say Arab-Americans or Muslim-Americans are inherently a suspect class, you go after their mosque, you survey them. That in a nation like ours is not just inconsistent with who we are, it actually won't work. And so, I just think Trump thinks Israel is an example -- I think Israelis might beg to differ.

BURNETT: Why wouldn't it work, Ambassador? I mean, you know, she's making that case, but, of course, in the recent cases we've had of Orlando and San Bernardino and here, these have all come out of that community.

WOOLSEY: You don't want to make an assumption that someone is going to do something bad because of his race or creed or -- that is what I would regard as racial profiling and we shouldn't do it. But I think that it's important to realize that if one is categorizing people in order to decide what to look at, as Rudy Giuliani puts it, he's Italian background. He said, you know, if I'm looking into the mafia, I don't really start with the Irish neighborhoods. And one needs to, I think --

BURNETT: Isn't that a distinction without a difference? I mean, so he's basically saying, oh, I'm not going to profile people because they're Muslim but he's saying, but I'm only going to look at the mosques?

WOOLSEY: Profiling I think has to do with making a judgment that someone is more likely to do something wrong. I think that is a bad idea. But in terms of -- during the Giuliani/Kelly era, when they were looking at the details of neighborhoods and so forth in New York, so-called broken windows approach, I think that was perfectly sound and I would not regard that as profiling. I'd regard it as sensible police work and it worked, it prevented a lot of deaths and if you look at statistics from New York during those periods.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you both very much.

And next, a bombing on the New York city streets. Why didn't the city's mayor call it terrorism? He waited and waited. Why?

And new details about the Minnesota mall attacker tonight. ISIS tonight saying he was a soldier of the Islamic State. We're learning a lot more about this man tonight. Was he?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:41:36] BURNETT: Tonight, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio facing criticism from even his own party for waiting more than 24 hours to call the bombing in New York City a terror attack. His resistance coming even as the governor of New York argued it was obviously terrorism. So what was the issue?

Phil Mattingly is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PHIL MATTINGLY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): A seemingly simple statement.

MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO (D), NEW YORK CITY: Based on the information we have now, we have every reason to believe this was an act of terror.

MATTINGLY: But it was a dramatic shift from multiple public appearances for New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio took pains not to call the bombing in Manhattan terrorism. Here's the mayor in his first public statement just a few hours after the explosion.

DE BLASIO: I want to say more broadly, there is no specific and credible threat against New York city at this point in time from any terror organization. The early indications, initial indications, is this was an intentional act.

MATTINGLY: Even as his own governor had no such trouble labeling the event.

GOV. ANDREW CUOMO (D), NEW YORK: A bomb exploding in New York is, obviously, an act of terrorism.

MATTINGLY: Same with the Democratic senator from New Jersey.

SEN. ROBERT MENENDEZ (D), NEW JERSEY: I think that anyone who takes a bomb and ultimately puts it in a public place was, from, I think it doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand you are looking to do harm to others for whatever your purpose were. To me, that's an essence of terrorism.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Get off the street!

MATTINGLY: One bombing, two very different perspectives, and behind the scenes, questions of why. It was an approach at least on its face designed to ratchet back the kinds of concerns that would lead to panic and also urge caution about jumping to conclusions, the mayor said. And he was backed by the city's new police commissioner.

COMMISSIONER JAMES O'NEILL, NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT: If it is an act of terrorism, we're going to come out and say it.

MATTINGLY: But sources tell CNN the choice was a personal one for de Blasio, one tied to the legal definition of the word and one the mayor would not let go of. He stuck by the position even amid an internal debate with law enforcement officials over the reluctance to say the events were being investigated as a possible act of terror. It was a reluctance, law enforcement officials noted, not shown by officials in an unrelated attack in Minnesota this weekend.

In the end, a debate rendered moot by the end result -- an arrest and definitive answer that it was, indeed, an act of terror.

As to the perceived split leading up to that point --

CUOMO: Frankly, it's semantics. The mayor and I viewed the site together. We have the same information, the same observation and the same conclusions.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: That sounds like someone trying to brush over it and make it nice. I mean --

MATTINGLY: A little bit.

BURNETT: Not semantics.

MATTINGLY: No, not at all.

Look, I think the issue here, when you look at it, this was a split, it was absolutely a split, and it was a very public split. But it was one that was based on as I stated in the piece, the mayor behind the scenes. There are legal connotations that come with the word, "terror". They did not want to trigger that, de Blasio's team until they had their hands around the investigation. This all happened very, very fast over the course of 24 hours. They weren't totally sure of the motivations. That's why they held off.

The reality was when you talk to law enforcement officials, other public officials, there's a way to hedge this answer and mention terrorism without kind of triggering everything. That would make this not an issue anymore. It became an issue. It became an issue that got a lot of attention.

[19:45:01] At least for a little bit, the concern with law enforcement officials is, this would become the issue, not the investigation. At least for a period, it was.

BURNETT: And, of course, the public, no question about what an act of terror is. Pretty clear. And this fit that definition.

Phil, thank you very much.

And next, a man dressed in a security guard uniform stabbing nine inside a Minnesota mall. Coming up, how an off-duty officer may have stopped a massacre in another terror attack this weekend.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: Breaking news: police announcing a tenth victim in the Minnesota mall stabbing rampage -- an attack which ISIS claimed responsibility for. Police say 22-year-old Dahir Adan was wearing a security guard uniform, made reference to Allah and asked at least one person if he was Muslim before attacking.

Sara Sidner is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

SARA SIDNER, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Terror in the mall. Dispatchers scramble to send help.

DISPATCH: We're taking reports of shots fired and people stabbed. We're sending people out the north side of Macy's. SIDNER: By then, nine people had been stabbed. They all survived. The attacker did not, shot dead by off-duty officer Jason Falconer, who's being hailed a hero.

According to the mayor's surveillance video shows a customer running with children in tow and then the suspect comes into frame.

[19:50:05] MAYOR DAVID KLEIS, ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA: You see him immediately forward lunge with a knife, and you've seen the officer fire. The suspect went down. He got back up. Officer fired again. He got back up. This was three times.

SIDNER: The man responsible, 22-year-old Dahir Adan. An ISIS-linked news agency tweeted he was one of their soldiers.

The FBI is calling the attack a potential act of terrorism while police are searching for more evidence of a link to ISIS.

CHIEF WILLIAM BLAIR ANDERSON, ST. CLOUD POLICE DEPARTMENT: As we talk today, I don't have anything to make that connection.

SIDNER: The attacker worked as a part-time security officer and was wearing his uniform during the stabbing. He lived in this modest apartment complex.

Somali community leader Abdul Kulane spoke with his family and said the young man has lived in the U.S. nearly his entire life.

(on camera): Was he living with his family?

ABDUL KULANE, SOMALI COMMUNITY LEADER: He was living with his parents, both parents. And members of the extended family was also around. Different apartment in the same building.

SIDNER: Did they give any indication that they saw change in him or that they noticed him watching videos or anything like that that give them an indication that he was becoming extreme?

KULANE: They hadn't told us anything about that. They were shocked as everybody else was. They're in disbelief that could happen.

SIDNER: From speaking with the family, would you say this young man had assimilated as an American?

KULANE: He was. He was, as an American as everybody else is.

SIDNER (voice-over): Something clearly changed him. He says their son left home saying he was going to the mall to buy an iPhone. About three hours later, his family was informed he was dead and many were wounded.

REV. JAMES ALBERTS, HIGHER GROUND CHURCH PASTOR: Terror has visited St. Cloud and it is our job as members of this community for it not to find a home.

(END VIDEOTAPE) SIDNER: Now, all the stabbing victims have been released from the hospital.

Now, community leaders, both Somali community leaders and the greater community trying to make sure that there is no backlash towards the Somali community. There have been tensions here, but this community has also worked extremely hard to make sure that those are quelled over the years -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Sara, thank you very much.

And just terrifying to imagine going to a mall on a Saturday night and someone coming and a security uniform, a trusted thing, and then stabbing as we know now the breaking news, ten people, that happening in this country, the United States of America.

OUTFRONT now, St. Cloud Police Chief William Blair Anderson joins me.

Chief, thank very much for taking the time.

ISIS is claiming responsible for this attack where you are. They say this is theirs. Of course, there are reports the man talked about Allah, that he asked at least one of his victims if they were Muslim before the attack. Do you think this was ISIS inspired?

CHIEF WILLIAM BLAIR ANDERSON, ST. CLOUD POLICE DEPARTMENT: I did read the news release that was sent out by ISIS, but at this time, we haven't uncovered anything to substantiate that.

BURNETT: What can you tell us about this man, the attacker? What do you know about him?

ANDERSON: I can tell you right now we're getting into the meaty part of our investigation and my directive this morning to my staff was that I wanted to know everything about him from the day he was born until last Saturday. And so, as we speak right now, our investigative team is busy trying to piece that puzzle together.

BURNETT: Have any red flags come up in your investigation? You know, as we're learning so much about the New York/New Jersey bomber, travel that now seems incredibly suspect in retrospect. Has anything come up so far in your investigation?

ANDERSON: Nothing so far in our investigation. Our in-house records show that we've had three minor contacts with the individual. We're working in conjunction with the FBI because they can better determine those things than we can.

BURNETT: And obviously this has been -- at least nine Somali Americans in Minnesota have been convicted or pleaded guilty to trying to join is in just the past two years. Obviously, that is significant. Are you concerned from what you know about this man that there could be others who know him or were involved, that this is anything more broad than one individual?

ANDERSON: That's why we're investigating, and if those things are, in fact, true, then we'll find that out. But, again, as of now, we don't have anything that would support that. And so, we're going to keep up with our investigation. We're going to go where the facts and the leads take us.

BURNETT: And, Chief Anderson, obviously there was a hero here. The off-duty police officer, his name is Jason Falconer, if I'm saying his last name correctly. He was there. He rushed to the scene and stopped this young man from possibly slaughtering more people, attacking more people.

What can you tell us about Jason Falconer?

[19:55:00] ANDERSON: I didn't know Jason Falconer prior to Saturday. I can tell you that I've had occasion to speak with him two times and we're glad that he was in the place that he was at the time that he was.

The mayor and I viewed the surveillance video from inside the store and it's -- it's more than unnerving. It's clear what the attacker's intent was with respect to the innocent people, you know, that were being attacked. And but for Officer Falconer's actions, this could have been exponentially worse.

And so, if there's any -- any good news from this horrible situation, is that no innocent people were killed. And as of today, all of them have been released from the hospital. So, our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.

BURNETT: All right. Chief Anderson, thank you so much.

I appreciate your time tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: And thank you so much for joining us.

"AC360" begins right now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Phil Mattingly, Brianna Keilar, Jeffrey Lord, Mark Preston, Patrick Healy, Tom Foreman

9555 speakers\_end

[19:00:08] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news. New poll showing Hillary Clinton's lead over Donald Trump disappearing. This as the Trump campaign unveils its economic plan. Does it add up? I am going to be speaking with Trump's running-mate Mike Pence.

Plus, Ivanka Trump shutting down an interview after tough questions about her father? Is Trump's best surrogate feeling the heat?

And CNN access to one of the most dangerous cities earth. We are going to go inside Aleppo tonight. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening, I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news, neck and neck, a new CNN poll of polls showing Donald Trump gaining major ground. Clinton leading Trump national lead by just two points. Her lead from two weeks ago slashed in half. This comes as Clinton returns to the trail after staying home sick for three days. Clinton flying to the key battleground state of North Carolina, sign and project new strength and energy. The candidate taking the unusual step of holding a brief press conference fielding multiple questions about her health and admitting that she could have been more forthcoming about it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I thought I was going to be fine. And I thought that there wasn't really any reason to make a big fuss about it. So I should have taken time off earlier. I didn't. Now I have. And I'm back on the campaign trail.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Trump today trying to seize on his momentum with a major address on the economy.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Over the next ten years our economic team estimates that under our plan the economy will average 3.5 percent growth and create a total of 25 million new jobs.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Do his numbers add up? I'm going to be speaking to his running mate Mike Pence in just a moment for an extended interview.

But first Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT with the Clinton campaign. And Brianna, what do we expect to hear from Clinton tonight? Obviously she's coming out today and she's doing plenty of events.

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Erin, as you know Hillary Clinton is speaking before the Congressional Hispanic Caucustonight at this gala dinner. And so she's going to be tailoring her message as she also tries to appeal to Hispanic voters. You know that she's hanging so much on this election on the coalition of Barack Obama put together in 2008 and 2012. That includes young people. That includes young voters and it does include Hispanic voters as well.

And she's been underperforming with some of these key constituencies. So that is a place where she's going make some headway. I think we're expecting perhaps to hear something that she debuted a little bit today, which was as she came back on the road after three days of rest, trying to recover from pneumonia, she talked about how it had given her some perspective on the campaign. Something that is tough to do when you are on the campaign trail. And it seemed to be that while she certainly had criticism for Donald Trump, she was also putting forth a rationale for why voters should vote for her. Not just trying to disqualify Donald Trump. Perhaps not surprising as she's making a course correction as she's sort of starting to see a tightening in the polls, in national polls as well as these battleground states.

BURNETT: All right. Brianna, thank you very much. And, you know, as Brianna is there with Hillary Clinton, Trump today was out giving a speech, a big speech on his economic plan.

Phil Mattingly is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PHIL MATTINGLY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Tonight, Donald Trump pledging a major boost in economic growth as he seeks to tie together his disparate academic proposals.

TRUMP: My economic plan rejects the cynicism that says our labor force will keep declining. That our jobs will keep leaving and that our economy can never grow as it did once before.

MATTINGLY: Trump's speech in New York light on new details but heavy on laying out Trump's vision and guarantees.

TRUMP: Under our plan the economy will average 3.5 percent growth and create a total of 25 million new jobs.

MATTINGLY: But a major hole in Trump's promise, that the plan will be deficit neutral.

TRUMP: You can visit our website. Just look at the math. It works.

MATTINGLY: But it remains unclear that it actually does. Trump pledging not to raise taxes. And not even addressing the growth of entitlement programs in his remarks. Two of the most common targets for raising revenue. Trump instead relying on regulatory, tax and energy reforms and his promise economic growth, all as he belittle Hillary Clinton's economic proposals.

TRUMP: Her tax increases are unbelievable. The only thing she can offer is a welfare check.

[19:05:04] MATTINGLY: But the new insight into Trump's economic plan will not extend to his taxes at least according to his son, Donald, Jr. According to Pittsburgh newspaper, it wasn't beyond going audit that was keeping Trump from releasing her returns.

DONALD TRUMP, JR., SON OF DONALD TRUMP: That would create probably 300 million Independents financial auditors out of every person in the country asking questions that they are going to describe from his main message.

MATTINGLY: Even as House Speaker Paul Ryan, the party's 2012 vice presidential nominee said otherwise.

PAUL RYAN (R), SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: I really think we should release those. I'll leave to it him when to do it.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

[19:05:40] MATTINGLY: And Erin, Paul Ryan is likely going to be waiting a long time if he sees them ever. And the reality is this. With Donald Trump, Jr., said to that Pittsburgh papers, what I've been hearing from Trump advisors now for a couple of weeks, Erin, they say this. We don't see the upside of releasing them and they don't feel like they are being punished for not releasing them. I talked to a couple of Clinton advisors today Erin and they said they are aware of that. So, expect a major push from the Clinton campaign on this issue, they've been doing it for the last couple of weeks. Expect that to intensify in the weeks ahead, they want to make Trump feel pain for not releasing those taxes -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Phil, thank you.

And OUTFRONT now, Donald Trump's running-mate Mike Pence. And Governor, thank you so much for being with me tonight. I appreciate it.

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Good to be with you.

BURNETT: So, Donald Trump is saying, the economy is going to grow three-and-a-half percent on average. He says on a ramp up to four percent. He says, possibly more than that.

PENCE: Yes. Maybe more.

BURNETT: Obviously, you look back. That hasn't happen since the late 1990s which was of course above all for this economy. What makes you believe you can accomplish that sort of growth. PENCE: Well, I think -- history is that when you let people keep more what they earned, you lower marginal tax rates, you roll back, excessive regulations, you unleash the power of American energy. This economy comes roaring back and roaring back very quickly, Erin. We saw it happened in the days of Ronald Reagan. Frankly, we also saw it happen in the days of John F. Kennedy. The truth is that lowering marginal rates under the Kennedy administration, under the Reagan administration, transform the American economy and Donald Trump and our confidant that the struggling economy today where it's literally the slowest economic recovery since the great depression will come roaring back when we put those time honored principles of growth back into practice.

BURNETT: Now, Trump is calling your child care proposal essential part of his entire tax plan.

PENCE: It is.

BURNETT: Right. He is making this a core. You're offering six weeks of partially paid maternity leave as part of your plan, right? This is not Republican or Orthodoxy far from it. Your friend Paul Ryan does not support it at all. This is not something Republican support. This is an issue Democrats support. Why make it a central part of your plan?

PENCE: Well, I think it's just Donald Trump's appreciation with a lot of great input from his extraordinary daughter Ivanka. It's his appreciation for the rule of working women in the challenges that families face, with the cost of child care and not only for that paid leave using the unemployment insurance program to provide support from companies that don't offer that. But also, allowing for the full deduction for all American families for the cause of child care.

For a lot of working families, child care is a dominant part of their family budget. And as a family, I always lived on a budget myself. Raised three kids. I got almost all of them through college. I think Donald Trump is exactly right. Once we get this economy growing again, we're going to be able to pay for this kind of a program. But doing it all through tax relief, deductions, tax credits is the right approach.

BURNETT: Right. So, the St. Louis Feds estimates that unemployment insurance is fraud which of course is what you've mentioned this what would pay for that. It's about $3.3 billion a year for part of it, right? Look, six weeks personally paid maternity leave is a lot of money. It's probably going to be a lot more than $3.3 billion. Where are you going to get all of that money?

PENCE: Well, I think the short answer is there. The longer answer is growth.

BURNETT: -- on that growth figure.

PENCE: Well -- and I have to tell you, I mean, when you look at the plan that he outlined today, the economic growth of New York. It really is a bold plan of lowering marginal rates, lowering business taxes. The repatriation. Lowering their rate on taxes. Taxes on business income to bring those dollars back in the country. Smarter and tougher trade deals. Ruling back excessive regulation.

I think, you know, there's estimates of 3.5 percent growth. But you heard Donald Trump today say with a wink that he is not supposed to say it but we really do believe the economy is going to grow, growing economy, and expanding economy make it possible for us to provide this additional opportunities, these deductions and these credits for working families.

BURNETT: So, the issue for working mothers is crucial, right?

PENCE: It is.

BURNETT: Seventy percent of mothers in this country work, I am one of them.

PENCE: Right.

BURNETT: You once wrote about a study of daycare kids in an op-ed. This is a while ago but your conclusion was, "Sure, you can have it all but your day care kids get the short end of the emotional stick." Have your views changed?

PENCE: Yes, they really have. I mean, that was probably a really long time ago when I saw that. Frankly I have --

BURNETT: 1997. I believe. It was a long time ago but --

PENCE: Yes. Yes.

BURNETT: But your views have changed.

[19:10:10] PENCE: I still had dark hair back then, Erin. I would tell you that I really do believe, well, I will always believe that, you know, the best child care is in the home. A family that has the means to be able to provide that. But we have some moral class childcare in a country today and particularly in the state of Indiana are proud of what we've done. To provide the first ever public funding for pre-K education. To help kids that particularly disadvantage. Kids to be able to make-up for what they might not be getting in the home. So, they're ready for school.

So, I really do believe this is an idea whose time has come giving these choices to working families particularly working women is a part of I think Donald Trump's vision to make America great again. To make sure this economy is working for every American family and I couldn't be more supportive.

BURNETT: So, your campaign with this child care obviously being a focal point of it. Look, the women voter issue is an issue. You even wrote on some polls, over all though of course 54, 36 percent, 54 percent of women supporting Hillary Clinton, this national poll. You know, today, we learned Ivanka Trump did not want to address questions about some of the things her father had said, about pregnancy, actually back in 2004. Here is what he said about pregnancy and also a couple of other things he has said about women who work.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: A pregnancy is never -- it's a wonderful thing for the woman, it's a wonderful thing for the husband. It's certainly an inconvenience for our business.

Putting a wife to work is a very dangerous thing.

I won't do anything to take care of them. She'll take -- I'll supply the funds and she'll take care of the kids.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: What is your reaction to those comments?

PENCE: Well, my reaction is that people need to listen to what Donald Trump are saying today. This is a man who loves his family and loves this country. And he's build a business, it's really advance. And the opportunities for women, executives all over this country and a little bit all over the world. And I think his record, whatever -- many years ago may have been. The truth is that he's got a heart for women and the workplace, he's demonstrated that by advancing women executives in his organization. And that is the way he's going to advance policies and that is the way we'll operate this administration.

BURNETT: And of course he said those things over several years. He said those things many times. You yourself this week on Capitol Hill remaining with other Republican leaders and I know one of them said to you, what do I say to my daughter when she says Donald Trump doesn't like women. What do you say?

PENCE: Well, I told that Congressman, just give her a hug for me and tell her it is just not true. It is one of the -- it is one of the characters of this good man that couldn't be farther from the truth. When you look at the record that Donald Trump has built in business and the opportunities, the equal opportunities he's extended to women in the workplace, I think it really speaks for itself. And the proposal for child care that he brought forward today. With that extraordinary execute who happens to be his daughter Ivanka Trump, an accomplished businesswoman in her own right, I think gives you a great, great look at who this man really is.

BURNETT: So, you think he's changed, right? Because I mean, let's just be honest, right, as a woman when I hear I think putting a wife to work is a very dangerous thing, it is a pretty nasty awful thing to say.

PENCE: Well, I don't know when he said that. And I don't know the context that he said it in.

BURNETT: He was talking about his wife at the time, Ivanka Trump. PENCE: Well, what I can tell you is, this is a man who has a real heart for advancing the interests of women and men in this country. And frankly as I campaign with him and campaign for him, Erin, you know, the women and men who come out to these rallies whether it is a huge Donald Trump rally or maybe a thousand people like I saw in Scranton, Pennsylvania yesterday. I think they are coming out and you are seeing the tremendous momentum in this campaign. Because people hear in that message to make America great again. They hear in those policies of getting this economy moving again, about having a safer and stronger America at home and abroad. Exactly the policies that women and men in America want to see a president advance.

BURNETT: Today Donald Trump was critical of the Fed. He's been critical of the Fed. You have also over your career been critical of the Fed's unprecedented efforts to try to help this economy out of the great recession. He'd always taken the criticism farther than he doesn't like what the Fed is doing to saying that the head of the Federal Reserve Janet Yellen is actually doing things specifically at the behest of Barack Obama. And to help Barack Obama. Here is how he put it just this week.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: She's obviously political and she's doing what Obama wants her to do. I think she's very political and to a certain extent I think she should be ashamed of herself.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: You know, that would be corruption at an unprecedented level if she was actually doing what Barack Obama told her to do. Right? The Fed being independent is what makes this country the top business destination in the world. Do you agree that Janet Yellen is doing what Barack Obama tells her too? That she's holding rates low to help him, to help Hillary Clinton get elected?

[19:15:18] PENCE: You know, I just think it is hard to understand why the Fed continues to advance policies that really work for Hedge Fund managers on Wall Street here in New York City and really aren't working for working families on Main Street. I mean, the art officially low interests rates really hurt working families in their savings account but they really work for these big investors and these investment banks that can essentially borrow almost free money and invest it in the stock market and make big returns.

I think Donald Trump is saying that it is time that we -- that we brought forward the kind of economic policies that will allow interest rates to return to a rational point. And when you get this economy growing again, I promise you that will happen under a Trump administration.

BURNETT: On a personal level though, do you think Janet Yellen is doing what she's doing to help Barack Obama?

PENCE: Well, again, I just think it is very curious to see the Federal Reserve continue to resist efforts to respond in the marketplace in a way that puts the interest of middle class families first. And whatever the motivation, that all is going change in the Trump administration win. But growth comes first, Erin. That is the most important thing for reviewers to know. What Donald Trump laid out today is a bold plan to get this economy moving again. And policies that he's advancing, well, we truly believe will create 25 million new jobs over the next ten years.

We're going work with newly reelected majorities in the House and in the Senate to advance those policies right out of the gate in our administration and this economy is going to come roaring back and then our monetary policy will be more rational and it will reflect a growing economy.

BURNETT: Your friend Paul Ryan today says, Donald Trump should release his tax returns. That is a significant person to come out and say it. At the last -- presidential candidates of course right now the top Republican, elected Republican in the country. Is he wrong?

PENCE: Well I think Donald Trump has every intention of releasing his tax returns. Once a routine audit is completed and I was happy to at his encouragement and with his full support to release my tax returns. And it was a pretty short read. There is a whole lot of zeros that separate the two of us.

BURNETT: Right.

PENCE: But what your viewers ought to know is that both Donald Trump and I and frankly the other two major party candidates in this race have all filed the full financial disclosure that Federal law requires. And people that want to learn about Donald Trump's financial interests can read over a hundred pages of disclosure online right now at the Federal Election Commission. And I encourage people that are curious to do that. Those tax returns will be coming when that routine audit is done.

BURNETT: Now, of course, as you pointed out though, you have got 2002 through 2007 not under audit. Now, I can understand it might be awkward to put out those years and not the current once. But they are not under audit. Right? So, if audit is the excuse, there's a real inconsistency there. Why shouldn't he just put out the years that he has that aren't under audit?

PENCE: Well, I think that -- I think I would refer you to Donald Trump and to his campaign for the specific answer to that. But I think it is because when he puts that information out he wants the totality of the information. I think members of the media and frankly the public are interested in that kind of information. And so I think there is a desire to be transparent. I thought it was an example of the kind of leadership that he's shown. And a couple of weeks ago, he said that he was going to produce his health records whether or not Hillary Clinton ever produced hers.

And he presented those earlier today to the American public. I am pleased that the other candidate have done that. I think my health records will be out before the next couple of hours is up. But I think ultimately the American people are focused more on the issues facing this country. With all due respect Erin, as I'm campaigning around America, I don't hear a lot of people talking about tax returns. I hear a lot of people talking about high taxes, ObamaCare, the weight of regulation, about trade deals that have cost American jobs. The war on coal.

I think that is why more and more people each and every day, as is evidenced in a lot of those polls that you referenced. More and more people every day are being drawn to the leadership that Donald Trump will provide to this nation once he's elected president.

BURNETT: Now, the majority of people do want those tax returns. And as you know you put yours out. Everyone else involved has put theirs out. Right? He's the only one who hasn't. You know, Reed Hoffman, I spoke to him yesterday, the billionaire founder of LinkedIn. He is a Clinton supporter. He's put out a challenge obviously that Donald Trump that he'll donate money to veterans if Trump releases his tax returns. But he said something about that that was really interesting, Governor.

He said, the tax returns will reveal part of his character. Certainly things we need to know. Such as what businesses that he's doing overseas that could be very relevant. Someone to be president of the United States. But also about charity. Campaigns as he gives away tens of millions of dollars a year. Why not come out and show us where. Why should such a thing be a secret?

[19:20:26] PENCE: Well again, I think he's been very forthcoming about saying that he'll reveal those tax returns when a routine audit is done. I mean, audits sometimes result in a dispute between the Internal Revenue Service and the tax filer which means, sometimes ultimately that dispute is resolved in favor of the Internal Revenue Service and a tax return has to be filed on an amended return. I think his interests in making sure of the most accurate information is available.

But, you know, I would tell you that, the character of this man is something that I see each and every day. Not just when the lights are on or when the klieg lights go off. And Donald Trump is someone who is one of the most gracious and generous people I've ever met in my life. I was down in Louisiana and Baton Rouge with him and without any reporters around, I saw him privately make a pledge of over a hundred thousand to help families that were recovering from the horrific flooding in Baton Rouge. And, you know, he has donated tens and millions of dollars to charities over the year and the American people will have those details in the days to come. I'm confident of that. But I really would tell you, Erin --

BURNETT: Maybe not before the election.

PENCE: Well, you know, we'll see. But I would tell you. I don't doubt that if people are asked an up or down question on a poll, would you like to see tax returns, yes or no, most Americans say, sure. But when I'm out campaigning with Donald Trump and for Donald Trump. When I'm walking through diners, when I am visiting with hardworking Americans each and every day, what they are talking about is the struggles that this country is facing at home and abroad. It is security, it's prosperity, it's the Supreme Court.

BURNETT: Yes.

PENCE: And it is upholding the highest standards of ethics and the highest office in the land and I truly do believe that that is why there's so much momentum behind this campaign and why I like our chances on November 8th.

BURNETT: You are -- you have been dispatched to Capitol Hill obviously --

PENCE: Yes.

BURNETT: -- to try to garner support. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid came out today and said some pretty strong things about Donald Trump. On the Senate floor. So, in case you didn't get the chance to hear it, let me just play it for you. Senator Reid.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. HARRY REID (D-NV), SENATE MAJORITY LEADER: Let's be clear about Donald Trump. He's a spoiled brat, raised in plenty. Who inherited a fortune, used his money to make more money. Trump is a human leech who will bleed the country and sit at his golf resort laughing at the money he's made even though working people have been hurt and ruined.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: What's your response?

PENCE: I think those remarks are beneath the dignity of the United States Senate but it's nothing new for Harry Reid. I mean, we heard the same kind of stuff come out of him about Mitt Romney four years ago and he did it on the Senate floor. Look, you know, I am -- and to be honest with you, I'm starting to get a whiff of desperation from the other side. It seems like the attacks are getting a little more intense.

And I think that is because they sense what I sense all over this country. More and more Americans every day are responding to Donald Trump's broad shoulder, confident vision to get this economy moving again, to rebuild our military. To make sure we have a Supreme Court that respect our constitution and I truly do believe that we're on our way to a great victory in November.

BURNETT: And one final thing to get your reaction to that is getting a lot of discussion today. Donald Trump Jr. getting some flak for some comments he made while he was explaining the treatment he says his father gets from the press compared to the treatment Hillary Clinton gets from the press. Let me just play for you his full answer and how he described it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP JR., SON OF DONALD TRUMP: The media has built her up. They have let her slide on every indiscrepancy, on every lie. On every DNC game trying to get Bernie Sanders out of the thing. I mean, if Republicans were doing that, they would be warming up the gas chamber right now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And of course, the anti-defamation league has come out and said Trivialization of the holocaust and gas chambers is never OK. Do you think he just used the wrong words?

PENCE: Well, clearly he was talking about capital punishment and not making a reference to that -- that -- that awful period of history we know to be the holocaust. But look his point -- his point is well made. Beyond whatever rhetoric he chose to use. I mean, to be honest with you. Since I joined this campaign a couple of months ago, it's felt like two on one every day of the week. Present company accepted. I have great respect for the job that you do but it seems like each and every day many of the national media have been doing half of Hillary Clinton's work for her.

But the most amazing thing is that Donald Trump is still winning hearts and minds each and every day. And it's because he's got the right message, a message that is focusing on security. It's a message that is focusing on growth. He's laid out like he did today in at the economic club in New York, the kind of plan that will create millions of jobs in this country and now make America great again. And I just have to tell you, whatever we continue to face in the media, I'm sure it will continue and it will probably get a little -- from here. But I'm confident that that message is going to carry all the way forward. We're going to elect this good man and he's going to be a great president.

BURNETT: All right. Governor Pence, thank you very much. I appreciate your time tonight.

PENCE: Thank you, Erin.

BURNETT: And next we're standing by for Donald Trump. He's about to appear live at a big rally in New Hampshire. Hillary Clinton today out on the trail admitting this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CLINTON: I have well aware that I still have work to do.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And Ivanka Trump's tense interview with a magazine writer, what made her snap?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:12] BURNETT: Breaking news. Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton both about to speak. Clinton in Washington, Trump in New Hampshire which is a crucial swing state in this election. According to CNN brand new poll of polls, Clinton leading Trump by just two percentage points. Nationally, that was five points just about two week ago. Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

KEILAR (voice-over): Hillary Clinton is back on the trail after three days of recovering at home from a bout of pneumonia.

CLINTON: Welcome back to stronger, together.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: How are you doing?

CLINTON: I'm doing great. Thank you so much.

KEILAR: Campaigning in North Carolina. And trying to put questions of her health to rest.

CLINTON: I'm not great at taking it easy even under ordinary circumstances. But with just two months to go until Election Day?

(APPLAUSE)

[19:30:03] CLINTON: Sitting at home was pretty much the last place I wanted to be.

KEILAR (voice-over): After nearly collapsing as she left the 9/11 commemoration early on Sunday. Following the Clinton campaign releasing more information about her yesterday in a letter from her doctor, Clinton criticized Donald Trump for revealing the results of a recent physical on a television show.

CLINTON: I'll never be the showman my opponent is. And that's OK with me. Just look at -- look at the show he put on with Dr. Oz today.

KEILAR: Trump has made a habit of questioning Clinton's stamina. And she seemed to answer it.

CLINTON: People use me of all kind of things. You've probably seen that. But nobody ever accuses me of quitting. And I will never give up. I'll never walk away.

KEILAR: Deadlocked or uncomfortably close with Donald Trump in national and battleground state polls, Clinton is trying to rally the coalition of supporters that propelled President Obama to two terms in the White House. Young people, Hispanics who she will address tonight in Washington and African-Americans.

CLINTON: I am well aware that I still have work to do. And I'm very committed to continuing to travel across the country. To talk about and hear from young African Americans about the struggles they face daily.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

KEILAR: We are awaiting Hillary Clinton speaking here in Washington, D.C. at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute gala dinner gathering this evening. President Obama also going to speak here, Erin.

But we did hear from earlier. She took questions from reporters and weighed in on something Donald Trump said about the pastor of a black church in Flint, Michigan, where he spoke yesterday. This pastor, Reverend Faith Green Timmons, briefly interrupted him yesterday to say that she would hope he would keep his comments apolitical, as they had agreed on when he started to criticize Hillary Clinton.

Well, this morning, Donald Trump called her a nervous mess. We heard Hillary Clinton say that was insulting and dead wrong and that she deserves better.

So, Hillary Clinton weighing in on this issue as Donald Trump tries to make inroads with the key Democratic constituency of African-American voters.

BURNETT: All right. Brianna, thank you.

And we're going to talk more about that in a moment. Our panel here, Basil Smikle, Hillary Clinton supporter, Jeffrey Lord, a Donald Trump supporter, Mark Preston, our executive editor for politics, and Patrick Healy, "The New York Times" political correspondent.

Basil, let me start with you, though, because -- you know, the new polls that came out today were not promising for Hillary Clinton. Things have changed from just a few weeks ago. Trump leading in Ohio, Iowa, too close to call in Michigan. The poll of polls nationally, I just mentioned, two points, it was five about ten days ago.

You just heard Mike Pence say he smells what he said was a whiff of desperation.

BASIL SMIKLE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: I don't sound desperate and the campaign is not desperate. It has said all along, and we have said all along, after the convention, everybody gets their bounce, these polls are going to tighten and that's, honestly, what we're seeing right now.

And I would also say, operationally, as we get closer and I think you'll start to see this fairly soon, you will start to see the campaign actually deploy supporters, surrogates, operations which was already started in states across the country. Certainly in Florida, Pennsylvania, so on, that kind of operation, that kind of infrastructure we do not see Donald Trump have or have the ability to deploy.

So I'm not concerned. I think we still need to play this out. And quite frankly, in just over a week, we'll have the first debate and I actually think you will start to see a little separation after that.

BURNETT: Jeff?

JEFFREY LORD, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Yes, I'm looking forward to debate too. I think the whole country is looking forward to the debate. Look, when you go out to these Donald Trump rallies, I've been to two of them now. The impression you really come away with is the enthusiasm of people.

These people are revved up, thousands of them. I mean, they can't hold them all in any given place that they do, whether it's 10,000 in one place, 5,000 in another, there's thousands outside. I think that that really speaks to what's going on in the country. This is a change election and that is why think she's having some problems.

And I think they understand they are having the problems.

PATRICK HEALY, THE NEW YORK TIMES: There is some nervousness about that within the Clinton campaign that the idea that Donald Trump after two months of Hillary Clinton trying to use her convention, allies like President Obama, you know, policy roll outs, her vice presidential pick to try to win back, win over voters to sort of deal with the honesty and trust worthiness issue, that he's still as close as he is.

And the concern is that he is still quite a bit ahead of her as voters believe the guy could really bring real change to Washington ahead of her. The concern is in the Clinton camp still is if this is a changed election and not a referendum on Donald Trump's character and judgment, she could have a very hard time with that.

[19:35:05] BURNETT: Of course, when it comes to honesty and trustworthiness we see him ahead in the polls and people say they want the tax returns as an example. He's not putting them out. Is Clinton campaign says they are going to hammer this and hammer this and hammer this? Will it matter when Mike Pence comes on the show and as he has answered questions in recent days he's not have an answer to this question?

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: He did have an answer and he stumbled as well. I think the issue of transparency has been dogging Hillary Clinton as it should be so far. But in the closing days, I do think these taxes are going to become a bigger issue.

Two things have happened in the last 24 hours, right? We've seen Donald Trump's son come out and basically say why would we want to release this? Because there might be something in there you are going to find that is going to take off message while my father's trying to win the White House. We don't want to do that.

You know what, that was the honest answer. That's always been the honest answer.

Second thing is Mike Pence, who's very good surrogate, very good running mate for Donald Trump is incapable of defending the fact that Donald Trump refuses to release his taxes.

BURNETT: You heard him say ask Donald Trump or ask the campaign.

PRESTON: He is the campaign.

BURNETT: That is the problem.

PRESTON: He is the campaign. Just like Hillary Clinton really bobbled up the idea of the e-mails and she should be held accountable for that. Donald Trump should now be held accountable.

(CROSSTALK)

HEALY: Just like the email is indelible stain, it seems like with Hillary, 70 percent of people still feel like something might be wrong. The taxes, 60 percent of people say it is necessary. It is necessary for Trump to put out these tax returns.

SMIKLE: Hillary Clinton has owned up to her part in these e-mails what Donald Trump has not done is talk about his taxes. When you compare that to the "Newsweek" article --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: I don't want to go down to the e-mail discussion right now let me a chance to respond.

LORD: I just don't think the tax issue is going to resonate out there. I mean, one of the greatest problems people have in this country is the IRS, is our own taxes. They think the system is fundamentally unfair. The whole business with Louis Lerner showed there were really problems. They almost impeached the IRS commissioner the other day. That's a problem here.

So, when you look at Donald Trump's tax situation in that light, I mean, everybody believes -- a lot of people believed that they would come after him for political reasons.

SMIKLE: We need to know what kind of financial deals Donald Trump has with other nations -- why --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: It is important. It is.

PRESTON: The tens of millions of dollar in charity.

BURNETT: Well, as I said to Mike Pence, why should that be a secret? That's nothing you should be ashamed? That should not be a secret.

PRESTON: You should be touting it.

BURNETT: All right. Thanks to all.

And next, we're standing by for President Obama and Hillary Clinton, the headline speakers at this event in Washington.

And Ivanka Trump cutting off her interviews after charging in her words, quote, "there was a lot of negativity in the questions."

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:41:28] BURNETT: Breaking news: live pictures right now. You can see, that's Washington. Hillary Clinton is back on the campaign trail, going to be speaking momentarily.

For the first day after falling ill at a 9/11 ceremony on Sunday, she's about to address the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute.

Now, this comes as the polls are showing a very tight race. The latest FOX News poll out just moments ago showing Trump and Clinton in a dead heat. That is with likely nationwide voters.

OUTFRONT now, senior strategist for the Hillary Clinton, Joel Benenson.

Joel, for three days Hillary Clinton was off the trail with pneumonia, speaking tonight. Campaign rally earlier today. So, she came back. She's been out there in full force.

How is she feeling?

JOEL BENENSON, CLINTON CAMPAIGN SENIOR STRATEGIST: I think she's feisty and ready to go. She doesn't like to be held back. She doesn't like to be home sick. That is part of what happened over the weekend. She wanted to plow through that.

So, I think you are going to see a lot of her and she's ready to go. She doesn't want to be sitting back here. She wants to be the taking a case to people all over America.

BURNETT: And now, she said, you know, those days gave her time to pause and reflect. You have to find a silver lining somewhere. The polls obviously, are not that silver lining. They have not been very good the last few days.

Iowa, Trump with his biggest lead in any of the battleground, an eight-point margin now. You know polls better than anyone. So, I'm really saying this with you because I know you them by heart. Two in July.

In Nevada, Trump up two points. Margin of error. But she was up four in the prior poll.

Michigan, Clinton leading Trump by three points. It is within the margin of error. It was 11 in August and obviously, it hasn't voted Republican since 1988 and we got Trump ahead in Ohio, Florida. Cutting Clinton's lead in half in Pennsylvania.

OK, those numbers don't sound good.

BENENSON: Well, they sound like what we expected. I said it during the convention, before the conventions and after conventions, that we have close elections in America. We're going to have this. It is going to be a low to mid-single digit race. That's what a lot of the polls are showing.

Every day, some other poll comes out. Some days they are up. Some days he's up. It is going back and forth. No question's it's tightened up because we got a bigger bounce after our convention. And it's in the range we expected it to be. Important for us going forward, Erin, quickly, is that we're playing for 270 electoral votes. We're still playing more offense in states around the country and keeping the Trump campaign on defense, particularly on states that are must wins for them like Virginia, and North Carolina. They are not making us play defense anywhere. Every stay we're playing in is a stay we'd play in anyway. So, presidential elections are always close. We expect this to be as well.

BURNETT: So, Senator Harry Reid today went on the Senate floor. He talked about Donald Trump, on the Senate floor, right? This wasn't just in passing, it's what he said. Donald Trump is a human leech who will bleed the country and sit at his golf resort laughing.

I played that for Governor Pence who was just on the show. He told me that Senator Reid crossed a line and here's what Governor Pence said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I think those remarks are beneath the dignity of the United States Senate. But it's nothing new for Harry Reid. I'm starting to get a whiff of desperation from the other side. It seems like the attacks are getting a little more intense.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: On the issue of what Harry reed said, do you agree with Harry Pence?

BENENSON: Well, I watched Governor Pence's comments and I heard him sit here right in the seat and talk about what a fine man of character Donald Trump is. He dismissed comments he's made about when he said, that was women, said it was a long time ago. He hasn't denounced any of the hideous things Donald Trump has said. Things like accusing Ted Cruz's father unjustly more participating in a Kennedy camp assassination because he read something in the "National Enquirer", or calling women in the last couple of years, not 20 years ago, bimbos, sending copies of book to book writers who he didn't like, saying face of the dog on it.

All of these things have been written out.

[19:45:01] He has no problem with Donald Trump saying that. Look, I'm not going to sit here and talk about Harry Reid. I'll talk about Mike Pence and Donald Trump all night long.

BURNETT: Aren't you doing the same thing and not denouncing what Harry Reid said and just pointing the finger at someone else?

BENENSON: No, I'm not. You asked me a question about what Mike Pence said. You said he said this on the show. I'm responding to Governor Pence and --

BURNETT: Right. Well, Pence said Harry reed's comments were beneath the dignity of the United States Senate. BENENSON: Look, Harry Reid has been in the Senate a long time. I think he feels very strongly about this country. He's dedicated decades of his life to serving in this country. I will let him speak for himself.

I think Donald Trump's words and actions, the insulting things he said throughout this campaign, disparaging everyone from a judge, an American born judge of Mexican dissent, to women who he disagreed with, to Muslims, to protesters at this rallies inciting violence, retweeting white nationalists from -- who have a dozen followers to 11 million people.

I think that's important for the American people. We can talk about Harry Reid, but we should be talking about Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton, who's been fighting for people their whole lives. That's been Hillary Clinton.

Who's been fighting for himself and really stepping all over people throughout his career in business is Donald Trump. He's repeatedly stepped on working people and small business, bankrupted some of those just by refusing to pay them for the work they did.

BURNETT: All right. Joel, thank you very much. Appreciate your time.

BENENSON: Thank you, Erin.

BURNETT: And Ivanka Trump shutting down an interview after she was asked about this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Pregnancy is never, it's a wonderful thing for the women. It's a wonderful thing for the husband. It's certainly an inconvenience for business.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And this heartbreaking image brought home the horror of the Syrian civil war. Tonight, we are in Aleppo for a very rare inside look at the city.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:50:46] BURNETT: Tonight, Ivanka Trump fighting back about her heated phone interview with the "Cosmopolitan Magazine" about her fathers views on the pregnancy and child care.

Tom Foreman is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

IVANKA TRUMP, DAUGHTER OF DONALD TRUMP: The cost has become so onerous and so crushing and there needs to be a solution to this.

TOM FOREMAN, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Ivanka Trump is leading the charge for her father's new plan and taking heat. When "Cosmopolitan Magazine" brought up this 2004 quote about pregnancy.

DONALD TRUMP: The fact is, it is an inconvenience for a person that is running a business.

FOREMAN: She shot back. "I think that you have a lot of negativity in these questions. I don't know how useful it is to spend too much time with you."

Shortly before she ended the interview, she called it "an unfair characterization of his track record and his support of professional women."

Indeed, the Trump team started the week insisting his company gives eight weeks of paid leave to new parents, but that turned tricky too, after reports found otherwise they admitted the policy can vary from one property to the next. Nonetheless the campaign keeps ripping away at Hillary Clinton's claim she's the lone champion for women in this race.

CLINTON: If fighting for affordable child care and paid family leave is playing the woman card, then deal me in.

FOREMAN: So, how do their plans compare?

Among the main points, Clinton wants to give new parents 12 weeks of paid family or medical leave. Trump says paid maternity leave alone should be six weeks. Clinton wants no more than 10 percent of their income to go for child care. Trump would give them a tax break. Clinton wants free pre-K for all four-year-olds. Trump wants tax deductions for child care savings accounts to spend as they like.

DONALD TRUMP: We need working mothers to be fairly compensated for their work and have access to affordable quality child care for their kids.

FOREMAN: The Clinton campaign says Trump's tax breaks would help the well off more than the working class. He won't offer similar help for new days leaving gay parents out. And Trump's own words from the past don't help very much, describing child care as his wife's work.

DONALD TRUMP: I mean, I don't think anything to take care of them. I supply the funds and she'll be taking care of the kids, right? You know, it's not like I'm going to be walking the kids down Central Park.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: All right. That was Tom Foreman.

Barack Obama, as you can see, the president just taking the stage here. Let's listen to him speak. Hillary Clinton, of course, will be speaking afterwards. Here is the president?

BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: It is always great to be here. With one of the most festive, maybe a little wild, caucuses in Congress. Especially to kick off Hispanic Heritage Month. I want to thank Michelle for her introduction, for her leadership and give it up for your outstanding chair, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez. CHCI's new president and CEO, Domenika Lynch, and all the tremendous public servants we have here tonight especially everybody in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

Amen? Is that what I heard? Amen.

Now, I've got to admit that I'm having trouble accepting that this is my final trip here as president. But on the bright side, Michelle is not having trouble accepting it.

I love you, too, but it is hard to believe it was eight years ago I came here as a candidate for this office, and I had no gray hair.

[19:55:03] I said that we could create opportunity not just for those at the very top, but for everybody who's willing to work hard. So they could afford health care and college and retirement and give their kids a better life -- what Sarah Palin called that hopey-changey stuff.

Well, tonight I'm back here as president to say thank you. Thank you for your support. Thank you for your friendship. Thank you for your tireless efforts to deliver on that promise.

Because for all the places that we've fallen short, and for all the work that remains to be done, I am back here tonight more optimistic about the future of America than I have ever been. And why not?

Together, we fought our way back from the worst recession in 80 years. We turned around an economic freefall. We helped lift our auto industry to set new records. Our businesses created more than 15 million new jobs.

Together, we declared health care is not a privilege for a few, but a right for everybody. And we have secured health insurance for another 20 million Americans including 4 million Hispanic-Americans.

(CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

Our high school graduation rate is at an all-time high. More Hispanic students are graduating high school and college than ever before. We strengthened our relationship with Mexico and Central America and opened up a new chapter with the people of Cuba.

(CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

We brought nearly 200 nations together around a climate agreement that could save our planet. We affirmed that love has no limits and marriage equality is now the law of the land.

(CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

Just this week, we discovered how much our efforts are starting to pay off in ways that really matter to American families.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thanks, Obama.

OBAMA: Thanks, Obama.

(CHEERS AND APPLAUSE)

We learn that last year across every race, across every age group in America, incomes rose and poverty fell.

The typical household income grew by about $2,800 which is the single biggest one-year increase on record. We lifted 3.5 million people out of poverty, the largest one-year drop since 1968. The number of Americans without health insurance continues to fall and in each of these areas, Latino Americans made some of the largest gains, the fastest income growth, the biggest drop in the poverty rate, the greatest gains in insurance coverage.

That's why all in all, Hispanic families are feeling more optimistic about their prospects today than they did eight years ago.

By so many measures, our country's stronger and more prosperous than it was when we started this journey together. And we couldn't have done it without the congressional Hispanic caucus who has been with me every step of the way.

Now, none of this was easy. There was some tough years in there. You had fiscal showdowns and government shutdowns and pandemics and oil spills and pirates. You all remember the pirates?

I mean, the only thing we haven't had to deal with is, like, the asteroid, you know, or **aliens**. That's true, good point. I shouldn't have mentioned the **aliens**.

(LAUGHTER)

But we overcame all of that. We overcame all of that. And most of all we proved that change doesn't happen overnight. It doesn't happen in one term. It doesn't happen even over the course of one presidency. But change is possible. Progress is possible.

And we're here -- si se puede. We're here again tonight because we know that we got more work to do, but we know that if we put in the effort, change can happen.

You know firsthand the challenges we still face. Challenges that often effect the Latino community harshly. When governors refuse to expand Medicaid, that hits Latinos harder than most.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Joe Johns, Brianna Keilar, Sanjay Gupta, Sara Murray, Sally Kohn, Phil Mattingly, Kyung Lah, David Gergen, Boris Sanchez

speakers\_end

[19:00:13] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the breaking news, Bill Clinton speaking out about his wife's health. His explanation for her health scare tonight.

Plus, Trump's running mate refuses to call KKK Leader David Duke deplorable.

And win or lose, Donald Trump is open for business tonight on Pennsylvania Avenue, yes, let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening, I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT, the breaking news, Bill Clinton speaking out moments ago to CBS News, insisting his wife's health care was little more than the effects of dehydration, ensuring that she's ready to get back to campaigning but saying that this has happened before. This as the Clinton campaign spent the day scrambling to explain the health care. A Clinton spokesman admitting the campaign should have provided, quote, "More information more quickly promising to release more detailed medical records soon."

Clinton, herself dismissing any concerns tweeting she was just taking off for a sick day. She said, "Like anyone who's ever been homesick from work, I'm just anxious to get back out there. See you on the trail soon."

Joe Johns begins our coverage outside Clinton's home in Chappaqua, New York. And Joe, we've heard a lot from the Clinton campaign today, the candidate, herself though know she has been behind closed doors.

JOE JOHNS, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Erin, she has been behind closed doors all day. Pardon me, fire engine passing behind me right now. She's been behind closed door all day. We haven't seen her, we don't expect to. The campaign has both suggested that some mistakes were made in the way all of this was handled, at least in terms of public information. But also indicating that the story we heard late yesterday is the story that they stand by, that she was diagnosed with pneumonia on Friday.

Continued to push through or power through as has been said. And then on Sunday at the 9/11 memorial in New York City became dehydrated and since has become rehydrated with the help of a doctor. Apparently on about antibiotics. But she's not expected to leave here or at least to go and do a lot of active campaigning out in the West as she was originally planning to do. I am going to stay close by while President Bill Clinton, the former president fills in in California as well as Nevada on Wednesday and Thursday. So we await what the campaign says will happen next, and we'll let you know. Erin, back to you.

BURNETT: All right, Joe Johns, thank you very much.

And one of the questions tonight is, of course, how this will affect the campaign. Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Hillary Clinton is out of sight, resting up as she tries to kick a bout of pneumonia. Clinton canceling a trip to California today after abruptly leaving a 9/11 ceremony Sunday when a bystander shot this video of Clinton stumbling and being helped into her van by secret service.

ROBBY MOOK, HILLARY CLINTON CAMPAIGN MANAGER: My understanding is she did not lose consciousness.

KEILAR: After Clinton paid a visit to her daughter, Chelsea's apartment, she appeared in better shape.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: A beautiful day in New York.

KEILAR: But her campaign concedes it should have been more upfront about her condition.

BRIAN FALLON, HILLARY CLINTON CAMPAIGN PRESS SECRETARY: Retrospect, I think we should have provided more information more quickly.

KEILAR: Clinton's doctor diagnosed her on Friday, days after an extended public coughing fit explained at the time as seasonal allergies.

CLINTON: Every time I think about Trump, I get allergic.

KEILAR: But Friday's pneumonia diagnosis wasn't made public until Sunday. The health scare follows months of Donald Trump questioning her physical fitness.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: She didn't go to Louisiana. She didn't go to Mexico. She was invited. She doesn't have the strength or the stamina to America great again.

KEILAR: Trump's response to Clinton's illness, subdued even as he insinuates something more could be going on.

TRUMP: It was interesting because they say pneumonia on Friday but she was coughing very, very badly a week ago. And even before that, if you remember. This wasn't the first time. So it's very interesting to see what is going on. I want her to get better. I want her to get out there. I look forward to seeing her in the debate. KEILAR: Clinton's campaign is now batting away unfounded claims from Trump surrogates that she never fully recovered from the concussion she suffered in 2012 which caused a blood clot between her skull and brain.

FALLON: The reality is that the pneumonia is the extent of what she has been diagnosed with. There are no other undisclosed conditions. There's nothing that happened yesterday that was caused by or related to what happened in 2012.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Secretary, how are you feeling?

(END VIDEOTAPE)

KEILAR: Now, the campaign is saying that Clinton is going to be releasing more medical information this week, Erin. It's also important to note that as Bill Clinton is going to be filling in for his wife at some of these fund-raisers. She he is tonight going to be addressing donors via a teleconference, so trying to kind of make her presence known. And also Bill Clinton did just speak a short time ago to Charlie Rose in an interview that's going to air in its entirety a little later.

And in it, he actually says that over the years on more than one occasion, Hillary Clinton has gotten dehydrated as we saw yesterday. And he says that when pressed, that this was dehydration, nothing more. He said if it's more than that, it's news to him.

[19:05:38] BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Brianna.

OUTFRONT now Dr. Sanjay Gupta, our chief medical correspondent, a practicing neurosurgeon. Ron Brownstein, senior editor of The Atlantic. And David Gergen who served as adviser to four presidents, Reagan and Clinton among them.

Brianna just referencing what I mentioned at the top of the show, Bill Clinton saying that this had happened before. Let me just play for you exactly how he said it in that conversation with Charlie Rose.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BILL CLINTON (D), 42ND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Well, if it is, it's a mystery to me and all of her doctors. Rarely, but on more than one occasion over the last many, many years, the same sort of thing happened to her when she just got severely dehydrated. And she's worked like a demon as you know as secretary of state and as a senator and in the years since.

CHARLIE ROSE, CBS NEWS ANCHOR: But more importantly, she's on a grueling campaign.

B. CLINTON: Yes.

ROSE: And you know what that's like.

B. CLINTON: I do. ROSE: She's older than you were when you ran.

B. CLINTON: And she's had two-and-a-half hard days before the day when she got dizzy. But today she made a decision, which I think was correct, to cancel her campaign day.

ROSE: Right.

B. CLINTON: To take one more day to rest.

ROSE: Is it possible she will be away for weeks from the campaign trail?

B. CLINTON: No, not a shot.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Sanjay, so what do you say? I mean, operative line there is, over the last many, many years, the same sort of things happened to her when she got severely dehydrated. Sort of saying don't worry about it because it's happened before?

DR. SANJAY GUPTA, CNN CHIEF MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT: I think that's what he's saying, he's saying, look, it's not as big a deal, this has happened before, she's obviously recovered. But at the same time, he's saying, look, this has happened before. And what has happened before is that the image that people are sort of left with of her trying to get into that van. So, the fact that that's happened before is probably not exactly what he was trying to convey, but this wasn't as big a deal I think as what people may think.

BURNETT: So, what else do we need to know? I mean, I'm sure you have a lot of questions. What else do we need to know? Especially now that he's coming out and saying this has happened before.

GUPTA: There's still not a lot of information here. That sort of the striking thing. And sometimes within medicine, you know, you feel like you're getting inside baseball a little bit but we know she has pneumonia. We found that out two days after she was diagnosed. We still don't know what type of pneumonia she has. That's important because it can be -- there's pneumonias then there are pneumonias, there can be much more serious depending on what the cause of the pneumonia is.

BURNETT: Uh-hm.

GUPTA: Did she have a chest x-ray? How much of her lung is actually involved? Former President Clinton is saying she'll be back in a day based on what? Based on, is there some sort of medical criteria for that? She's been treated with an antibiotic. What is this antibiotic? Those are things that actually become relevant, Erin, when trying to determine how someone is going to recover, when she's going to recover. I have no doubt that this is treatable. I think that, you know, it's very treatable. But the real question is how's it going to be treated, how long is it going to take? BURNETT: And what's the impact, then, Ron, I mean, of the incident, itself, and look, you know, when you go through the history here, we know she's had blood clots before three times. Bill Clinton was the person who came out last time obviously and said that it took her six months to recover from one that was in her skull. The video, look, it's startling and it's upsetting. Okay? We've all seen it. And I sort of watched it again and again. Because, you know, your heart goes out to somebody. You think what is wrong? This is someone who wants to be commander-in-chief. I mean, in every level, it's startling. Ron, does this episode hurt her with voters?

RON BROWNSTEIN, SENIOR EDITOR, THE ATLANTIC: I think if this is it, not much, or at all, really. I mean, if she's sick, she has pneumonia, if she gets treated and she's better, we move on. If there are more indications of ill health as the campaign goes on, this raises the stakes. And Bill Clinton's language is very strange there. Because they are attributing what we saw to pneumonia. And depending on how you interpret what he has said, he is saying that this is something like this has happened before.

Presumably, she's not had pneumonia before. So, there's could be another round of questions based on what he said. But I think if, you know, if you have one candidate, 69 on Election Day, Inauguration Day, another candidate who's going to be 70 on Inauguration Day, there is clearly a need for more information about their health than we have received so far. If nothing else, this is going to catalyze that.

BURNETT: Sanjay, what do you say before I bring David and Bill on that issue that Ron raises, but if he is saying it happened before, presumably not linked to pneumonia, does that raise more questions neurologically?

GUPTA: There are different reasons people become dehydrated clearly.

BURNETT: Yes.

GUPTA: But I think Ron brings up a great point, this time it was related to pneumonia. Before they told there was pneumonia, they said, hey look, she's on a thyroid medication that increases her hidden tolerance. She's on her doses of anti-histamines which are decongestant, they dry out your sinuses but they can also dry out your body so you become dehydrated. So, there are other reasons for it. I don't think that, it didn't seem to me that the former president was suggesting she'd had pneumonia many times.

BROWNSTEIN: Right.

BURNETT: No, no.

[19:10:18} BROWNSTEIN: But this is a little unclear by what he meant exactly when he said this has happened before.

BURNETT: Right.

BROWNSTEIN: Does he mean the kind of, you know, the wobbly incident?

BURNETT: Right. Exactly what is it that has happened before?

BROWNSTEIN: Right. What is it? We're going to be talking about that tomorrow I guess.

BURNETT: I'm sure we are. And David Gergen, you know, when you put all this in context, of course you have Donald Trump saying he had his physical. He said he is going to put out all the detail, numbers. His tests were Friday. He obviously now must do that. Right? I mean, there is no question. I mean, obviously both of them to need to do it. But he now has to do that whatever those results are.

DAVID GERGEN, FORMER PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER: Well, I think both of them are in a race to get there to clear the record.

BURNETT: Yes.

GERGEN: But there are really two stories here with regard to Hillary Clinton. One is the story of -- about her pneumonia, is she going to get back on her feet quickly? Will she be back on the campaign trail? What where we going to see? But there's the second bigger story, and that is, are we going to know the truth about her larger medical situation? And will they be giving -- they said they were going to disclose some records now.

We don't know what records. I think the next big milestone is when they release those documents and make them available and then we can listen to Sanjay and he can tell us, we have enough to make serious judgments about her overall health or we don't. And if Sanjay concludes, people like Sanjay conclude, we don't, she's going to have a really serious political problem even though she may by all appearances look good.

GUPTA: It's interesting because I think the biggest health issue that I think David is referring to is probably dates back to 2012 and this injury to her head.

BURNETT: The concussion.

GUPTA: The concussion. A brain injury. That also led to this blood clot, as you mentioned, between her skull and her brain. I mean, certainly someone who has a brain injury like that, you do worry, is it going to have any long-term impact? What we hear from her doctors, what is in her medical letters, is that that was tested a year later, that her brain function was tested. That everything returned to normal and that that clot had resolved. That is a summary, that is conclusion based on these doctor's interpretations.

But I think David mentioned a really important point. I think when you release all the medical records, it can really dive into this and see how do they test this, what do they find, what's the impact? Likely it's going to be nothing because that's what her doctor who knows her best to this point has concluded. But I think, you know, being able to see this will be important.

BROWNSTEIN: Erin, we know less about Donald Trump's health at this point. BURNETT: That's right. Of course, we'll see what numbers we get this week. And that probably will only just start to answer some of the serious questions people have. Thank you, all.

Next, new questions about the Trump Foundation. Did the Trumps use $20,000 of money from their foundation to buy a portrait of Donald Trump?

And, protesters at the opening of the newest luxury Trump hotel. Are his hotels losing business because of his campaign or not?

And after slamming Clinton for calling some Trump supporters deplorable, Mike Pence passed on David Duke.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WOLF BLITZER, CNN ANCHOR: You call him a deplorable. You would call him --

MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: No, I'm not in the name calling business, Wolf.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[19:16:13] BURNETT: Breaking news, Donald Trump standing up for his supporters tonight. Moments ago at a rally, Trump taking Hillary Clinton to task for calling half of his supporters, quote, "deplorables," and, quote, "irredeemable."

Clinton expressing regret for part of that. He says, doesn't cut it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Hillary Clinton spoke with hatred in her heart for these working-class Americans. Absolute hatred in her heart. Never in history has a major party presidential candidate so viciously demonized the American voter.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: How big of an issue will this be?

Sara Murray is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

SARA MURRAY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): The biggest gift of Donald Trump's presidential campaign may have just arrived in a basket.

TRUMP: She called half of our supporters a basket of deplorables. She divides people into baskets as though they were objects, not human beings.

MURRAY: Trump seizing today on this comment from Hillary Clinton at a fund-raiser last week. CLINTON: To just be grossly generalistic, you could put half of Trump's supporters into what I call the basket of deplorables. The racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, Islamophobic, you name it.

TRUMP: She and her wealthy donors all had a good laugh.

MURRAY: Today the GOP nominee left to his supporters' defense.

TRUMP: Our support comes from every part of America and every walk of life. Millions of working-class families who just want a better future.

MURRAY: And now he's calling on Clinton to disavow her comments.

TRUMP: If Hillary Clinton will not retract her comments in full, I don't see how she can credibly campaign any further.

MURRAY: While Clinton says she regrets lumping half of Trump's supporters together as deplorable, she also said she won't stop calling out bigotry and racist rhetoric in this campaign. It's a debate her campaign says it's more than happy to have.

FALLON: We cannot treat Donald Trump as a normal presidential candidate. The idea that somebody is running a campaign that is engaging in this type of hate-filled demagoguery in 2016 is deplorable.

MURRAY: As for Trump, he does have a history of elevating some of his intolerant supporters. He's re-tweeted to his 11 million followers, racially charged images and comments from white supremacists with handles like white genocide. After Clinton's latest comment, David Duke, a white nationalist, who supports Trump, took to Twitter with this superhero style image proudly touting himself as one of Trump's deplorables. But even today Trump's running-mate, Mike Pence, declined to use that term to describe the former Ku Klux Klan leader.

PENCE: Donald Trump is denounced David Duke repeatedly. When we don't want his support and we don't want the support of people who think --

WOLF: You call him a deplorable?

PENCE: No, I'm not in the name calling business.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MURRAY: Now, even as Donald Trump was defending his supporters, there was an incident with one of them tonight at his event in North Carolina. The man appeared to get into an altercation, hitting and appearing to shove a number of the protesters who were there. Now, my colleagues who were on the ground for that event, Jeremy Diamond and Noah Gray have been reporting that even though the protesters were escorted out after this, the Trump supporter who hit them was allowed to stay -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Sara. OUTFRONT now, Donald Trump supporter Kayleigh McEnany, Hillary Clinton supporter Karine Jean-Pierre, Washington Bureau chief for The Daily Beast, Jackie Kucinich. Ron Brownstein also back with me.

I want to talk about that video in a moment. But Jackie, first of all, Clinton says she regrets now using the word half of Trump supporters. She is not taking back deplorable, irredeemable. Lasting damage or not?

JACKIE KUCINICH, WASHINGTON BUREAU CHIEF, THE DAILY BEAST: This is not going to go away for her. And the people that could **alienate** are those blue collar workers that she's really been reaching out too. She's been sending Biden, she's been sending Bill, she's been sending them to talk to them. Those are the people she has to worry about that's really **alienating** at the end of the day because if they don't go and read the entire remarks, that little snippet sounds like she's talking about anybody.

BURNETT: Karine?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, NATIONAL SPOKESWOMAN, MOVEON.ORG: No, look, I disagree. I don't think this is going to hurt her at all. Because I think, look, we've been watching this election cycle for the past 15 months. There has been an element of his supporters that have been deplorable. Right? And we've seen at his campaigns, we've seen footage of people yelling white power, we've seen the full-throated support of David Duke. You know, and we've seen confederate flags hanging over, you know, at her events. So there is like, this is -- she's not making this up. These are his own words and these things are happening at these events.

BURNETT: Taking out of context.

[19:21:03] JEAN-PIERRE: But hold on a second. And then, let's look at the polling. Thirty five percent of Trump supporters -- I'm sorry, Trump supports believe that President Obama was born, you know, 60 percent of Trump supporters believe President Obama was not born in this country. I mean, it goes on and on. Thirty five percent of voters think that he's racist. So it doesn't -- I mean, this is what's happening in the last 15 months. So the question that I have is, is he going to disavow this element, right, that are deplorable?

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: You know what, I think, President Obama said it best four years ago, when he said, when you're running for president of the United States, you're running to represent all Americans, you are not running to represent half of Americans. That was in reference to Mitt Romney's 47 percent comment. And I couldn't agree with him more. For Hillary Clinton to cast dispersions on me and my family and all the millions of hardworking people out there, veterans who support her, military men and women.

And by the way, the other half of Trump supporters, she also cast dispersion on, saying they're desperate falling into this trap. This is half of the country. When you want to be president of the United States, it is reprehensible to characterize millions of millions of people as racist, Islamaphobic -- (TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

BROWNSTEIN: They might be equally reprehensible --

MCENANY: Donald Trump never did that.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes, he did.

MCENANY: He never did that.

BROWNSTEIN: All right. Look, it is always a mistake -- it is always a mistake for a candidate to impugn the motives of the people running for the other side. It's never a good idea. But having said that, it is too simple to describe this as a gaffe that would hurt her I think. Because the fundamental dividing line between these two coalitions is more cultural than classic at this point. And the Democratic coalition overwhelmingly is composed of the groups that are most comfortable with the increasingly diverse culturally and racial society we're evolving into and on taking on this fight, Hillary Clinton is portraying herself as defending those values against a candidate that they view as uniquely threatening to those values.

So in the same way that this is I think Donald Trump is going to, you know, bat, you know, bang on this to mobilize his base, it is something that unifies the modern Democratic coalition. His key components overwhelmingly. For example, ABC/"Washington Post" poll view Trump as biased against women and minorities.

BURNETT: All right. I want to play again the other issue Karine that just happened of course which is Trump's running-mate Mike Pence who was on with Wolf and was asked about the KKK, former KKK grand master David Duke and whether he's deplorable. So he went out, he said I disavow him, we don't want his support. You just heard him. Let me just play another part of how he did not call him deplorable. Here he is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WOLF: You'd call him a deplorable? You would call him --

PENCE: No, I'm not in the name calling business, Wolf.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Was that a smart move?

KUCINICH: Of course David Duke is deplorable. Of course he is. He's a KKK member. I don't understand how questions like that don't have -- don't have immediate answers.

BURNETT: Why doesn't he just say, yes, of course, he is but I don't want to call names, we disavow -- why not answer it that way?

MCENANY: He did say it immediately, we've renounced his support, we don't expect --

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

BURNETT: He did --

MCENANY: Anyone who wants to, again, mischaracterize Mike Pence who's a man of upstanding resilient, incredible character, he is not that -- David Duke -- David Duke has no place in this party. I'm still waiting on Hillary Clinton to renounce the KKK grand dragon in California who's endorsed her. I'm waiting for her to be asked those same questions and renounce that support. It is and I'm still waiting for her to renounce her support of Robert Byrd, her mentor, who was a KKK grand master --

JEAN-PIERRE: But she actually apologized for that.

BURNETT: So, Karine, when he says he has to place in our party, we don't want to support, we disavow and he wouldn't use the word deplorable. You know, David Chalian was saying, one our political directors that, the reason was, they want the word, deplorable, to be associated with Hillary Clinton. Right? He didn't want to take that on. Do you buy that or do you take some more motive --

JEAN-PIERRE: Here's an opportunity for the Trump campaign once again to disavow David Duke.

MCENANY: He did.

JEAN-PIERRE: No. No, he didn't.

MCENANY: He was asked --

JEAN-PIERRE: He didn't even know who he was. I mean, you know what, that should disqualify you for running for president if you don't know who David Duke is, period.

MCENANY: He has disavowed time and time again.

JEAN-PIERRE: Former grand wizard of the KKK.

MCENANY: And then he's talked about reaching out to African- Americans?

JEAN-PIERRE: He's disavowed two dozen times.

MCENANY: What disqualifies a candidate who says I can't represent half of this country because I view them as racist, Islamaphobic, homophobics, that is disqualifying.

JEAN-PIERRE: There is an element of Trump supporters --

BURNETT: All right.

MCENANY: It's not half this country. I am here to tell you.

JEAN-PIERRE: I am telling you there is an element. And that's how he got into the foray of politics in 2011.

BURNETT: All right. We're going to hit pause. You'll going to be back with me.

Next, new questions about the Trump Foundation. Is Donald Trump giving away other people's money to charity?

And if you're planning a trip to the inauguration, Donald Trump has a heck of a deal for you.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:29] BURNETT: Tonight, major questions about the Donald J. Trump Foundation. Trump says he donates millions, but according to the "Washington Post," he hasn't given any money to his own foundation since 2008. He's been giving away other people's money to charity, and according to the "Post" he's actually benefiting from that.

OUTFRONT tonight, David Fahrenthold, he has been investigating the Trump Foundation for the "Post" for months and months. A lot of articles and stories on this, David. Trump not donating to his own foundation since 2008. You are reporting, though that he has benefited personally from that foundation. Tell us how.

[19:30:01] DAVID FAHRENTHOLD, INVESTIGATING TRUMP FOUNDATION FOR THE WASHINGTON POST: Well, in a couple of ways. One is that he's actually used money from the foundation, which is earmarked for charitable purposes, to buy things for himself. He once bought, he spent $12,000 of the foundation's money to buy himself an autographed football helmet and he also spent $20,000 of the foundation' money to buy a giant six-foot-tall portrait of himself.

In both cases, that seems to be a violation of the IRS's rules which say that a charity's leaders can't spend the charity's money to buy things for themselves. In addition, Trump uses the money -- that's other people's money in his foundation. He gives it to charities that do business at his clubs in Florida. Trump can make up to $265,000 off one night, one charity gala at Mar-A-Lago. So, it uses these other people's money to cement those relationships.

ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: All right. Now, when you have foundations, people can give to foundations, right? And then those foundations give money away. So that in and of itself happens in plenty of cases, but when you say he's not giving to his own foundation, the big question, of course, is he giving to charity, himself, in his own name, not through his foundation? What have you found there?

FAHRENTHOLD: Well, so far, I called 326 charities that seem to be closely tied to Donald Trump looking for evidence that they had gotten money from Trump. I'm not trying to find all of his charitable donations, but trying to find some sign that they're out there. And between 2008 and this May, I found just one donation out of Trump's own pocket. That was in 2009 and it was for less than $10,000.

BURNETT: And it was and you've called 326. So, again, to make the point on that, obviously, there could be other large donations you did not find, but you found whatever charities that had links to Trump, himself, that you would have thought those would be ones he gave to? FAHRENTHOLD: That's right. First of all, I asked the Trump campaign a number of times, hey, there's a list of organizations he's given money to, give it to me. They haven't. So, I tried to reconstruct my own list. So, I look at groups he'd given money to from the Trump Foundation, other people's money, groups he praised in public, groups where he'd gone to their galas, anybody who had a connection to Trump looking for evidence he'd given their money, his money.

BURNETT: All right. Well, thank you very much. As I said, David has done a lot of reporting on this. Thank you.

And joining us now, Trump senior adviser, Boris Epshteyn, Clinton supporter, Sally Kohn, Kayleigh and Karine are back with me.

Boris, what do you make of this? Look, I pointed out, you can have a foundation and have other give to your foundation. You don't have to fund it all yourself, right? So, that in and of itself is not something that would necessarily be wrong. But he reports, foundation buying an autographed Tim Tebow helmet, a picture of himself. It certainly doesn't look good.

BORIS EPSHTEYN, SENIOR ADVISER, DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN: Under applicable IRS laws, you have to take other people's money into a public foundation. That's how that's structured. So if you did not, you fail to continue as a public charity. In this case, he's following those applicable rules and regulations.

BURNETT: What about those two instances David was reporting on, the football helmet and the picture?

EPSHTEYN: David said it seems -- David's not a lawyer, he's someone who's obsessed with the story. It seems that it's somehow against IRS rules. It absolutely was not.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: David left out the fact the Tim Tebow paraphernalia was at a Susan G. Komen Foundation where he auctioned for those goods. And Boris is correct to say it seems like it was illegal under the self dealing rules.

You can't come on this network and leave out the fact that this was auction. He just made it seem like he went on Amazon and bought this. That is dishonest journalism we saw right there from the "Washington Post."

EPSHTEYN: Here's the key --

BURNETT: The reality is, though --

EPSHTEYN: David has been obsessed with this for month.

BURNETT: He used foundation money to buy the football helmet he now has, himself. Forget laws and rules. That to most people smells a little fun.

EPSHTEYN: If anyone can prove, David or anyone else, that Donald Trump did anything that's inappropriate or somehow illegal with the two instances, then go and do that. David can't. That's why he's trying to make Donald Trump and this campaign prove a negative. So, he's saying, well, I'm calling all these charities and they're not giving me --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: It should be easy for him to give a list of organizations to which he has donated money and someone to go and verify --

EPSHTEYN: How does that impact his ability to be president? This doesn't matter at all.

BURNETT: He's not put his taxes out there. We can't look that way. I'm not going to argue --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Go ahead, Sally.

SALLY KOHN, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: If you want to question why this bears on his ability to be president, why have we been scrutinizing every single aspect of the Clinton foundation beyond just those, also the donations where the money went, et cetera.

EPSHTEYN: She was secretary of@ state.

KOHN: Number one -- I see. Let's keep changing the bar. Number two, I'm going to buy a giant bottle of champagne and I'm going to open the moment that Kayleigh and Boris can find to criticize Donald Trump on. He didn't contribute his own money to his foundation and took the money that was supposed to be going to charity and used it to, you're right, make donation and purchase objects he then kept. The piece we did --

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: Can you prove he kept those --

KOHN: Boris, I'm going to talk now.

The thing we didn't mention, there were five sizable donations that he reported to the IRS. That that reporter found were fraudulent. They --

EPSHTEYN: That is factually incorrect.

KOHN: Turned tout be the money that was given to Pam Bondi --

(CROSSTALK)

[19:35:01] BURNETT: Let Karine get in.

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: We've already seen, like, the foundation has already gotten themselves in trouble by doing the, you know, given money to the attorney general. They got fined by the IRS. The IRS actually said it was unlawful. EPSHTEYN: It was self-reporting.

JEAN-PIERRE: OK. Whatever, it's still -- he was fined. He was fined that.

EPSHTEYN: I know he paid the fine.

JEAN-PIERRE: But it was still wrong.

EPSHTEYN: Twenty-five hundred bucks.

JEAN-PIERRE: It doesn't matter how much it was.

(CROSSTALK)

KAYLEIGH: Everyone wants to get on Donald Trump's case. We don't want to get into numbers here. You're talking about five disclosures. Let's talk about over half of Hillary Clinton's meetings as secretary of state were with foundation donors --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: One of the things I want to talk about on the money front, which is Trump today slammed Janet Yellen. That's obviously the top economic leader in this country, head of the Fed which is supposed to be an independent leader of monetary policy in this country. Here's how he said it on CNBC.

(BEGIN AUDIO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: She's keeping them artificially low to get Obama retired. I think she's very political and to a certain extent she should be ashamed of herself.

(END AUDIO CLIP)

BURNETT: That is supposed to independent, why we have a strong dollar, why our country is country everyone wants to do business in.

EPSHTEYN: Hillary Clinton did the same thing in 2008 when running for president. She criticized then chair of the Fed, Ben Bernanke. Donald Trump is absolutely in his right as a citizen --

BURNETT: For policy but not necessarily -- she didn't accuse him of trying to support the president at that time.

EPSHTEYN: Listen, if you look as somebody in finance, our interest rates are unbelievably low, they have been kept low, they're propping up this economy and they're propping up a bubble. Donald Trump is right on the key here, he's right on the issue. This economy is in a bubble because of --

BURNETT: Sally?

KOHN: This is the Donald Trump choose your own facts election. This is the same kind of conundrum we're having with the unemployment rate. He unemployment -- if the unemployment rate continues to be low, it's lower than it has been, record for decade. Then, all of a sudden, Republicans and Donald Trump say that's not the real unemployment rate. I think he actually said real unemployment is somewhere around 40 percent.

But mind you, if the same statisticians said the unemployment rate were actually double, triple, four times what it is, then Donald Trump will be holding that number up and saying, oh, how abysmal.

EPSHTEYN: That's not a factual answer.

KOHN: He doesn't like the-

EPSHTEYN: That's not a factual answer. On the Fed, Donald Trump is 100 percent correct.

BURNETT: All right.

KOHN: He's keeping interest rates low to stimulate our economy.

EPSHTEYN: That's a bubble, Sally. As someone in finance, I can tell you it's a bubble.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Thanks to all.

And next, win or lose, Donald Trump is in open for business on Pennsylvania Avenue. Tonight, he'll make money of the inauguration whether he's there or not. Is his hotel empire, though, taking a hit because of his campaign?

And our special report on presidential candidates and presidents who hid their health problems.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:41:44] BURNETT: The newest Trump luxury hotel just down the street from the White House is open for business tonight. A room right now will cost you $750 a night. Protesters taking advantage of the opening, blocking the entrance for hours, fighting against Trump's comments about **immigration**. But have Trump's comments hurt not?

Phil Mattingly is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PHIL MATTINGLY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Donald Trump is open for business on Pennsylvania Avenue. Trump International Hotel, the 263-room, $200 million luxury establishment, sitting on prime real estate just a few blocks from the White House.

TRUMP: We are way ahead of schedule and the quality is even better than we thought, and we're right on budget, and it's been a great thing. MATTINGLY: But an ongoing court battle raises another key question, what affect the Trump candidacy had on his business empire? Trump's campaign says his extensive portfolio has, quote, "continued perform exceptionally well" throughout Trump's 15 months on the trail. But there have been no shortage of headlines claiming the opposite.

There's an August report from data scientists at the app company, Foursquare, show among its 50 million users, foot traffic at Trump's properties dropped 17 percent over the course of a year. But the Trump organization says its portfolio is, quote, "exceeding all targets, across a variety of metrics, including group bookings and reservations volume."

Still, when it comes to Trump's newest hotel, there's no question the billionaire's candidacy has caused problems -- problems that led Trump to file lawsuits against two celebrity chefs, Jose Andres and Geoffrey Zakarian, who pulled out of deals to open restaurants at his D.C. location because of these comments.

TRUMP: They're bringing drugs, they're bringing crime, they're rapists and some I assume are good people.

MATTINGLY: Trump in a deposition for the suit reviewed by CNN said he hadn't put any thought into the negative impact on his business empire those comments may have had.

But Zakarian made clear, it was a choice he had to make, noting the threat to his, quote, "reputation and his financial future".

But he also noted there were, quote, "moralistic reasons", saying, quote, "all my employees are Mexicans or Hispanics, almost all of them. It's disgraceful."

The hotel will take a hit to its bottom line. It was unable to find a restaurateur willing to step in for Zakarian. Trump's suit claims $5 million in lost revenues, alone, but for now, Trump has shown little concern about any potential business hits. And he has taken to touting his new-crowned jewel amid the daily political battles.

TRUMP: We built the largest luxury ballroom in Washington, and meeting rooms and spas.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: They needed one of those.

TRUMP: It's really -- it's really going to be a great tribute to our country.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MATTINGLY: And, Erin, that new hotel is prime real estate, no doubt about it. In fact, it's smack in the middle of where the inaugural parade will go through on January 20th of next year. That, hotel officials said, all but guarantees it will be sold out that week, rooms prices then starting at about $1,250.

But, Erin, if you want to go really big-time, the hotel is offering a package for $500,000. That includes spa treatments, a dinner for up to 24, custom-made bryonies suits, first-class airfare and, yes, Trump family commemorative plates -- Erin.

[19:45:11] BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Phil Mattingly.

OUTFRONT next, surveillance video of a man running from the mosque where the Orlando gunman Omar Mateen prayed as it was set on fire overnight. Was it retaliation?

And our special report on presidential candidates who hid health problems. Some stuff in here you may never have heard before. It's pretty stunning. Why it matters so much tonight.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: Breaking news, Bill Clinton speaking out moments ago to CBS News insisting his wife's health care was just effects of dehydration, saying she's experienced the same sort of thing before. Her campaign, meanwhile, admitting the episode was mishandled, saying they were more concerned about her condition than just dating the press. It's far from the first time health questions have swirled around presidential candidates, though, or frankly that candidates have kept the press in the dark.

Kyung Lah is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

KYUNG LAH, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Hillary Clinton is hardly the first candidate to visibly fall ill in the glare of running for president.

1992, President George H.W. Bush fainting and vomiting into the lap of the Japanese prime minister. His campaign blamed the flu. Bush 41 was in the middle of a tough re-election campaign against a much younger candidate, Bill Clinton.

DOUGLAS BRINKLEY, CNN PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN: That video clip in today's parlance went viral, kept being shown over and over again on television and it leads one to think that the candidate is weak.

[19:50:08] LAH: That fear consistent through presidential times, says historian Doug Brinkley, as are the very human condition of illness.

1840, William Henry Harrison was elected president. You may not have heard of him because he stubbornly refused to wear a coat at his inauguration, caught a pneumonia and died after being president just one month.

In 1933, candidate Franklin Delano Roosevelt publicly acknowledged his illness, polio, opening up a retreat for polio patients. Once elected, he famously restricted photographers from documenting his disability. This being one of the few film clips of FDR in a wheelchair.

JOHN F. KENNEDY, FORMER PRESIDENT: We happen to live in the most dangerous time. LAH: There are the candidates who simply lie about their health. John F. Kennedy projected youth, energy, when in reality his family and advisers kept his medical records and treatment inside the White House secret, hiding a rare autoimmune disease.

BRINKLEY: It's almost impossible to get away with it in this new media culture.

LAH: Video now captures stumbles like Bob Dole's plunge off the stage, and Gerald Ford falling down the steps of Air Force One. Both eventually satirized then weaponized in the political forum against the older men.

Learning from the past, John McCain chose to open up volumes of his medical history. Joe Biden did the same, though his disclosure came two decades after suffering an aneurism. Vice President Dick Cheney's heart issues were public, his resignation letter in case he became incapacitated while in office. Then, there's recent history's most elderly nominee flipping his age on its head.

BRINKLEY: Sometimes presidents are able to get rid of issues of health effectively. I remember in 1984 when Ronald Reagan, you know, flipped it on a debate.

RONALD REAGAN, FORMER PRESIDENT: I am not going to exploit for political purposes my opponent's youth and inexperience.

LAH: The Republican president perhaps a cue for this contender.

BRINKLEY: I think the debates for Hillary Clinton are going to be a way for her to outperform him, outduel him and show that her stamina is for real and that this setback of pneumonia was just that, a normal, human condition that hits a lot of us when we're overworked and exhausted.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LAH: So, here's what historians have to say to the Clinton campaign. Recent history has shown that it is best to be honest with the voters before the voters learn about it some other way.

So, Erin, here's something important to remember. FDR, JFK in today's media landscape probably would have been busted for hiding something from those voters -- Erin.

BURNETT: Absolutely.

All right. Kyung, thank you very much.

David Gergen is back with me.

And, David, you look at Kyung's reporting, history o presidential candidates with health issues, keeping it quiet, pointblank lying about it, doesn't it just feed into conspiracy theories about health when you don't come clean? DAVID GERGEN, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL ANALYST: Absolutely. And, listen, people in the past did hide it. Franklin Roosevelt, most famous case in history, when everybody thought he had beaten polio, had gotten up and walked again. It wasn't true. That's why he kept the photographers away.

John F. Kennedy lied about -- John Kennedy had, like, I think four different final rites before he became president. His health was very precarious.

But in the modern age, we don't accept that when we've had three recent presidents, really started with Reagan when he was the oldest president elected and people insisted on his health records. He put them out there. Bob Dole put them out there.

John McCain then set the gold standard. He -- all those records we just saw from the McCain campaign, opened them to reporters, not to the public, opened up all that stuff to reporters. Made a huge difference.

BURNETT: All right. Well, David Gergen, thank you very much.

GERGEN: Thank you.

BURNETT: Obviously a lot more to come on this one.

And next, the breaking news, a manhunt under way for the person in this video. You see that man running across there. Well, he torched a mosque. A mosque once attended by the Orlando nightclub gunman. Was it payback?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:57:50] BURNETT: And a programming note: Hillary Clinton is going to speak about her health for the first time since he fainted yesterday right here live on CNNwith Anderson next hour. You're going to want to stay for that. Obviously, very significant coming up next hour.

Breaking news: a manhunt on tonight for the suspect who deliberately set fire to the mosque the Orlando nightclub gunman Omar Mateen attended. This surveillance video shows a bright flash coming into the Islamic center in Ft. Pierce, then you see a person, a man there, as you see, running across with what appears to be jeans or sweat pants and light colored shirt running across your screen.

This is the same mosque I was at after Mateen slaughtered people in that horrific, horrific attack in Orlando. (INAUDIBLE), I met him there, he's known Mateen since he was a child, he was worried about others following suit. He sent me this picture of the fire's aftermath today. You can see the destruction there, burning down the mosque.

Boris Sanchez is OUTFRONT. He's in Ft. Pierce tonight.

And, Boris, you know, we see that video of the man running across right after he appears to light this fire. What do we know about him tonight, the suspect?

BORIS SANCHEZ, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Frankly, Erin, at this time, we don't know much about the suspect. That's part of the reason officials put out this video hoping that someone that knows this suspect might identify him and lead officials to him. What you see in the video is startling.

This man was wearing a bandanna covering his face wearing a hat as well, button-down shirt and embroidered jeans. He shows up to the mosque about 11:30 last night in a Harley Davidson style motorcycle, and then you see him holding a bottle of some kind of liquid and paper. Suddenly in the video, there's a flash and you see him fleeing the scene.

Officials wouldn't publicly speculate as to a motive, but sources do tell CNN that this is being investigated as a hate crime. It's not only related to the shooter in the Orlando nightclub shooting, it was also the 15th anniversary of September 11th, obviously, and a Muslim holiday as well, Eid al Adha, and morning prayer was set for 9:00 a.m. this morning. That obviously had to be relocated.

I spoke to officials who said there's no question, Erin, that this is a hate crime. Hopefully they'll get answers as to why someone would do this soon -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Boris, thank you very much. And thanks to all of you for joining us. You can watch our show anytime, anywhere on CNN Go.

"AC360" is next.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Sunlen Serfaty, Jeff Zeleny, Will Ripley, Barbara Starr, Larry King, Miguel Marquez, Maggie Haberman, Brianna Keilar, Dan Simon

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[19:00:00] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, breaking news, Mike Pence releasing his tax returns. Why won't Donald Trump do the same?

Plus, more breaking news tonight, North Korea exploding its most powerful nuclear warhead ever?

Could Kim Jong-un launch a nuclear attack on the United States? And Larry King speaking out about his controversial interview with Donald Trump. What really happened behind the scenes? He's my guest. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening. I'm Erin Burnett, OUTFRONT tonight, the breaking news, taxing news for Trump. Mike Pence, Donald Trump's running mate of course releasing his income tax return and releasing ten years of them. Pence following a decades-old tradition for both presidential and vice presidential candidates putting out that in 2015 he and his wife Karen made a combined $113,026 in adjusted growth income. They paid $8,956 in federal income tax. Now, that means their effective income tax rate was eight percent.

The move now places the burden on Donald Trump to release his. I mean, after all, eight percent, well, I mean, maybe his rate is lower than that. But might be a little bit higher. We shall see. If he will not refuse them. He continues to refuse to release them. He said they're nobody else's business.

Sunlen Serfaty is OUTFRONT tonight in Pensacola, Florida. Donald Trump is about to rally supporters gathering behind you, Sunlen right there tonight. Trump still not releasing his taxes, but what are we learning from Mike Pence's?

SUNLEN SERFATY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well, Erin, I think there are a few key takeaways from what we've seen so far. First and foremost we're not seen some big seven-figure salary coming from Mike Pence. These are relatively modest numbers that we're seeing especially when you think about the potential to be compared against his running mate at the top of the ticket. But our team is still going through this. But during some interesting things jumped out at them really showing us some insight on how the Pence family earns and in this case loses their money. In 2006, it appears that the Pence family, they lost about $670,000 when their family business went bankrupt. That was the Keel Brothers oil and oil distributor. And Mike Pence's father worked there. The spokesman for Pence calling out that Pence specifically, he had a minority interest in the company. But beyond the specifics of his tax returns, as you noted, this most certainly keeps the issue front and center for Donald Trump that he has simply refused to release his own tax returns, and it has long been an issue on the campaign.

Donald Trump has said that he will not release them until -- because he's under audit right now although we do know most recently a letter from his tax council revealed that certain years in the years of 2002 to 2008 are no longer under audit meaning, Erin, that he could potentially release these tax returns. Again, this is just a very big issue dogging the Trump campaign and this is shining a spotlight once again on Trump's refusal to do so -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Sunlen, thank you very much. Obviously crucial, 2002 to 2008 aren't under audit that obviously includes the first year of the financial crises and when Trump is supposedly betting against the housing market, a lot of crucial information could be even in those years alone.

Also tonight, both candidates talking tough in the face of a new threat to U.S. National Security and I'm talking about North Korea's massive nuclear test. That's what it was. It was twice as powerful as the test just nine months ago. Clinton today calling it an outrageous threat.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: We are not going to let anyone who is a treaty ally and partner of ours be threatened and we are not going to let North Korea pursue a nuclear weapon with the ballistic missile capacity to deliver it to the United States territory. That is absolutely a bottom-line.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Trump, meanwhile, laying the blame for the test squarely on Clinton.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Just today it was announced that North Korea performed its fifth nuclear test. Its fourth since Hillary Clinton became secretary of state. It's just one more massive failure from a failed secretary of state.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Jeff Zeleny is OUTFRONT with the Clinton campaign. Jeff, Clinton met with national security experts today before making her comments about North Korea. I know you were there, and she was talking about North Korea. Also saying the Obama administration's plan isn't enough. So criticism there. JEFF ZELENY, CNN SENIOR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Some criticism Erin, perhaps trying to put a little distance between herself and what clearly hasn't always been successful by this administration and administrations before it. But she did say this requires a rethinking of the U.S. strategy. Now perhaps that sounds obvious just given the news of the last 24 hours, given the successful test of yet another nuclear weapon but she called for more direct conversations on this.

In fact, she was asked if there could be direct conversations like the Iran deal and she said she would be open to more of that, but she also talked directly about China. This is perhaps the most interesting thing in terms of how she was trying to differentiate herself from the Obama administration. She said, we do have more leverage with China than you may think. She didn't necessarily elaborate, but she said, this is something that has to be made clear to China that, you know, that they are deeply involved in this and have to step up in this, as well.

[19:05:31] So, the leverage to China was interesting. All of this is coming as this presidential campaign suddenly got very real today. This threat from North Korea making crystal clear the threats that are facing either of these two running to be commander-in-chief. That's why she was holding the meeting of her national security advisers and this North Korea threat just happened to happen after she scheduled that. So, clearly, she was trying to show that she was presidential here but clearly shows her owns the Obama administration's record on this as well.

BURNETT: She certainly does and obviously Donald Trump trying to point out that the four tests since she came into office, three of them of course after she left office.

Thank you, Jeff Zeleny.

President Obama promising significant consequences from North Korean, very unclear on what those might be though. In a statement, during the quote, "Unshakeable U.S. commitment taking necessary steps to defend our allies in the region." This was a major, major test of possibly new capabilities for North Korea.

Will Ripley is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

WILL RIPLEY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): North Korea is sending shockwaves around the world, detonating a nuclear bomb.

(SPEAKING FOREIGN LANGUAGE)

The triumphant announcement is Kim Jong-un's fifth successful nuclear test and perhaps North Korea's most powerful to date. Seismologists detected a blast they say was slightly smaller than the bomb that fell on Hiroshima triggering a 5.3 magnitude earthquake in the same area as four previous North Korean nuclear tests in 2006, 2009, 2013 and in January. This latest test still unverified by the U.S. believed to be ten kilotons, twice as powerful as the last. Even more concerning, North Korea says it detonated a nuclear warhead small enough to fit on a ballistic missile that could someday hit the U.S. The regime has successfully tested four missiles in just the last two weeks.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We are deeply concerned by the continuing act of provocation by the DPRK regimes.

RIPLEY: U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon joining a chorus of world leaders strongly condemning Pyongyang's latest provocation. President Obama called the nuclear test a grave threat. The Japanese prime minister said it was absolutely unacceptable. The President of South Korea called Kim Jong-un's regime fanatically reckless as the U.N. Security Council called an emergency meeting.

CHRISTOPHER HILL, FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO SOUTH KOREA: Clearly, they don't care what we think. They don't care about our admonitions. They don't care about joining the international community.

RIPLEY: Believed to be in his early 30s, Kim's profile and power inside North Korea continues to rise.

In May, I went to this rare gathering of North Korea's newly reshuffled ruling party which unsurprisingly unanimously approved Kim's plan to aggressively expand North Korea's arsenal. Unprecedented sanctions, even those naming Kim Jong-un himself have failed to stop or even slow North Korea's weapons development.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

RIPLEY: So why would Kim Jong-un invest so heavily in these weapons programs given the sanctions and the likelihood of more, given the isolation and the suffering that his people endure as a result? The answer is clear. One, he wants to preserve his regime and by projecting power both internationally but even more importantly at home he gives an image that he is firmly in control of this growing nuclear arsenal.

Plus, North Korea could eventually sell these weapons, every time they perfect a weapon, they sell it. They could sell it to a terrorist organization, other states and he feels that this type of weapon will give him leverage, Erin to force the United States and the international community to recognize North Korea as a nuclear power even though President Obama strongly said today that absolutely won't happen.

BURNETT: Will Ripley, thank you very much.

OUTFRONT now, the former chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, former Republican Congressman Mike Rogers who is also advising Trump's transition team on national security. Clinton supporter Juliette Kayyem, a former assistant secretary of Homeland Security. And Barbara Starr, a Pentagon correspondent. I mean, Barbara, this is pretty stunning, right, that this was double the size of what they were able to test earlier this year. It is -- there's major concern here.

BARBARA STARR, CNN PENTAGON CORRESPONDENT: Tonight, really across the world, Erin, because the North Koreans are saying and they are claiming that they tested a nuclear warhead. If that is true, then that is a stunning development because it begins to put them much more firmly on the path. A missile, a warhead on the front of that missile and the possibility that they could put it all together and put it on a mobile launcher and it is very hard to keep track of in times of war and have a range to hold South Korea, Japan and even parts of the United States at risk. It's unprecedented.

BURNETT: I mean, it is unprecedented and it truly is terrifying, Mike, when you put this in context. And when you talked about the size, you just heard Will Ripley talking about it as slightly smaller than the Hiroshima bomb. Obviously, this is something that could kill, I mean, you know, what you're talking about now depending on what sort of the metro area you hit millions of people.

[19:10:46] MIKE ROGERS (R), FORMER HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Obviously, this is very, very concerning for a couple of things. They've ramped up their testing. Their first test was in 2006 and 2009 and 2012. Multiple tests now in 2016 and there are three components you worry about on this, Erin, that weaponization part that Barbara Starr talked about, that's the hardest part. Missiles, we've seen them fire missiles from a submarine. We've seen them test fire scud missiles in rapid fire to try to counter air defense systems in places like Japan.

Recently, all of this is recently. And now they're saying they have this standardized, weaponized nuclear tip on these missiles. I'm a little skeptical that they've gotten that far on that, but I will tell you, this is a very -- they're playing a very dangerous game as they move forward with all of these tests. It's two-thirds of the size of the bomb that we dropped in Hiroshima. That is big and it is dangerous.

BURNETT: I mean, and Barbara, you mentioned here looking at the map, you know, you say they could hit obviously elsewhere in Asia, but also the United States. This has been their goal. This is something some in the U.S. military are deeply, deeply afraid of when you look at the -- they can strike the Pacific Northwest, Hawaii, Alaska, down into California is the goal. Did U.S. even know? Do we even know where they have or where they are?

STARR: Well, I mean, if you look at the map, I mean, that's just a stunning part of the globe that they could hold really at risk with their nuclear weapons. I agree with Mike. I think it remains to be seen how much of this arsenal right now really could work, but if they are on the path and they are having a successful test program, they can get there eventually and sooner rather than later, maybe, and that's why you saw President Obama today remind the world that he will not -- he says he won't allow them to become a nuclear state and a nuclear power and he talked about the full U.S. capability to protect our allies in the region and what he's really talking about is reminding Kim Jong-un, the U.S., too, has nuclear weapons.

BURNETT: Of course though, using them is something we say we never consider doing. Julia, Donald Trump today comes and says, look, this is the fourth test North Korea has performed since Hillary Clinton became secretary of state. Now, granted, three of those tests were after she was secretary of state. But he is saying, her leadership or lack thereof is part of what caused this. Why can you put someone in the White House? Why we should put someone in the White House who was unable to stop what could be a great existential threat to our nation.

JULIETTE KAYYEM, FORMER ASSISTANT HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY: Well, there is no question to existential threat. And there's also no question of the first nuclear testing was in the previous administrations. Let's just get the calendar straight right now. I also think it's worth noting, right, at least, that there's only one solution to this problem and it's called China. That is it, unless you're going to commit us to --

BURNETT: Using nuclear weapons.

KAYYEM: Right. Using nuclear weapons, right. Exactly. The solution is China because the only reason why the North Korean regime actually can survive because everyone's starving. It has no economy is because of the influence and investments by the Chinese. So why do we have this concerted effort of outrage? It's not just because people are only talking, it is to convince the Chinese that there are going to be penalties to China and particularly in Asia if they don't start to focus on either changing this regime or stopping this regime.

Now, this is like, oh, if only I had been president, Donald Trump, everything would be fine. This is a problem that China has had, Japan has had, South Korea has had --

BURNETT: Right.

KAYYEM: And there's only one solution.

BURNETT: All right. But Mike Rogers, this is something Donald Trump does say. He says, he is going to take on China, easier said than done though. I mean, if it were that easy, just go in and say, hey, China, do it or else, President Obama would have done that if it were that easy. It is not that easy.

ROGERS: Well, here is the challenge for the next president. So, there's probably a several steps that they're going to have to take. A, I think this administration show that it is serious in the sense that there's also this military option that is short of nuclear weapons. We don't -- I don't believe the President really actually meant he was using nuclear weapons. I think he meant that we have kinetic strike capability that would far exceed the North Koreans' ability to stop it. Meaning they could target their nuclear weapon program.

I think, Mike Rogers thinks that's what he was trying to say and that's actually the right statement to say for the North Koreans and that is a bit of a deterrent. We're also going to have to bring joint exercises closer to the Korean Peninsula with Japan and other allies in the region that risk -- that are at risk including South Korea, that are at risk from these nuclear or missiles. The other part of this, by the way, on China. It's not just China. We can get to the public on top of the table trading issues. I think those are easier to get to.

What China will and has not done is stopped the black market trading on the north border. That's how they're surviving. The black market economy is huge. China doesn't want to touch it because they're in some economic tough times, as well. We'll going to have to get at that.

[19:15:34] BURNETT: All right. Thanks to all. And next, Larry King on what happened behind the scenes in his now very controversial interview with Donald Trump.

Plus, Trump's closest aides say that he believes President Obama was born in the United States. Why are they the ones saying it? Why can't Donald Trump say it himself?

And surprising new photos of Donald and Melania hanging out with -- Bill Clinton in a swimsuit model.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:19:17] BURNETT: Breaking news tonight. Larry King speaking out after a controversial interview with Donald Trump. The Republican presidential nominee defending Russian President Vladimir Putin during an interview with King which aired on a television network owned by the Kremlin. Here's what Trump said to King about accusations that the Russians hacked Democrats.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I think it's probably unlikely. I think maybe -- maybe the Democrats are putting that out. Who knows? But I think that it's -- it's pretty unlikely, but you know, who knows? I hope that if they are doing something I hope that somebody's going to be able to find out so they can end it because that would not be appropriate at all.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: The Trump campaign claims it had no idea that that interview was airing on a Russian network.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KELLYANNE CONWAY, DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: A former CNN superstar Larry King has a podcast and Mr. Trump went on his podcast. Nobody said it was going to be on Russian TV.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Joining me now by phone Larry King, host of war TV's "LARRY KING NOW" and "POLITICKING WITH LARRY KING." So, Larry, let me just start by asking you the very basic question. How did this interview come about?

LARRY KING, CNN ANCHOR: Hello. Let me give you a little history, Erin. BURNETT: Yes.

KING: I find this amusing and it's a mountain out of a mole hill. I've known Donald Trump for almost 40 years. I've interviewed him probably 100 times. The last time before this time, was he did a podcast. My wife and I do a podcast once a week, on Podcast One and he guested on that about six months ago. In the interim, I've talked to him on occasion, and I said you've got to be my TV show and he said, I'm working on it and finally it was out of my hands and my producers worked with Donald Trump's people whoever they are and they finally settled on, okay, he can do it whenever that was, Wednesday morning, early in the morning.

Our deal. I do "LARRY KING NOW" three days a week "POLITICKING" two days a week and we are distributed by various people, our own Aura.tv, that's our company. Hulu (ph) distributes us. R.T. -- they pay -- I don't even know what they pay. They pay the company to carry our show. We are carried by cable companies all over the world. We just signed a deal with China. I just broadcast Erin, like you do.

You go in and you broadcast. I go in and I broadcast. I don't know what Trump do. He could have known it was a podcast because he just did my podcast. So -- by the way, on R.T. -- on most of our politicking shows, I would say 50 percent of the time Russia is criticized. Putin is annihilated and they have never edited it. So what's the deal?

BURNETT: All right. Your show as you say airs on various distribution channels among them, Aura TV, Hulu, RT. Our senior media correspondent Brian Stelter does report that RT is the main distributor. So, if that is the case, let me just ask you the question point-blank, have they ever exerted any editorial control over you, asked you what you have on? What you're going to ask, ask you to make edits in any way?

KING: Never in my life. Erin, I've been on the air 60 years. Twenty six of them at your network. I have never been told what to ask or not to ask. I have never been sued. I have never had -- I have never had that in my whole career and the proof would be, if you got every tape I've done the last three years on "POLITICKING," Putin is criticized almost once a week, and they have never -- and if they would edit it, I would demand that we stop having them license us.

BURNETT: So, have you had a chance to speak to Donald Trump since this interview or your producers to speak to his campaign?

KING: No, I have not. No one's called me. I mean, I'm friends with Donald. I am friends with Hillary. I know a lot of people for a lot of years. I never say who I'm going to vote for. I'm always fair. We were doing an interview and it was supposed to be for ten minutes and right at the end of ten minutes I stopped. I never got to say good-bye. I don't know why I stopped so abruptly. But if Donald said he thought it was a podcast that stretches it a little because he just did my podcast. I did not make the arrangements for him to be on the show. My producers talked to his people, and they made the arrangements. So I never know what was said to him except he was doing my TV show.

BURNETT: Now, is there any chance that they wouldn't have known that this was airing on R.T.? I mean, as you know, as I was saying --

KING: I have no idea.

(CROSSTALK)

I have no idea.

BURNETT: So I want to play, Larry, that moment because you say he hung up abruptly after ten minutes. It was very strange, here is the end of the moment interview. You actually asking Donald Trump about **immigration**, and here's how that played out.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

[19:24:15] KING: On this **immigration** issue, what are your feelings about Mexican **immigrants**? What are your -- what do you feel about this?

Donald, are you there? I don't know what happened there. We did not lose the connection so something happened.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Larry, what do you think happened? Was he uncomfortable with talking about **immigration**? Mexican **immigrants**? I mean, what happened? Those are very strange.

KING: The strange part is that the producers called my -- this is my producers telling me this, I did not speak to them and apologized. They said that a girl came in and for some reason told Donald he had something else to do and he had to leave. It just was strange and not only did they apologize, but they were planning to reschedule another appearance next week.

BURNETT: And at this point it's unclear, right? Whether he's going to do that or not.

KING: Erin, all I do is do a show. Like you're doing the show now. I do a show.

BURNETT: All right. Well, Larry King. Thank you so much. I appreciate you taking the time and coming on and explaining your side of this, thanks.

KING: Erin, stay well.

BURNETT: All right. And next, a lot to talk about to our panel. They're all with me. Trump's closest advisers all letting go of the birther conspiracy theory, will Donald Trump do the same? Get ready guys.

And then Donald Trump and Bill Clinton in supermodel company. Coming up, just-released photos of the two men cavorting together and we're standing by for Donald Trump who is about to speak live in Pensacola, Florida, at that rally. And that's coming up, just ahead live.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:53] BURNETT: And you're looking at live pictures out of Florida right now. Donald Trump is going to be speaking at a campaign rally there in Pensacola in just a few moments. As we await that, tonight top members of the Trump campaign are all agreeing on something and that is that President Obama was born in the United States. The one person who actually has not said that directly though is Donald Trump himself.

Miguel Marquez is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MIGUEL MARQUEZ, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): His campaign manager says it.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: He believes President Obama was born here.

MARQUEZ: So do his surrogates.

RUDY GIULIANI, FORMER NEW YORK CITY MAYOR: I believe it. He believes it. We all believe it.

MARQUEZ: Even his running mate says it, telling reporters this week, "I believe Barack Obama was born in Hawaii. I accept his birthplace."

So why won't Donald Trump?

BILL O'REILLY, FOX NEWS HOST: Do you think your birther position has hurt you among African-Americans?

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I don't know. I have no idea. I don't even talk about it anymore.

MARQUEZ: But just last year --

ANDERSON COOPER, CNN ANCHOR: Do you accept that President Obama was born in the United States?

TRUMP: I really don't know.

MARQUEZ: The reality show man built a political name for himself in the run-up to the 2012 race by questioning President Obama's citizenship.

TRUMP: Why doesn't he show his birth certificate? You know what? I wish he would because it's a terrible pale that's hanging over him.

MARQUEZ: That was March 2011. For weeks, Trump railed on this single issue.

TRUMP: There's no birth certificate. There's only a certificate of live birth which is a totally different thing. Barack Obama should give his birth certificate.

MARQUEZ: In June 2008, Obama released a short-form birth certificate. To mollify critics, chief among them Donald Trump, in April 2011, he released his long form birth certificate.

TRUMP: Today, I'm very proud of myself.

MARQUEZ: Trump claimed victory, sort of.

TRUMP: I want to look at it, but I hope it's true.

MARQUEZ: A year and a half later in October 2012, an emboldened Trump insisted on even more documents, passport and college applications to bolster a birth certificate he still questions.

TRUMP: If he releases these records it will end the question, and indeed, the anger of many Americans.

BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Donald Trump is here tonight.

MARQUEZ: Trump's single-minded focus on the president's birthplace became a joke to the president himself.

OBAMA: No one is prouder to put this birth certificate matter to rest than the Donald. And that's because he can finally get back to focusing on the issues that matter, like did we fake the moon landing?

MARQUEZ: Trump, not laughing today. Also not saying whether he thinks his birther obsession was a mistake or whether he now believes Barack Hussein Obama was born in Hawaii?

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MARQUEZ: Now, the only thing that Mr. Trump will say today is that he won't talk about that issue anymore, but even his most proponent African-American supporter, Ben Carson, says it's probably a good idea that Mr. Trump apologize for his stance on the birther issue, something that Mr. Trump seems not likely to do -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Miguel, thank you very much.

And OUTFRONT now, presidential campaign correspondent for "The New York Times", Maggie Haberman, senior adviser to the Trump campaign, Boris Epshteyn, Hillary Clinton supporter Basil Smikle, and "Washington Post" political reporter Philip Bump.

Boris, let me start with you.

Donald Trump's campaign says Trump believes that President Obama was born in the United States. Mike Pence says Obama was born in the United States. Why can't Donald Trump say it directly? President Obama was born in the United States.

BORIS EPSHTEYN, SENIOR ADVISER, DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN: Let's go to the facts here. This whole issue is born out of Hillary Clinton's 2008 campaign. It was a failing campaign and she tried to ask the questions and she could get an answer.

Donald Trump then succeeded in getting an answer and the answer is that Barack Obama was born in the United States. Donald Trump has moved on. The campaign has moved on, let's move on to the issues that matter, **immigration**, national security and whatever you want to talk about.

BASIL SMIKLE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: That's fascinating.

MAGGIE HABERMAN, NEW YORK TIMES PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN CORRESPONDENT: Hillary Clinton did not try to get answers about that. Donald Trump has never said publicly that he disavows what he has said and he is the person who brought it very prominently into the public light in 2011. It skyrocketed him in the polls and he saw it, was aware of it, his aides were aware of it. It was actually something that movement conservatives wished they would stop talking about it at the time, because they considered it a fringe movement that was basically debunked over and over again.

What I think is going to happen is Donald Trump will likely get asked about this at least one of the debates and I suspect that some of this is either has advisers trying to talk to him over TV or in person or what have you to get him to focus this, but this issue is not going to go away.

EPSHTEYN: From someone who has talked to him on a lot of issues, this is not an issue that is in the top ten of this campaign.

This is an issue --

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: Hold on. If people at this table have questions about Barack Obama's birth, you can talk about it. Our campaign, Donald Trump, do not.

BURNETT: Donald Trump, but why Donald Trump has not directly said it, Philip, is the point, right?

PHILIP BUMP, POLITICAL REPORTER, WASHINGTON POST: In January, Wolf Blitzer, who was following up on the question when Donald Trump was accusing Ted Cruz, you know, having been born in Canada, therefore ineligible, Wolf Blitzer asked him, and he said, who knows? Who knows where he's born? He doesn't want to focus it.

Like, right now, the Donald Trump is extensively reaching out to African-American voters. They're doing all this outreach, it is clear this is an issue among African-American and that's why --

(CROSSTALK)

BUMP: Let me finish, please? And that is why if the Trump campaign, if Donald Trump were serious about reaching out to African-American voters, this is a fairly easy thing to do and yet, I agree, it's odd that he's not.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Basil?

SMIKLE: He's made an excellent point. Your outreach to African- Americans did not include an apology for the birther comment. It's an abject failure --

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: Let me talk. It's an abject failure of this outreach and indeed his campaign because this comment a birth, that he's not born here is a proxy for delegitimizing this man. The fact that a sitting president had to do a press conference -- the fact that a president had to do a press conference to produce his birth certificate. What does that say?

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: She did not.

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: And the fact of the matter is to this day most Republicans and probably 20 percent of this country believes that he is foreign born.

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: In many polls -- in many polls -- at least 50 percent -- 50 to 54 Republicans --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Hold on one second everyone because here's part of the issue, Boris. The issue is he says now he doesn't want to talk about it, but since President Obama released the long form birth certificate, which the Obama administration said they did because of Donald Trump, right? They have admitted that that's why they did it. Since he released that, here's a few of things Donald Trump has said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: Who is satisfied? All you have to do is pick up the newspapers and there are many, many people, tremendous numbers of people that are not satisfied. There's tremendous skepticism as to what he presented.

Some people say that was not his birth certificate. I don't know. Nobody knows.

John McCain failed and couldn't get it, but Trump comes along and said birth certificate. He gave a birth certificate. Now all to do is find out whether or not it was real.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EPSHTEYN: You plan on telling me --

BURNETT: Don't you need to say you're sorry?

EPSHTEYN: No. There's no --

BURNETT: That's absurd, Boris.

EPSHTEYN: This is an issue that's been put to bed and it's absolutely resolved. Barack Obama was born in the United States and now, we're moving on. The campaign has moved on. Donald Trump has moved on. He said so last week.

Hold on -- he said last week, I'm not talking about this anymore. We're moving on.

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: Now let me finish.

As far as African-American outreach goes, we're at 8 percent. Mitt Romney received 6 percent. McCain received 2 percent. We're obviously doing well because the voters out there don't care about this. They care about the economy and national security.

SMIKLE: Have you gone to the African-American community and asked them if they care about this because that's real outreach.

EPSHTEYN: We delve on the polls.

BURNETT: Maggie?

HABERMAN: The point I was trying to make before is the point that Philip made is black voters do care about this and polls have shown it. And so, when you have -- they have. And when Trump is reaching out to black voters to engage them or to try to change opinions of him among other voters, there is a very easy way to put this to rest as Hillary Clinton saw yesterday by answering her e-mail questions at the press conference, reporters eventually stop asking.

(CROSSTALK)

HABERMAN: Boris, give me a second, OK? When people eventually handle something and do put it to bed, that's the end. It is not going to suffice in a presidential campaign for a candidate to have advisers say it and that's just going --

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: If there is someone out there who doesn't believe it, they can go follow up. We, as a campaign, are stating -- let's move on to the real issues.

BURNETT: I think the bottom line is Maggie's right. He's going to be asked that question and he's either going to give a direct answer saying, that did he believe that the president was born in this country or not? And if he doesn't, it's going to become a big issue.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Well, next, we're awaiting Donald Trump because he's about to rally supporters in Florida, a key state where the race is neck and neck.

Plus, newly released photos, Bill Clinton hanging out with the Trumps at the time they were dating, Melania and Donald. You see them there and you see Bill Clinton. Who is the man who donated a whopping $20 million to beat Donald Trump? Our special report coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:43:13] BURNETT: Tonight, new photos released that show Bill Clinton palling around with the Trumps. The Clinton presidential library putting them out, not by choice, after a Freedom of Information request from the media.

Here's a picture showing Bill Clinton with his arm wrapped around Melania who, of course, is now married to Donald Trump, at the time was his girlfriend. Trump's arm wrapped around "Sports Illustrated" swimsuit model Kylie Bax in this picture. And then, here's another one, Clinton and Trump both laughing, having a great time together.

Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT.

Brianna, you know, look, these pictures, both Trump and Clinton have tried to downplay their ties over the years, right, saying, no, no, no, no. You know, Clinton even said, oh, I happened to be in Florida, so I went to Trump's wedding.

These photos show something that seems to be very different.

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Yes, they do. I mean, it's hard to know because obviously, if you've been around Bill Clinton, he is someone who engages with a lot of people in a very familiar way. He loves people and is very outgoing, but you see in these photos that they're laughing. There are big smiles. They're kind of palling around.

The Clinton Library actually put these photos out, 22 of them because there was a Freedom of Information Act request from "Politico" and these were put out.

So, in them, you see Clinton here and they were the final months of his presidency with Trump, and it's actually official White House photographs. This photo you're looking at now, this is when Bill Clinton went to a fund-raiser and Donald Trump and they're wearing the suits there and the more casual dress was because it was taken in a box during the U.S. Open.

But it's pretty interesting, because as I mentioned, this was a FOIA request. These were newly public. They are also according to the National Archives which runs the Clinton library, Erin, 59 photos that they found of Hillary Clinton in 1994 at a fund-raiser that Donald Trump attended.

They are not going to release those. They say those are personal which protects them from release.

[19:45:03] But it's unclear how many of these may be pictures of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton together, but those would be some really interesting photos to see.

BURNETT: They certainly would. Thank you, Brianna.

And OUTFRONT now, the communications director for the RNC, Sean Spicer.

And, Sean, you see these photos and Donald Trump laughing it up with Bill Clinton and posing for photos, very friendly.

Trump has run on being an outsider, constantly slamming the Clintons for their connections. Doesn't this prove he's friends with them and make his criticism ring hollow?

SEAN SPICER, RNC COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: No. It means that he's a businessman and he's made very clear his connections to not just the Clintons, but politicians in the past and he's a successful businessman that played in the political world, but as a donor and a successful businessman, more than a politician.

So, this is something that he's talked about in the past, his association with prominent politicians, and he's a former president and a successful businessman that connected. It's nothing that unusual.

BURNETT: So, he's facing criticism today, Sean, for giving an interview to Larry King. Of course, the interview aired on Russian Television and he had said some positive things there about Russia. The Trump campaign said it didn't know that that interview was going to air on Russian Television because they thought it was for a podcast.

But I just talked to Larry King. He told me this, quote, "If Donald said he thought it was a podcast that stretches it a little bit because he just did my podcast." At the least, doesn't this show the Trump campaign isn't organized to know where interviews will be airing, which is a basic thing that they need to know?

SPICER: Well, unfortunately, the difference is that Larry King and Donald Trump go back farther. So, it's not -- in a lot of cases, people who have known Mr. Trump for a long time including members of the media, have called and we'll go through a different channel, if you will.

And again, I've done Larry King's podcast and his show to be honest with you and several people have done it and part of it is because Larry King has a lot of great connections, knows a lot of people and he's a legacy-type journalist so people do it because he's got multiple platforms and sometimes people just don't ask. Frankly, when I did it the first time, I didn't even know where he was. People called and said Larry King wants to put you on his show, and I just did it.

BURNETT: So, Sean, the chairman of the RNC, Reince Priebus, of course, your boss, tweeted on the national security forum this week. "Hillary Clinton was angry and defensive the entire time. No smile and uncomfortable, upset that she was caught wrongly sending our secrets."

Look, a lot of critics have said this was sexist and I think at the least, Sean, it does not seem that is not a tweet that would have been sent about a man. I mean, what is the relevance in smiling, in fact, during a national security forum one would think it was a negative that one would be smiling a lot.

I mean, do you wish he hadn't sent that tweet?

SPICER: No, let's go back to the predicate of the tweet, right? She had been talking, having to defend her improper use of classified information, her improper setup of this illegal secret server and the point was, is that she looks uncomfortable.

Frankly, just -- let's be honest. Maggie Haberman from "The New York Times" sent out a tweet that said she looked irritated and angry. David Axelrod today on your air said she looked irritated.

The Clinton campaign is pivoting to an entire new strategy of trying to be positive. Then, they went out and attacked Matt Lauer as the moderator. I mean, the reality is, she did look irritated, and angry, and upset. She had a bad night. She was on --

BURNETT: But irritated and angry, but why no smile? I mean, irritated and angry, why say smile relevant?

SPICER: Well, look, I think you're interacting with folks. I think part of it is to show that you're comfortable part of media training 101. Go out there and look like you're enjoying it, interacting, it was a town hall forum. You're being asked by voters and interacting with them.

I think that the Clintons realize they had a bad night and what did they do? They went and blamed people because they went out and recognized the obvious. And then, second, they went out and blamed Matt Lauer for saying he was over the top. It was other veterans that asked those questions, too. Are they mad at them?

At some point, they have to take responsibility for their own actions. Hillary Clinton has a history of making everything about somebody else's problem. It's always someone else's mistake that caused her to do something. It's the policies of this. It's someone's bad advice. It's Colin Powell's bad, you know, advice.

It's never her fault for not obeying the rules that everyone has to obey.

BURNETT: Sean Spicer, thank you very much.

SPICER: Thank you. Have a great weekend.

BURNETT: And next, a man called the world's youngest self-made billionaire donating $20 million of his own dollars to stop Donald Trump and help Hillary. Who is he? Next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:53:24] BURNETT: Tonight, a man you've most likely never heard of shaking up the race for the White House.

Dan Simon has tonight's "Big Number".

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DAN SIMON, CNN CORRESPONDENT: He shared a dorm room with Mark Zuckerberg at Harvard and was co-founder of Facebook. Now, 32-year- old Dustin Moskovitz is donating $20 million to help defeat Donald Trump.

In a blog post, he writes, quote, "If Donald Trump wins, the country will fall backward and become more isolated from the global community. This distinction is starkly caricatured by his number one policy position, the literal building of a wall between us and our neighbor."

"Forbes Magazine" once named Moskovitz the youngest self-made billionaire in history and while he's not been active in politics, Moskovitz and his wife are using part of their $10 billion fortune to support PACs backing Hillary Clinton.

They're now among the top donors of the 2016 campaign.

DAVID KIRKPATRICK, AUTHOR, THE FACEBOOK EFFECT: $20 million to them is not a huge amount of money, to be honest, but the way he did it is pure Dustin Moskovitz. They feel that the political environment requires action and they're taking action.

DUSTIN MOSKOVITZ, FACEBOOK CO-FOUNDER: I think he took it really well, and you know, said he was going to support me.

SIMON: That was Moskovitz a few years ago recounting his tough conversation with Zuckerberg, saying he was leaving the company which he did in 2008.

He lost the software company Asana that same year, severing official ties with the social network. But his donation may fuel the perception that Facebook is anticonservative. Without allegations that Facebook manipulated its news food to suppress conservative topic, the company fiercely denied those allegations.

The truth though is Silicon Valley leaders are widely backing Clinton, from Facebook chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg to Apple CEO Tim Cook, who hosted a fund-raiser for the Democratic nominee.

GREG FERENSTEIN, SYNDICATED COLUMNIST, THE FERENSTEIN WIRE: It's hard to think of any candidate in history that Silicon Valley hates more than Donald Trump.

SIMON: Greg Ferenstein has written extensively about the intersection of politics and technology entrepreneurs.

FERENSTEIN: One of the core values in personality traits of tech folks is that they're extreme optimists in the future. They love globalization, bringing countries together and they want as much **immigration** as possible. Donald Trump and his supporters represent the mirror opposite.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SIMON: Well, of course, there is one high-profile tech person who is supporting Donald Trump and that is Peter Thiel who spoke out at the GOP convention.

As for Dustin Moskovitz, he realizes that he may be criticized, Erin, but he says he felt compelled to act and he feels like he did so in a transparent way.

Back to you.

BURNETT: All right.

Thank you very much, Dan. And don't miss the exclusive interview with Hillary Clinton. It's on "STATE OF THE UNION" Sunday morning at 9:00 and noon.

Next, Donald Trump about to take the stage at a rally in Florida. We'll count you down right after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BURNETT: This Sunday marks 15 years since the 9/11 attacks. CNN looks back on that day in an iconic film "9/11: Fifteen Years Later" airs Sunday night at 8:00.

Thanks for joining us. Anderson's next.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Jeff Zeleny, Barbara Starr, John King, Brianna Keilar, Gloria Borger, Kayleigh McEnany, Maria Cardona, Mark Preston, Brian Stelter, Jeanne Moos

8422 speakers\_end

[19:00:05] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, Donald Trump taking aim at America's generals. Hillary Clinton says no more troops in Iraq as new polls tonight show Clinton leads shrinking in crucial swing states.

Plus, Trump's Putin obsession, is it a smart political move or is Trump being played? And what is Aleppo? The three words haunting Gary Johnson tonight. Let's go OUTFRONT.

And good evening, I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, bitter battle, Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump in the biggest clash of the campaign so far launching nasty personal attacks on who is fit to lead America at war. Tonight, Clinton slamming Trump charging he's scary and dangerous.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: It's hard to forget what Trump did last night. It was a test and he failed it. He trash talked about America's generals saying that they have been, quote, "reduced to rubble." He suggested he would fire them all and can't pick his own generals, since you know, he knows so much about what it takes to be a general.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Trump firing back citing Clinton's use of her private email server saying that she put the nation at risk.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: This is yet more evidence that Clinton is unfit to be your commander-in-chief. By the way, the whole country saw how unfit she was at the town hall last night where she refused to take accountability for her failed policies in the Middle East.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Now this battle coming as a new poll shows Trump and Clinton tied in a two-way race in the crucial swing states of both Florida and Ohio. The stakes could not be higher. Right now Clinton is speaking at the National Baptist Convention in Kansas City talking about her faith. And what she says is the importance of humility.

Jeff Zeleny is OUTFRONT at that speech on the trail in Missouri tonight. And Jeff, tonight is about faith, but today was about anything but.

JEFF ZELENY, CNN SENIOR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Exchanges in this campaign. But perhaps not as consequential or grave as this discussion over national security. Now, there was far less talk about their qualifications than heated rhetoric about why their rival is not.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

CLINTON: As your commander-in-chief, I will not trash our country's most cherished values. I will defend them.

TRUMP: This is yet more evidence that Clinton is unfit to be your commander-in-chief.

ZELENY (voice-over): The commander-in-chief audition now at the heart of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump's escalating clash. Trump says the fight against ISIS has failed blaming Clinton right along with President Obama.

TRUMP: Under the leadership of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, the generals have been reduced to rubble.

ZELENY: Today in North Carolina, she accused Trump of trash talking U.S. military leaders.

CLINTON: What would Ronald Reagan say about a Republican nominee who attacks America's generals and one thing you didn't hear from him was any plan to take on ISIS, one of the biggest threats facing our country. He says his plan is still a secret. Well, the truth is he doesn't have a plan.

ZELENY: Trump insists he does. But says he will ask his generals for their plan 30 days after taking office. On Iraq, Clinton was blunt last night at a military forum on NBC.

CLINTON: We are not putting ground troops into Iraq ever again.

ZELENY: We asked her today whether that was a promise she could keep if elected president.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Isn't A that ignoring some ground forces toward there, and B boxing yourself in, should your military commanders if elected, advice that you, in fact, need to do that?

CLINTON: I think putting a big contingent of American ground troops on the ground in Iraq and Syria would not be in the best interest in the fight against ISIS and other terrorist groups. I support the air campaign. I support Special Forces. I support enablers.

ZELENY: She's acknowledged her support for the Iraq war was a mistake. He has not. He supported the ground invasion at the time. HOWARD STERN, RADIO TALK SHOW HOST: Are you for invading Iraq?

TRUMP: Yes, I guess so. You know, I wish the first time it was done correctly.

ZELENY: Even though now he says otherwise.

TRUMP: I opposed going in. And I did oppose it.

ZELENY: Above all, the clash on national security is a fight over judgment. Trump is asking voters thirsty for change to trust him. And Clinton, at every turn, tries to highlight his thin resume.

TRUMP: If we would have taken the oil, you wouldn't have ISIS.

CLINTON: We don't send our brave men and women around the world to steal oil.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ZELENY: And Erin, it is that debate over judgment that also is at the heart of this. The Clinton campaign believes the best way to make Donald Trump unacceptable in the minds of voters is to question his judgment on matters like national security. Of course Donald Trump's objective is to make voters feel comfortable with him, the man who could have his hand on those nuclear codes -- Erin.

[19:05:12] BURNETT: All right. Jeff Zeleny, thank you.

And OUTFRONT tonight, Trump's supporter, retired Lieutenant General Jerry Boykin and Clinton supporter, retired Rear Admiral Jamie Barnett. Thanks to both of you.

General Boykin, let me start with you. You just heard Donald Trump say the generals have been reduced to rubble to the point that it's embarrassing for the United States. As a retired three star general, do words like that offend you?

LT. GEN. JERRY BOYKIN (RET.), U.S. ARMY, ENDORSED DONALD TRUMP: No, it doesn't offend me. My interpretation is that the advice of our generals has been relatively ignored. Probably up until the last three to six months when it appears that he is starting to listen to them. So I don't think that the generals advocated for precipitous pullout of Iraq in 2011. And I think that's what Trump was saying.

BURNETT: Admiral Barnett, Hillary Clinton says of course Donald Trump is trash talking the generals. You just heard General Boykin saying he completely disagrees. What do you say?

REAR ADMIRAL JAMIE BARNETT (RET.), US NAVY ENDORSED HILLARY CLINTON: Well, I think this is a long line of things where Donald Trump has disrespected our serving military, our current veterans and military families. In this way, it's just outrageous. I served with some of the people that he's talking about right now. These are the people that are executing and actually taking away the state from the Islamic State. It just another example why he's not really fit temperamentally or otherwise and on the other hand, Hillary Clinton last night clearly demonstrates. She's got the command of the facts, the issues, she has the judgment and the knowledge to go forward. And one of the things that came out last night, what he talked is, he doesn't have a plan for defeating ISIS. She does.

BURNETT: So let me ask you about that. Because last night Admiral, she said there would be no more ground troops in Iraq ever again. Those were her words. Today you just heard her. Press by our Jeff Zeleny. She said, there wouldn't be a big contingent of ground troops. So, you're criticizing Donald Trump for not having a plan, but hers appears to be changing hour by hour as well.

BARNETT: No, not at all. She's always said that. The fact of the matter is she's recognized that we have enablers there. We have the folks that are able to do the airstrikes, the trainers, the Special Forces. She's always acknowledged that. She's talking about having all of these people are in combat, they are in harm's way. But she's talking about large contingent of combat troops. And here's why. We don't want to put an Iraq force like we did in in 2003. What we want to have happened is, for the people in the Middle East to put the boots on the ground so that they can do it over the long haul. That's exactly what she's talking about.

BURNETT: But no troops is different than a big contingent. And when you talk about people being in harm's way, that's what most people see as troops on the ground.

BARNETT: There are no change, Erin. She's already acknowledged that we have troops there. And what I would say is, we do need to enable the people that in -- the Kurds, the Syrian freedom forces to go and take back this from ISIS. So, she's got a three-point plan. Defeat ISIS where they have these strongholds in the Middle East. And that's happening. We need to continue to execute that. Disrupt the terrorist network worldwide. And then make sure that we're safe, at home by, you know, increasing our intelligence, sharing information, working with our allies.

BURNETT: OK.

BARNETT: And we have heard nothing from Donald Trump on anything. He even kind of revealed he doesn't have a plan when he said, when I do come up with a plan. That's an equal quote from last night.

BURNETT: What do you say, General?

BOYKIN: Well, to begin with -- yes to begin with Erin, nobody has ever won a war by telling the enemy how you're going to fight them or what you're going to do. It's a terrible mistake and this is endemic of the Obama administration as well that has told the enemy what we're going to do. We are, you know, making a foolish mistake by doing that. Secondly, it does not recognize the admiral calls them enablers. He probably ought to call them combat troops because I know a lot of them. They are Special Forces, they are SEALs, they are special operations forces, they are in combat. So, don't tell them that they are not combat forces. But the final thing is, one of the things that I believe is that Donald Trump has signaled his willingness and eagerness to restore military readiness. I think our military is in very sad shape right now from a readiness perspective. That's one of the reasons that I am supporting Donald Trump is because I think that he will make an all-out effort to listen to his generals, take their recommendations and then apply those in restoring our military readiness. And I think that's what America has to have.

BURNETT: When it comes to the war on ISIS as you both are talking about though. General Boykin, today Hillary Clinton stood by her comments that Donald Trump is a recruiting tool for ISIS. She was speaking in an interview with Israeli television. And here is exactly how she answered the question.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CLINTON: Trump has made Islam and Muslims parts of his campaign. And basically Matt Olsen argues that the jihadists see this as a great gift. They are saying, oh, please, Allah, make Trump president of America.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

[19:10:13] BURNETT: Olsen of course is the former director of the National Counterterrorist Center. General, you previously said in the radio interview, quoting you, Islam is not a religion and does not deserve First Amendment protection. Do you think comments like yours, comments like Donald Trump supporting a ban on Muslims coming to America help ISIS recruit?

BOYKIN: If you believe that ISIS is influenced by the comments by Donald Trump or by me, you don't know anything about what the jihadists are up against. The Muslim Brotherhood in America and the jihadi network globally are going to attack us because it's theological. They are going to attack us because we are a western democracy and because we are infidels. So, if you don't understand that and you can honestly say that we are increasing their recruiting, you know absolutely nothing about why these people do what they do and that's the problem. Our president has never faced up to why they motivated to do what they do against us.

BURNETT: Admiral Barnett?

BARNETT: I have to totally disagree. I mean the things that Donald Trump says are used in the recruiting. He actually shows up in recruiting videos. And not only that, it's not just that he's helping ISIS and terrorist organizations like that, he's also damaging our alliances and our partners in the Middle East. Muslim countries all over the world who listen to this and wonder what America is about. We need them. Those are the people that we want to have boots on the ground. These are the people that we need to work with to defeat ISIS. And to go off on rants about Islam and that somehow another Islam is against America when millions and millions of people are peaceful Muslims and will work with us. BURNETT: All right. Well, thank you both very much. I appreciate your time tonight. Thanks.

BARNETT: Thank you.

BOYKIN: Thank you.

BURNETT: And OUTFRONT next, Hillary Clinton in one of her most revealing interviews on why she's perceived as, quote, "cold and aloof."

Plus, third party candidate Gary Johnson with a stunning gaffe.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And what is Aleppo?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You're kidding.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Will it torpedo his campaign? And Trump on Putin. Should a U.S. presidential candidate be saying this?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: He is really very much of a leader. I mean, you can say isn't that a terrible thing. He called the man -- the man has very strong control over our country.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:16:11] BURNETT: Tonight Hillary Clinton slamming Donald Trump for praising Russian President Vladimir Putin. Trump says he prefers Putin to President Obama.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CLINTON: Now, that is not just unpatriotic and insulting to the people of our country as well as to our commander-in-chief. It is scary. Because it suggests he will let Putin do whatever Putin wants to do. And then make excuses for him.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Trump's running mate Mike Pence is coming to his defense saying it's inarguable in his words that Putin is a stronger leader than Obama. Barbara Starr is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BARBARA STARR, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Donald Trump doubling down on his praise of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

TRUMP: Well, he does have an 82 percent approval rating according to the different pollsters.

STARR: And insisting that Russia's harassment of the U.S. military will stop under his presidency. Like this one from April and another one Wednesday over the black sea that caught Donald Trump's attention.

TRUMP: Take a look at what happened with their fighter jets circling one of our aircraft in a very dangerous manner. Somebody said less than ten feet away. This is hostility.

STARR: Yet that hostility from Russia isn't stopping Trump from extolling what he sees as Putin's virtues.

TRUMP: It's a very different system. And I don't happen to like the system, but certainly in that system he's been a leader. Far more than our president has been a leader.

STARR: Trump says he'd have a better relationship with Putin and Russia than President Obama.

TRUMP: You know, the beautiful part of getting along Russia wants to defeat ISIS as badly as we do.

STARR: But U.S. officials say that isn't the case. That Russia is propping up Assad, not hitting ISIS.

ASH CARTER, DEFENSE SECRETARY: Russia with its support for the Assad regime has made the situation in Syria more dangerous, more prolonged, more violent.

STARR: Trump and the Obama administration at odds over allegations of Russia's involvement with the alleged hack of the Democratic National Committee in an attempt to disrupt U.S. elections.

TRUMP: Nobody knows that for a fact. But you want me to start naming some of the things that President Obama does?

STARR: Secretary of Defense Ash Carter appears to have little doubt issuing a stern warning to Moscow.

CARTER: Make no mistake. We will defend our allies, we will counter attempts to undermine our collective security and we will not ignore attempts to interfere with our Democratic processes.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

STARR: It's not exactly anything new for Russia and the U.S. to be at logger heads, but this time around, the critical question, does Vladimir Putin think he might get a better deal if Donald Trump is the next president -- Erin.

BURNETT: All right. Barbara, thank you very much.

OUTFRONT now, our chief political analyst Gloria Borger and the anchor of "INSIDE POLITICS" John King. And John, you know, we hear this from Donald Trump last night. It is not the first time. He's been criticized again and again for this. But he repeatedly praises Vladimir Putin. Let me just play for everyone so they can understand how much he's dug in on this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: I think I get along very well with Vladimir Putin.

Putin is a nicer person than I am.

I would get along with Russia and I'll get along with Putin. And he's not going to make us look bad anymore.

When people call you brilliant, it's always good especially when the person heads up Russia.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Today, John, Senator Bob Corker, right? Who has come out and said all kinds of positive things about Trump warned him, warned him about that kind of flattery. Do you think there's a strategy behind Donald Trump praising Vladimir Putin? You know, is it possible that American voters buy into this? That Putin is strong?

JOHN KING, CNN ANCHOR, "INSIDE POLITICS": American voters don't like Vladimir Putin. If you look at public opinion polling back over the past few years, he has highly negative ratings. I think we just have to take Trump at his word here that he admires Putin and sees strength as a good thing. Donald Trump's -- strength and toughness. And this is mind boggling. Not just to Democrats but to Republicans.

Remember it was Mitt Romney four years ago who had a fight with President Obama at the time. Mitt Romney said, Russia and Putin were the greatest strategic threat or strategic, you know, should be the strategic interest of the United States. And President Obama said, no, that's not the right way to rank it. Now the Republican establishment is apoplectic that their candidate plays footsie with Putin all the time.

A guy who Barbara just noted, bullies his neighbors, you know, helps Assad, is not serious about helping the United States when it comes to interest in the Middle East and other places in the world. This is a mind boggling one to the Republican establishment. Not only Chairman Corker, but Speaker Ryan spoke out against this today. Neither one of them wanted to directly criticize Trump so much. Corker did a little bit. But they think this is just -- they think frankly Erin, to use a tough word, they think it's a stupid policy and a stupid embrace.

BURNETT: I mean, and Gloria, does he care or does he think that even though Americans don't like Vladimir Putin, they do want strength and they admire that about him?

[19:21:02] GLORIA BORGER, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL ANALYST: Here's what I think it is. I think that Donald Trump is returning a compliment.

BURNETT: Yes.

BORGER: So Putin has said, okay, I think you're brilliant. I think you're a smart guy. And I think Donald Trump is turning around and saying, you know what, he thinks I'm a smart guy. I am going to say, he's a smart guy too. But I don't think it's a strategy. I don't think it's anything someone would suggest to Donald Trump. Hey, why don't you embrace Putin? I think Republicans remember Ukraine not too long ago. And I think that it's anathema to them.

Particularly those who worship at the shrine of Ronald Reagan. I know today that the vice presidential candidate Mike Pence told Dana Bash that he agreed with Trump that Putin is a stronger leader than President Obama. But in another era, this would be considered treasonous, OK? To say something like that. And if a Democrat had said that, I think he would be in a lot of trouble. He or she, they'd be in a lot of trouble.

BURNETT: And yet Secretary Kerry is talking with the foreign minister of Russia to try to work together on Syria. Right?

BORGER: Sure.

BURNETT: And yet this administration is working with Russia, trying to. But to your point about a compliment, you know, Trump defended Putin last night and he brought up that exact point. Basically if I'm complimented, I will compliment back. Let me play it for you.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MATT LAUER, NBC NEWS, "THE TODAY SHOW": He's also a guy who annexed Crimea, invaded Ukraine, supports Assad in Syria, supports Iran, is trying to undermine our influence in key regions of the world. And according to our intelligence community, probably is the main suspect for the hacking of the DNC computers.

TRUMP: Well, nobody knows that for a fact. But you want me to start naming some of the things that President Obama does?

LAUER: Do you want to be complimented by that former KGB officer?

TRUMP: Well, I think when he calls me brilliant, I will take the compliment, OK?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Is he being played John by Putin?

KING: A lot of intelligence analysts would say, yes. The experts who do this will say, he is being played. They say, number one, it's just naive. They say number two, it's not what a potential head of state should be saying about Vladimir Putin. A man if Donald Trump is elected in 60 days, he's going to have to sit across the table from his people and going to have to do business with on a number of very difficult issues, which at the moment, the evidence is indisputable. Vladimir Putin acts in ways that are contrary to American interests. He acts in ways that are contrary to Democratic interests. He acts in way that are contrary to Western values. Those are facts. Those are indisputable facts. And Donald Trump says these nice things. Intelligence analyst say, essentially when a leader does this, what signal is Donald Trump sending to his voters? He's essentially sending a signal to his voters, what Putin does is okay. It's okay. And the current president of the United States, but a lot of Republicans too, this is not a Democrat Republican issue. This is an issue on which just about everybody in the foreign policy and intelligence establishment, people that experience just say, listen to Donald Trump and they shake their heads because Erin, they just don't get it.

BURNETT: The establishment Gloria, but isn't that the whole point that he thumbs his nose at the establishment?

BORGER: Well, he thumbs his nose and I think if you look at Paul Ryan as an example, you know, he spoke out against Vladimir Putin today as you were saying. But he didn't take on Donald Trump. I think they are at a point in the campaign where they are stuck. They can't take on Donald Trump anymore or they take on water for their own Republican Party, you know, in the down-ballot. And so Paul Ryan was kind of twisting himself in a press talk today trying to distance himself from Donald Trump's embrace of Vladimir Putin and yet not taking on Trump. And it's a, you know, it's a tough position for them to be in right now with 60 plus days left before the election.

BURNETT: Sixty one, but who is counting?

BORGER: Who is counting?

BURNETT: Everyone on screen right now.

KING: I am.

BURNETT: All right. Thank you both.

And OUTFRONT next, the Republican Party Chairman calling Hillary Clinton out for not smiling. So, is that sexist or not.

And libertarian candidate Gary Johnson, the three words he wishes he could take back.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And what is Aleppo?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You're kidding.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:29:16] BURNETT: Breaking news. Live pictures out of Missouri on your screen right now. Hillary Clinton speaking at this moment at the Baptist Convention in Kansas City. Moments ago opening up about her faith and family. It comes as she gave an extremely candid interview with the website called Humans of New York and in part she said, let me read it to you.

"I know that I can be perceived as aloof or cold or unemotional, but I had to learn as a young woman to control my emotions. And that's a hard path to walk. Because you need to protect yourself. You need to keep steady. But at the same time, you don't want to seem, quote, "walled off." Clinton also said, "But if that sometimes is the perception I create then I can't blame people for thinking that."

Brianna Keilar is OUTFRONT. And Brianna, this is Hillary Clinton as open as we have ever seen her.

BRIANNA KEILAR, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Yes. That's right. I don't recall her talking about this before or really in this way where she's talking about how she has learned to control her emotions and also that she feels that there's a double standard for men and women that something that may be acceptable for men will seem shrill for women.

So, she talks a lot about that as well as one particular anecdote where she talks about being at Harvard and doing a test and young men actually getting mad at her and other women who are taking the test and that she thought I have to keep my head down. I have to focus on this test. It's something that has carried her through her life.

But you'll recall also something that I thought was interesting as I read this. When she actually choked up in New Hampshire in 2008 and showed some emotion, she completely turned that race around. There have been times where she's not been able to control her emotions and it's actually been to her benefit.

BURNETT: And, you know, Brianna, she's -- there's also this tweet last night. She's now down playing it but it came from Reince Priebus. He said, "Hillary Clinton was angry and defensive the entire time." He was talking about her performance in the forum. "No smile and uncomfortable. Upset that she was caught wrongly sending our secrets."

Clinton saying, look, I don't take anything from the RNC seriously.

But what's the reaction from people inside the Clinton campaign that talks about how she was not smiling and was uncomfortable?

KEILAR: I talked to one of her top aides who said it was ridiculous, laughable. You wouldn't ask a man to smile. That was certainly the feeling there. And also from a lot of people who locked at that and they don't think it's anything that's going to hurt her. It's not something that irritated her.

In fact, Donald Trump has a problem in the polls with women. And this certainly isn't going to help with that and that's something that plays to Hillary Clinton's favor. But I think this is something that they look at and roll their eyes at. And because there is an overtone of sexism, and it comes on the heels of Donald Trump saying that Hillary Clinton doesn't have the presidential look, which was a remark that a lot of people took to be sexist in nature, that he was saying she's a woman. So, it doesn't seem she would be president. It was something he also said in the past about Carly Fiorina as well.

BURNETT: All right. Brianna, thank you very much.

OUTFRONT now, Donald Trump supporter Kayleigh McEnany, senior adviser to the Trump campaign, Boris Epshteyn. Hillary Clinton supporters Basil Smikle and Maria Cardona joining me as well. Maria's firm does work for pro-Clinton super PAC.

Kayleigh, Reince Priebus coming out and saying, you know, she wasn't smiling. You just heard Clinton campaign saying they see this as sexist. This isn't something you'd say to a man. He wasn't smiling. By the way, it isn't something you'd say to a man.

Should Reince Priebus apologize?

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: No, absolutely not. This is what Clintons do to every candidate she's up against. Apparently, everyone she's ever run against is sexist. She did this to Rick Lazio. She's doing this to Donald Trump.

I don't think women like to be painted as victims. I certainly don't. I'm a strong woman. I know millennial women in particular resents the victim card.

Reince Priebus was making a point that she was uncomfortable answering questions about how she was caught mishandling classified information. She looked upset. She looked irritated. I heard many non-partisan folks on the air say that today.

It was very clear. This was not sexism. This was --

BURNETT: Victim card?

MARIA CARDONA, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: This was the definition of sexism, Erin. And I've got to tell you, between her posts on humans of New York, and this tweet, I think it really wraps everything into a narrative that's going to start to help her. The humans of New York post was, as you said, as personal as you her.

She talked about why she's looked at in a very different lens. And women who are in the workplace of every age do understand that. You've got to be pretty, but not too pretty. You've got to be smart, but not too smart. You've got to be firm, but you can't be bitchy.

So she understands that. The way she said that I think is really relevant to so many people and then the tweet I think just underscores just how sexist it is. And, by the way, the people she has run against have been sexist.

BORIS EPSHTEYN, TRUMP CAMPAIGN ADVISOR: Rick Lazio is not sexist.

MCENANY: No, he's not. EPSHTEYN: And Donald Trump is absolutely not sexist.

CARDONA: He's the definition of sexism.

EPSHTEYN: Look at all the women he's employed throughout his career.

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: Let's ratchet all this down.

BURNETT: He doesn't do well with women overall, 53 percent of married women, he's doing better than half. But overall among women --

EPSHTEYN: Twenty percent lead over Hillary Clinton in married women.

Now, let's go back. The tweet was by Reince Priebus and not by Donald Trump. Let's not conflate --

BURNETT: OK.

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: It's very important to know.

Two, she was unquestionably testy with Matt Lauer last night. She was testy from the get-go, from when that former naval officer, John Lester, said, if I had done what you did, I would be in prison. That's the truth. She became upset and she stayed upset. She kept interrupting Matt Lauer.

[19:35:00] She went over her time. Matt Lauer kept reminding, you're over your time.

She wasn't friendly with them. Donald Trump was. Donald Trump seems much more comfortable, much more presidential and much more in his own element.

BURNETT: To your point, the last thing I would expect would be a smile.

BASIL SMIKLE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: First of all, let's go back to last night.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: That was a senatorial --

SMIKLE: And the man got from his podium and wag his finger in her face.

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: Let's go back to last night. She is at the forum to talk about foreign policy and security, a commander-in-chief forum. You expect her or the head of the RNC expect her to be smiling and grinning the entire time? (CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: Let me finish. So the fact of the matter is she's there talking about very serious issues. She's not testy. She's forthright and strong.

EPSHTEYN: She lied. She lied.

SMIKLE: She talked about in this interview how --

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Hold on.

SMIKLE: She's gotten to the point where she can be a steadfast hand as a leader, particularly in areas of foreign policy.

BURNETT: Let me ask a question. On this issue of smile, do you find -- I want to get to the bottom of it. Do you find it strange in a commander-in-chief forum, that anyone would say why would someone be smiling?

MCENANY: No, because I think men can smile too. If Donald Trump was angry the way Hillary Clinton was, there would be a lot of scrutiny of him.

I would have pointed out, I wonder if either of you think Bernie Sanders is sexist because when she was on the debate stage with him and he said, look, you're screaming, Hillary . She goes, maybe men interpret that when I speak loud I'm screaming because I'm a woman.

She did this against Bernie Sanders too.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Hold on. Do you think Bernie Sanders was sexist when that happened? Because she did say that. Kayleigh is right.

CARDONA: I think that a lot of men actually have that attitude towards women. I'm not saying that.

EPSHTEYN: Is Bill Clinton sexist?

CARDONA: I'm saying, it's either subconscious or conscience.

The fact of the matter that there is that double standard, and we all know it. For people to deny it means that they don't understand the situation.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: I want to get to the emails, but I want to ask you first about what she said in humans of New York about this issue, OK? Not about what happened last night, but overall. She said, "If you want to run for the Senate or the presidency, most of your role models are going to be men. What works for them won't work for you. Women are seen through a different lens. It's not bad, it's just a fact."

EPSHTEYN: Plenty of women all over the world, Margaret Thatcher and Indira Gandhi, who have been unbelievably successful and won very close elections, but also haven't had to break and this is the liberal left trying to take attention away from her real issues. Her real issues, the Lincoln bedroom -- renting out the Lincoln bedroom and everything that came before them.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: Pause for a moment. I want to play that. She did give a new defense, she has said I didn't get email with a classified heading. She has given a lot of different excuses or explanations, whatever word you'd like to use for what happened with the e e-mails. Let me just play.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIPS)

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I did not e-mail any classified material to anyone on my e-mail.

I did not send or receive any e-mails marked classified at the time.

There was never any material marked classified that was sent or received by me.

Classified material has a header, which says top secret, secret, confidential. None of the e e-mails sent or received by me had such a header.

(END VIDEO CLIPS)

BURNETT: Just to be clear there were differences there. I never sent or received any classified material. I didn't send anything marked at the time. Now it didn't have a header. It does seem to change.

SMIKLE: No, I don't think it changes. The director has said this himself that anyone looking at those e-mails would reasonably conclude they were not classified.

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: Excuse me. He has actually said that, and her responses have been consistent, that she did not send e-mail that she saw was classified. In fact, she handed led the classified information appropriately.

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: There's no proof that she told her aides to make secure e- mails non-secure. She instructed her aides to strip the headers of those e-mails.

(CROSSTALK)

EPSHTEYN: There's obstruction of justice in there as well. BURNETT: Final word.

CARDONA: The bottom line is James Comey said himself that nobody could have reasonably said that she knew this was classified because of those.

[19:40:07] BURNETT: That's not what he said.

CARDONA: And classification itself is the problem here.

ESPHTEYN: Don't lie to the American people because she lies.

CARDONA: I'm not lying to the American people. You are trying to lie to the American people.

(CROSSTALK)

CARDONA: She never sent or received material that was marked classified and that's why the FBI never went forward because there was no intention.

BURNETT: He couldn't prove intention.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: All right. Pause.

(CROSSTALK)

BURNETT: That may be true in the voters' minds, we'll see. Of course, when it comes to charges, you are right. The case is closed.

All right. Next, NBC executives thought Matt Lauer's performance was a, quote, "disaster". That's from NBC executives. Was that fair or selling him out? Brian Stelter reports.

And Jeanne Moos on, what is Aleppo?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: One of those animals?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Not an animal.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BUNRETT: Breaking news, brand new swing state poll showing a surge for libertarian presidential candidate Gary Johnson in two must-win states, in North Carolina, he gets 15 percent support. And he has 14 percent in Ohio. Pretty incredible numbers when you look at those.

The only problem for Johnson is that the polls are coming out hours after this embarrassing exchange.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What would you do if you were elected about Aleppo?

GARY JOHNSON, LIBERTARIAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: About?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Aleppo.

JOHNSON: And what is Aleppo?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You're kidding?

JOHNSON: No.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Aleppo is in Syria. It's the epicenter of the **refugee** crisis.

JOHNSON: OK, got it. Got it. With regard to Syria, I do think that it's a mess.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: The executive editor of CNN politics, Mark Preston, is OUTFRONT now.

Look, Mark, Gary Johnson actually put a hashtag on Twitter. You know, what is Aleppo? He's saying he's going to do his research.

Here's what he said on "The View" today trying to do damage control.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOY BEHAR, THE VIEW: I know what Aleppo was, I know what it is, and I should not be any smarter than you because you're running for president. Having said that, I'm sure Trump doesn't know what Aleppo is either. I think it's a disqualifying statement.

JOHNSON: And fair enough. And fair enough, yes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: So, Mark, lots of times we have heard game over for Donald Trump. Voters don't care about things you think they might care about. Could Gary Johnson survive this?

MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: It all depends what your definition of survival means. At this point, Gary Johnson an incredibly uphill battle, right? The bottom line is he needs to get into the Commission on Presidential Debates debates.

And right now, he does not qualify. He needs to get 15 percent across five different polls. He comes nowhere close to that. The highest we have seen come is about 10 percent. So, he wasn't going to get into the debates.

What we have seen is become a spoiler. Could he -- does he take away from Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton? And in the polls that you just showed, Gary Johnson takes away from Donald Trump in three of those states. In Florida, in North Carolina and in Pennsylvania. In Ohio he takes away from Hillary Clinton.

So, he could be a spoiler to both of them should his campaign continue to move on.

BURNETT: And those polls that you mentioned right, where he's at 15 percent, 14 percent in Ohio and Florida, are those voters voting for him or are they voting as a protest vote against Clinton, against Trump?

PRESTON: Yes, one of his biggest problems is that he wanted to become a magnet for all the anti-Trumpers. They did not go for him. In many ways, a lot of these folks are looking elsewhere.

Certainly, some of that support are Republicans who do not want to vote for Donald Trump, but there is a solid core of libertarians in the United States. Maybe it's 4, 5 percent who are going to support Gary Johnson. So, just take his number at 10 percent let's say and take half of that off, half for Trump and half for libertarians.

BURNETT: All right. Mark Preston, thank you very much. Obviously, it's going to be crucial what happens here given that he could be the defining person in so many crucial states.

OUTFRONT next, everyone on the stage at the forum was criticized for their performance. Why? What went wrong?

And Jeanne Moos on the toughest question of the day.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What would you do if you were elected about Aleppo?

JOHNSON: And what is Aleppo?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You're kidding.

JOHNSON: No.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:51:05] BURNETT: Tonight, the countdown is on to the presidential debates. A new poll just into CNN shows voters think Hillary Clinton will come out on top 53 percent she'll do a better job, 43 percent betting on Trump. Last night's forum with the two candidates show the stakes at this debate could not be higher.

Brian Stelter is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE) BRIAN STELTER, CNN SENIOR MEDIA CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Matt Lauer not running for cover, heavily criticized for his handling of the commander-in-chief forum. Even some of his colleagues now saying it was this appointing.

With 15 million watching and just 25 minutes to interview each candidate, "Today" show co-host repeatedly interrupted Hillary Clinton.

MATT LAUER, NBC NEWS: Let me go --

CLINTON: He refuses to take responsibility for his support.

LAUER: Let me go to another question.

CLINTON: That is a judgment issue.

STELTER: Lauer spent ten minutes on Clinton's e-mails then had to rush her along.

LAUER: You think you're going cheat.

CLINTON: This is an important issue. I know who were on TV, we don't have a lot of time.

LAUER: I want to get to a lot of questions.

CLINTON: I will talk quickly.

STELTER: His aggressive approach, a contrast to his handling of Donald Trump who got more open-ended questions.

LAUER: What kind of research are you doing now? What kind of homework are you doing?

STELTER: Raising questions of whether Lauer went too easy on the GOP nominee. Most egregiously, Lauer failed to fact check this.

TRUMP: I was totally against the war in Iraq from -- you can look at "Esquire" magazine from '04. You can look at before that.

STELTER: This claim is easy to debunk.

HOWARD STERN: Are you for invading Iraq?

TRUMP: Yes, I guess so. You know, I wish it was -- I wish the first time it was done correctly.

STELTER: Trump did not publicly oppose the war until well after the invasion.

The forum was a preview to a highly anticipated debate and a glimpse of what to expect from both candidates. Trump's critics slamming him for being short on specifics.

TRUMP: I may love what the generals come back with. I will -- LAUER: But you have your own plan.

TRUMP: I have a plan, but I want to be -- I don't want -- look, I have a very substantial chance of winning. Make America great again.

STELTER: And Trump hitting Clinton for her defensive demeanor.

CLINTON: There is no evidence my system was hacked.

STELTER: Even some audience member saying they were disappointed. Moderating Trump is a unique challenge. Add Clinton and it's even harder.

Now, all eyes on the presidential debate just 2 1/2 weeks away where the stakes are even higher.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: Now, Brian, you had today Hillary Clinton using this to raise money.

STELTER: That's right. Putting on a fund-raising letter saying even Matt Lauer won't fact check Trump so we have to do it ourselves, support us.

I think what we're seeing in this campaign is the very purpose of journalism. The very purpose of interviewing is up for debate. Trump is such a unique figure. Clinton also a challenge, but journalists have to be forceful with both candidates. That's what our viewers want.

BURNETT: Absolutely. Brian Stelter, thank you very much.

And, of course, all eyes going to be on that first debate as we said just 2 1/2 weeks away.

All right. Next, Jeanne Moos on how a long hard-fought political campaign can crumble in just the blink of an eye, in just a couple of words.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RICK PERRY (R), FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Commerce, Education, and the -- what's the third one there? Let's see.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:57:27] BURNETT: Gary Johnson's stumble heard around the world, but he's far from the only gaffe-prone candidate for president.

Here's Jeanne Moos.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JEANNE MOOS, CNN CORRESPONDENT: We dare you to try and look away even if you've seen it ten times already.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What would you do if you were elected about Aleppo?

GARY JOHNSON, LIBERTARIAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: About?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Aleppo.

JOHNSON: And what is Aleppo?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You're kidding?

JOHNSON: No.

MOOS: The exchange instantly gave birth to #whatisaleppo. Granted, 11 out of 14 people we asked on the street --

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What's Aleppo? I wouldn't know.

MOOS: -- couldn't identify the Syrian city at the epicenter of the **refugee** crisis.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What is Aleppo?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have no idea.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't know. I know the libertarian candidate got it wrong and I don't know it, either.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: One of those animals?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Not an animal.

MOOS: Speaking of animals, someone tweeted "Donald Trump probably wouldn't know the difference between Aleppo and Alpo."

But when you're criticizing someone for screwing up, be sure you don't screw up, yourself.

A former U.S. ambassador to Iraq called libertarian Johnson Aleppo Johnson, then proceed to mischaracterize Aleppo.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The capital of ISIS.

MOOS: Actually, the ISIS capital is Raqqah, not Aleppo. "The New York Times" made the same mistake and printed a correction, then a correction to the correction.

Candidates hate what they consider to be gotcha questions. Though then-Governor Bush gave as good as he gotcha.

REPORTER: Can you name the president of Chechnya?

GEORGE W. BUSH, FORMER PRESIDENT: No, can you?

MOOS: What happened to Johnson wasn't a gotcha. It was more like what happened to Sarah Palin.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you agree with the bush doctrine?

GOV. SARAH PALIN (R), FORMER VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: In what respect, Charlie?

MOOS: And when Herman Cain was asked if he agreed with President Obama on Libya --

HERMAN CAIN (R), FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: OK. Libya.

MOOS: The silence was deafening.

CAIN: Got all the stuff twirling around in my head.

MOOS: What wasn't twirling in Rick Perry's head was the third department he would eliminate.

PERRY: What's the third one there? Let's see.

MOOS: Gary Johnson said he first thought Aleppo was an acronym. "I blanked."

Trying to guess could be worse."

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Could it be a disease?

MOOS: One tweet framed his gaffe as if it were "Jeopardy," a three- word sentence meaning end of campaign.

Johnson, "what is Aleppo?" Trebek sighing, "That is correct, Gary."

Jeanne Moos, CNN --

JOHNSON: And what is Aleppo?

MOOS: -- New York.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: And thank you so much as always for joining us. Don't forget, watch OUTFRONT anytime, anywhere, on CNN Go.

"AC360" begins right now.

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8516 speakers\_end

[19:00:11] PAMELA BROWN, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, Donald Trump's mixed messages on **immigration**. Here is to be getting muddier. He now says, he's quote, "not ruling anything out."

Plus, breaking news. Hillary Clinton back on the trail speaking at a Labor Day event right now as we speak and she is taking questions from the traveling press for the first time since December.

And a tense moment between President Obama and Russian President Vladimir Putin as concerns grow Russia. It could interfere with the U.S. election. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Well, good evening. I'm Pamela Brown in for Erin Burnett. In OUTFRONT tonight nothing ruled out. Just nine weeks before Election Day and Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump appears to be changing his position on undocumented **immigrants** again. For months, Trump has vowed to carry out mass deportation of 11 million **immigrants** here illegally in the United States. Well now he says he is not ruling anything out. Let's take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: A lot of Republicans plans have talked about letting people have a legal status, just be able to live here, work here. And people who've lived here a long time and contribute to society.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: We are going to make that decision into the future. Good question. I'm glad you asked that. That decision will be made. Our first thing is to get all of the bad element out.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: From what Trump said in his big speech on **immigration** laws weeks stating repeatedly that the only path to legal status would be to leave the country and then reapply for reentry. Take a look here. You're looking live where Hillary Clinton is rallying in Hampton, Illinois earlier today. Clinton shot down talks that Trump is trying to soften his stance on **immigration** telling ABC News and our quote, "It is clear his advisers are scrambling to try to present a new and different Donald Trump. But the fact is, there is no new or different Donald Trump."

This as both candidates are hitting the battleground states hard today with just 64 days until the election. Sara Murray is OUTFRONT. So, Sara, what is the Trump campaign saying about this apparent shift?

SARA MURRAY, CNN POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: Well, Pam, so far the campaign has not responded to how we should read this latest adjustment to how Donald Trump talks about his **immigration** policy. But remember, his advisers have really been out there for weeks sort of softening the edges of Donald Trump's policies. And it was in this **immigration** speech last week that he really laid out a hard line tone. Now it appears he back to softening.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MURRAY (voice-over): Donald Trump muddling his **immigration** stance even further today now saying a decision about granting legal status to undocumented **immigrants** will come sometime down the road.

TRUMP: We'll going to make that decision into the future. Good question. That decision will be made.

MURRAY: And Trump and his team try to win over voters in the final 64 day stretch. They're trying to water down parts of last week's hard line **immigration**speech.

TRUMP: For those here illegally today who have seeking legal status, they will have one route and one route only, to return home and apply for reentry.

MURRAY: And give the candidate the wiggle room in dealing with undocumented **immigrants**.

RUDY GIULIANI (R), FORMER NEW YORK MAYOR: Donald Trump as he expressed in one of his interviews recently would find it very, very difficult to throw out a family that's been here for, you know, 15 years. And they have three children, two of whom are citizens. And that is not the kind of America he wants.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Once you turn off the jobs magnet, jobs and benefit magnet, then we'll see where we are. And we don't know where we'll be. We don't know who will be left.

MURRAY: Today in the battleground state of Ohio, Trump is also taking advantage of the Labor Day holiday to bring his economic argument to union leaders.

TRUMP: I always have it just sucked out of it going to Mexico and other countries.

MURRAY: His day on the trail almost resembling a traditional politicians. And he held a roundtable popped by a local diner and visited one of the largest fairs in the Buckeye state.

TRUMP: What an incredible group. Thank you, everybody.

MURRAY: All of this as Trump is betting his surest path to victory comes from hammering his Democratic opponent.

TRUMP: She didn't have the energy go to Louisiana and she didn't have the energy to go to Mexico.

MURRAY: But Trump's best chance to take on Clinton is sure to come on the debate stage. Events the hard to pin down candidate now says he wouldn't miss.

TRUMP: Hurricanes, natural disaster, I expected to do -- I think it's an important element of what we're doing. I think you an obligation to do the debates.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

[19:05:03] MURRAY: Now, these are the comments we have from Donald Trump so far saying, he will participate in all three of those very important debates going into the general election. And you can bet the candidates are just going to be sprinting until the moment they hit that debate stage. Tomorrow, Trump will be campaigning in two very important battleground states, Virginia and North Carolina -- Pam.

BROWN: And the race is on. All right. Sara Murray, thanks so much.

And OUTFRONT now, CNN political Director David Chalian. So, David, this seems like a case of dejavu here where Donald Trump seemingly changed his stance on **immigration** once again.

DAVID CHALIAN, CNN POLITICAL DIRECTOR: He definitely muddied the picture a little bit again today, Pam. There is no doubt about that. Let's just break apart sort of where we've seen the progression of Donald Trump. As Sara's piece pointed out for much of all the nomination season, he was in for mass deportation, get everyone out. Then last week we did hear him say that he would decide on the disposition of the undocumented **immigrants** that are here who have not committed other crimes, sort of, quote-unquote, "The good ones as he called them."

He would decide that later. But while also saying that he and his aides were all over television last week saying, no legal status. To get legal statues, they would have to go home but will decide on the disposition later. Today he opens the door to legal status being decisive later and, you know, that is now another wrinkle in trying to iron out exactly what his plan is for the 11 million or so undocumented here.

BROWN: So, on that note, if Trump stands by his comments that he made today, will this hurt him with his base to those staunch supporters?

CHALIAN: Well, it could. Because last week he was really trying to thread a needle. As you know, he was, you know, giving that sort of fire brand speech in Arizona and making sure the conservatives stayed with him. But opening up that little bit for the more broad general election audience, saying hey, I'll decide, the quote-unquote, "good ones later." Now, if he is going even further in that softening, he may have to be worried about his right flank and what some of those conservative hardliners on this will want from their candidate.

BROWN: All right. David Chalian, thanks so much.

And OUTFRONT right now, the executive director of the New York State Democratic Party, Basil Smikle, he is a Hillary Clinton supporter. Former Donald Trump campaign manager Corey Lewandowski, he was still receiving severance from the Trump campaign and is a CNN political commentator. The national spokesperson for MoveOn.org Karine Jean- Pierre. She is a Hillary Clinton supporter. And a member of the National Diversity Coalition for Donald Trump Paris Dennard.

Could you guys shorten your titles please?

(LAUGHTER)

That was a mouthful. My goodness!

(INAUDIBLE)

Yes. Yes, you did. Wow! All right. So, we are off the heels of what we just heard David Chalian say basically, that this is being perceived as a softening of his stance, Corey. You heard what Donald Trump said last week. Anyone here illegally who wants legal status, would need to leave and then come back through the proper channels. But then today he said he is not ruling anything out when it comes to getting legal status to people in the U.S. illegally. What is going on here?

COREY LEWANDOWSKI, FORMER DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER: Look, I think what Donald Trump said today was they're going to make a decision about what to do with anywhere between 11 and 16 million illegal **immigrants** in the future. And the first thing what he said, he is going to build a wall, defund sanctuary cities, implement a real e-verify program and then make sure that before you do anything we can control to flow of **immigration** to the country.

That's the first step. And the second step is actually finding out how many people are actually in the country illegally. Now the Clinton campaign said last week there are 16 million people. What we saw was a government record say, there are 11 million people. Five million people difference is a huge number. So, before you can decide what to do with those people, you have to first count how many there actually are.

BASIL SMIKLE, EXEC. DIRECTOR, NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY: All right. Well, listen, I think what we need to understand is the fundamental approach of Donald Trump and the Republicans is build a wall, deport them all. That's really what it comes down to. Which is to me a horrible message. Because even the flip flops are problematic. If you take Rudy Giuliani for example, really his chief surrogate, he was mayor of the city of New York, the so-called sanctuary city and he had a far softer tone on **immigration** and a pathway to legal status than he does now attaching himself to Donald Trump.

So, I find a lot of the language around where Donald Trump stands right now, very hypocritical, number one. Number two, I do think this fundamental difference is important. Because what Hillary Clinton the Democrats are saying is, these are individuals who are contributing positively to the American economy and American society. And let's find a pathway to legal status for them. Deferred action for parents, for children and let's take care of our dreamers. It is a fundamental difference and it's a very, very important difference.

BROWN: Right. There is a practical matter of all of this, Paris. How do you actually go about deporting 11 million or more undocumented **immigrants**. But my question is we, and we heard Donald Trump saying last week saying, you have to leave the country, comeback to the proper channels and then today saying, he is not ruling anything out. Is he trying to have it both ways here by keeping the door open? Is he trying to keep his base and also try to, you know, appeal to those moderates?

PARIS DENNARD, TRUMP NATIONAL DIVERSITY COALITION MEMBER: You know, I think when you run for president and when you want to be president of the United States, you have to go from campaigning into governing. And governing is very difficult. And so he has to set priorities. And I think what Mr. Trump is telling the American people that he has priorities. The first priority is getting rid of those illegal **immigrants** who are committing crimes and considered criminals.

BROWN: Which is already happening by the way under President Obama.

DENNARD: Right. They called him a deporter-in-chief. And so, that's one of the things that Mr. Trump wants to do. Again, you want the American people to know he has a ten-point plan. And it is important for our viewers to know that he has this ten-point plan. Now, people are paying attention after Labor Day. This ten point plan he's wanted to implement. After that, he's going to put the laws that are on the books, the future laws that will be put in by the Congress and then those who remain, he is going to come up with a decision on how to get rid of them respectfully and humanely. That is something that a leader does. They don't just make this blanket determination --

BROWN: That's not necessarily square. And I see what you're saying --

DENNARD: Yes.

BROWN: And he does have this ten-point plan. But that doesn't square with what we heard Rudy Giuliani say that he has a hard, he's going to be humane, he's talking to deport these families. And I think there is this perception and this confusion from some people that there's not sort of a clear message on what's going to happen, to those that aren't criminals who are here in the U.S. illegally, Paris.

DENNARD: Well, I think it's important that it's Mr. Trump. So, we can talk about what surrogates say or what his advisors say but it's what Mr. Trump says or what his plan says. And Mr. Trump isn't very clear. There is no new Trump. There is no new plan. It has been a consistent Trump but a consistent plan on this illegal **immigration** issue.

BROWN: You're shaking your head, Karine.

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, NATIONAL SPOKESWOMAN, MOVEON.ORG: It hasn't been consistent and clear. That's the problem. I mean, he doesn't have an **immigration** plan as far as I can see it. But he changes his stance every day. You know, it's almost as if he goes where the wind blows him, right? And it is just incredibly confusing. It's these faux pivots. It is like he is manipulating us and the press and quite honestly, it is the opposite of being presidential.

SMIKLE: And I would have to say, he is not talking to the **immigrant** community. He is talking to his supporters to try to soften his edges. And to me that's all about just sort of taking him into the general election and making his supporters feel more comfortable with voting for him. She not talking to actual **immigrants**and trying to find a pathway to improve their lives.

BROWN: Very quickly, Corey, final word.

LEWANDOWSKI: Okay. At the end of the day, what you have seen is, he's laid out a very specific plan. What he said is going to triple the number of ICE officers so they can do their job and prevent the number one thing when you're both shaking on water is to plug the leak, build a wall, stop people from coming in and them know what to do with the people that are here after that.

BROWN: All right. Thank you all. Stick with us. Because we have a lot more to talk about.

OUTFRONT out next. Hillary Clinton now in the homestretch slamming Trump and getting a little winded along the way.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Every time I think about Trump, I get allergic.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: Plus, Trump praised and hammered for his trip to a black church. Is Trump changing minds?

And CNN special report, Hillary Clinton opens up about her darkest hour to me. She talks about the Monica Lewinsky scandal and much. And how she enlisted her friends for support.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CLINTON: They would try to make me laugh. They would recommend books to read. We would go for long walks. We would hang out, you know, eat bad food.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:16:55] BROWN: Breaking news, Hillary Clinton back on the campaign trail and she just finished speaking to supporters in Hampton, Illinois just moments ago. Clinton taking questions from her Travelling Press Corp for the very first time since December. Clinton was asked whether the FBI interview about her e-mail server where she said, I do not recall 39 times showed a casual attitude towards classification.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CLINTON: I went in to the State Department understanding classification. I bet on the Senate Armed Services Committee for years before I was secretary of state. I take classifications seriously. In fact, I couldn't remember certain meetings, whether or not they had occurred. It doesn't in anyway affect the commitment that I had and still have to the treatment of classified material.

BROWN: Suzanne Malveaux is OUTFRONT tonight, because Suzanne, big change for Clinton today.

SUZANNE MALVEAUX, CNN NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: They call the plane helm Hill Force One. It holds up 40 reporters and yes, kind of funny nickname. She is simply having more trouble with the openness, with the media, just go round, and when I covered her back in 2008. But sure to her words, she did Ricaforte (ph) on that plane, she went to the back of the plane and took some questions and gave some answers covering the e-mail controversy, Russian hacking as well as some of the questions, the conspiracies about her health.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MALVEAUX (voice-over): Hillary Clinton is kicking off the final push to Election Day.

CLINTON: We believe we are stronger together and that is in stark contrast to Donald Trump.

MALVEAUX: Campaigning today with running-mate Tim Kaine at a Labor Day rally in Ohio.

CLINTON: We need to make sure we have an election that validates the kind of positive future that will make life better for the people of Ohio. An empty promises and racist attacks won't do that.

MALVEAUX: Even managing to swipe at Donald Trump in the midst of a lengthy coughing fit.

CLINTON: Every time I think about Trump I get allergic.

MALVEAUX: The Democratic nominee also debuting her new campaign plane.

CLINTON: Hey, guys.

Hi!

CLINTON: Welcome to our big plane. It is so exciting. MALVEAUX: A Boeing 737 with her signature H-logos and Stronger Together on the side. Clinton greeting the Press Corp which will now travel on the same plane as Clinton.

CLINTON: I am so happy to have all of you with me. I was just waiting for this moment.

MALVEAUX: Clinton's plan even crossing paths with Trump's on the tarmac in Cleveland today.

SEN. TIM KAINE (D), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: She show you how important Ohio is, we'll be here a lot.

MALVEAUX: Team Clinton is spending Labor Day blanketing key states with surrogates. Her husband at a parade in Detroit and a picnic in Cincinnati slamming Trump's recent trip to Mexico.

VICE PRES. JOE BIDEN (D), VICE PRESIDENT: That damaged America and every serious country in the world.

My name is Joe Biden. And I work, I work for Hillary Clinton and whatever the hell this guy's name is.

MALVEAUX: And Vice President Biden appearing alongside Kaine in Pittsburg, riling up the labor base.

BIDEN: For so many people like Trump who look at us like we're not their equal, I am sick of it. I have had it up to here.

MALVEAUX: Even former rival Senator Bernie Sanders speaking to voters in New Hampshire on Clinton's behalf.

SEN. BERNIE SANDERS (D), FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: On every issue Hillary Clinton is the superior candidate, hands down.

(APPLAUSE)

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MALVEAUX: And Pam, Hillary Clinton also answered a question about the conspiracy theories around her health. The reason why that happened is because we saw in Ohio she struggled with a coughing fit that lasted about five minutes or so. She recovered. But it was clear that that had impacted her. And then later in the gaggle on the plane when she was answering questions, she started coughing again, had to excuse herself and then came back.

She did answer that question about it. And she said, look, she does not pay attention to these conspiracy theories. There are so many of them she says she is tracked of all of them, she said that it is just not important but that is one of the thing that the Trump campaign is already so I think to take advantage of the campaign manager sweating out as well saying that perhaps Hillary Clinton is allergic to the media because the media was on the plane -- Pam.

BROWN: All right. A lot of back and forth today, Suzanne Malveaux, thank you so much. And I have my panel back with me.

Paris, I want to start with you on the heels of what we just saw there. Donald Trump had been criticizing Hillary Clinton for focusing too much on fundraising not being out in the trail enough. You saw her out there today. She has a new press plane, she's been answering questions on a range of issues. Did she show today that she is back in full force and that should this be a concern for the Trump camp?

[19:21:43] DENNARD: No, I don't think it should be a concern for the Trump campaign. Because look, he has been doing that consistently. While she was doing her fundraising and hiding from the press for 275 days, he was engaged with the black community, he was engaged with the Hispanics and going to Mexico and leading on these issues. I mean, look, Secretary Clinton spoke to you, for a longer to you than she did the press about for your upcoming special on her. And so, it's important for the American people to see that in these past two weeks in this general election campaign, one candidate is serious about earning the vote, one candidate is serious about engaging in the community and the other one is more focused on fundraising.

BROWN: But in fairness, Trump doesn't have a press plane like Clinton does.

JEAN-PIERRE: Yes.

BROWN: So, Karine, what are your --

JEAN-PIERRE: Well, yes, so many thoughts here but I'll start here. So, look, we have 64 days left until November 8th. Hillary Clinton is actually in a better position than Donald Trump is. Because she has the fundraising advantage. She has a clear path, multiple paths to 270 because that's what matters in this election. And so I think that's the thing to look at. And she has a superior campaign. She actually has armies of people on the ground in these 10, 15 important battleground states.

And also, the thing to not forget, early voting starts very, very soon in just a few days. I think it starts in North Carolina this week. And you know, one-third of the general electorate votes early, we saw that in 2008 and we saw that in 2012. So, you have to have a real campaign to do that face to face organizing that actually works and to bring out your voters. And she has that advantage.

BROWN: Well, this is certainly a crucial stretch that we're heading into Labor Day and beyond. I wanted us to listen to this sound from my colleague Jeff Zeleny. He actually did a couple of interviews today with Vice President Joe Biden and as well as Hillary Clinton's running mate. And Jeff asked about the candidate's record, disapproval ratings. And here is some of what Joe Biden had to say about that.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: The truth is Hillary knows it's a problem and she is trying to figure out how to remedy it. And my advice to her is the best way to remedy is talk about what you care about and talk about it with some fashion and people will see through it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: Basil, is it too late for that?

SMIKLE: No. It's not too late for that. And I think Joe Biden is right. You have to talk about the things that you're passionate about. Ultimately, no matter where the polls have been or aren't today, as we get closer to the actual election, voters are going to be going to the polls thinking about the policies that they care about the most, what's going to motivate them to pull that lever or fill in that circle. And I think at that point, it's those policies that I think make Hillary Clinton a superior candidate to Donald Trump. Because it's those policies that I think Americans will affect their lives on a day-to-day basis. She gets extraordinary remarks for the kind of work and policy acumen that she has under his policy.

BROWN: Corey?

LEWANDOWSKI: Look, I commend Hillary Clinton for holding the First Quasi Press Conference 225 days (ph) since last December since before Christmas of last year. You could have a baby in that time and she had the press conference. But that said, I actually agree with Joe Biden. She has some real problems with her negatives, she understands that. It's not getting better. What we see is that these are two candidates who are historically looked at by the American public as unfavorable. And what this comes down to unfortunately for many of his people as, who am I going to vote for at the end of the day, for what Basil said on the issue I care most about it.

It's an **immigration** issue. I think Donald Trump is going to do very well there. If it is an issue and well as jobs in the economy and terrorism, we see that he has traditionally done very well in those issues. If it is an issue where you won a third term of the Obama administration, you're absolutely voting for Hillary Clinton come November. If you want to expand ObamaCare, you want to vote for Hillary Clinton. If you want to continue to increase our national deficits, you're voting for Hillary Clinton. So, there is a clear choice here. There is no question about it.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

BROWN: Clear choice. But I mean, really, you take a step back, I mean, just kind of taking a step back looking where we are, candidates have such high unfavorable. Seth Myers speaks to today said, people are really worried. Who are they going to vote for November when you look at the unfavorables? Paris?

DENNARD: Those are recent New York Times story that talked about focus groups that they did. Looking at African-American millenials. And the interesting thing that they said that they figured out what they're going to say about Mr. Trump is when they looked at Hillary Clinton, they were surprised to see that these millennials were saying they still don't trust her. There is something about her that is dishonest and untrustworthy. And so, that is a problem for Secretary Clinton moving into this especially when you see Mr. Trump in two polls. Two different polls having eight percent of the black vote. So, you have to -- the Clinton campaign has to be worried about the engagement that he is doing and how they're to message to all of these committees in order to win.

[19:26:13] SMIKLE: Well, but very quickly, I don't think, the campaign is not worried.

JEAN-PIERRE: No.

SMIKLE: There is no paranoia as some people have argue that there is paranoia. There isn't that. Because there is a very very long history of engagement in communities of color by Hillary Clinton herself and the campaign broadly. So, I don't think there is any paranoia but there is work to be done. And she is prepared to do the work.

BROWN: You just teed me up for the next segment. After this brake, we are going to be talking about minority outreach from the candidates. So, thank you for that.

OUTFRONT up next, Trump intensifies his push to win over black voters.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: I think I'm going to do great with the African-American. People can walk down the street without getting shot.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: Plus, a CNN special report, Trump's daughter Ivanka on whether her father is a sexist.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

IVANKA TRUMP, DAUGHTER OF DONALD TRUMP: I think actions ultimately speak louder than words.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:30:55] BROWN: Well, tonight, Donald Trump voicing confidence about winning over African-American voters.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: I think I'm going to do great. Crime rate is through the roof, through the roof. People can't walk down the street without getting shot. I'll stop that. There are no jobs. I'm going to bring back jobs. The Democrats haven't done it.

The level of poverty is 40 percent. The youth can't get jobs, 58 percent unemployment. And I say, I mean, I'm going to fix it. Why wouldn't they vote for me?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: So, this comes after Trump's highly published visit to Detroit over the weekend. And our Jim Acosta is OUTFRONT with more.

So, Jim, the Trump campaign says Detroit was the first of many outreach attempts to black voters. Does the campaign have any other events planned at this time?

JIM ACOSTA, CNN SENIOR WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Not on the schedule right now, Pam. But we do understand from talking to campaign officials that, yes, they do plan on having other events down the road during this campaign. The campaign events that were scheduled over the weekend were largely to sort of respond to that criticism that Trump was receiving that, he was delivering this message about wanting to court African-American voters. You recall as some of those events where you said, what the hell do you have to lose, to the African- American community when it comes to voting for him. But he wasn't delivering that message in black communities. He was delivering that in largely white communities.

And I have to say, Pam, the contrast with the tone he adopted at those largely Caucasian communities, Trump was much more measured in a speech at this church in Detroit over the weekend. He described the African-American faith community as one of the greatest gifts to this nation.

So, Trump was definitely dialing down his rhetoric and trying to be very gracious in front of a crowd, in front of a community that is not always receptive to him. Keep in mind, this is a Republican presidential candidate who used to question President Obama's citizenship, whether he was actually born in the United States. And because of that question he has constantly raised in the past, he doesn't do it so much anymore, there are suspicions in the African- American community, and that's reflecting in the poll numbers.

He shows up in the single digits in a lot of states around this country. And that's likely to continue. But Donald Trump said today, talking to reporters on his campaign plan, that he continues to plan on doing this and he wants to court African American voters. He said they should be voting for him. The question comes in the end, Pam, whether or not that message is going to resonate, considering everything that he said in the past.

BROWN: Yes, that is the question. Will it pay off? Jim Acosta, thank you so much.

And OUTFRONT now to discuss, two people who were at Trump's Detroit's speech, senior pastor of Holy Ghost Cathedral in Detroit, Bishop Corletta J. Vaughn. She is a Hillary Clinton supporter.

And we also have Pastor Darrell Scott, a Donald Trump supporter joining us.

Thank you both for coming on this Labor Day. We do appreciate it. And, Bishop Vaughn, I want to start with you. You're a Hillary Clinton supporter, but did Trump change your mind at all?

BISHOP CORLETTA VAUGHN, CLINTON SUPPORTER, ATTENDED TRUMP SPEECH IN DETROIT: No, ma'am. And thank you for having me, Pamela. No. Absolutely not.

BROWN: So, what did you think of his speech?

VAUGHN: I thought the speech was well-written and it was really pretty well-delivered. As we say in the African American church, he killed it. However, it was not convincing enough for me and for I would say the majority of the Clinton constituents that fill that room to move us towards his campaign. He did not really present any policies or plans and I don't think that that was the context.

But it was very clear that he was constrained and that he was trying to be cordial. But I don't think he counts the fact that we have forgotten or have not forgotten what he has done in the past.

BROWN: So, did you want an apology out of him? Is that what you felt was missing?

VAUGHN: You know, African American people, we were kind of hoping that he would have started with, you know, just saying some of the things or at least he says he misspeaks, but at least acknowledging some things that he had said in the past.

Of course, his attacks against the current sitting president has been offensive to our community and we have not forgotten that. So, at least own it that you have said it and come forth with that as the opening statement.

[19:35:05] If I have said something in the past that has offended you as a community, certainly, I apologize for that. I think that would be a deal breaker for us.

BROWN: So, Pastor Scott, what do you think? Do you think he should have maybe acknowledged some of those things that he said in the past offended people in the African-American community?

PASTOR DARRELL SCOTT, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER, ATTENDED SPEECH IN DETROIT: Well, first of all, I thought Mr. Trump did a tremendous job at the church. And he was there for an interview with the Impact Network, the largest African-American owned and operated gospel network in the country. So, he was there for an interview.

And when he found that Bishop Wayne Jackson was having church service on that day, he decide today attend church. It wasn't a rally. It was a stump speech. It was simply him attending church, addressing the congregation and having some remarks that he thought would be appealing or remarks that he felt the congregation would be concerned about.

Now, as far as him offending anybody, you know, to offend you have to offend intentionally. You know, you look at someone's motivation. The birther issue, once again, contrary to popular opinion, was not begun by Donald Trump. It was begun during the 2008 elections by Hillary Clinton supporters.

Donald Trump didn't pick up on it until 2011.

BROWN: To be clear, there's no proof Hillary Clinton herself was directly involved.

SCOTT: I never said Hillary Clinton. I said --

(CROSSTALK)

BROWN: I know. I'm just emphasizing that, according to a CNN fact check. Go ahead.

SCOTT: It came from Clinton supporters and at that time, it was deploy by the supporters of Hillary Clinton to help sway the campaign in her direction, but that's neither here nor there.

Mr. Trump is entitled to believe it or not. He was not a lone wolf in that that he let it. So, it is what it is.

Now --

BROWN: Go ahead.

SCOTT: Now, however, now, in addressing the church, I thought he did a fantastic job. And I know for a fact a number of people told me, hey, I wasn't voting for him before and I'm voting for him now. And there's a large segment of African-American pastors that lead large churches that have told me personally, I like Trump. I'm going to vote for him. I'm just not vocal about it, because they feared the backlash from our community.

What I don't understand --

BROWN: I want Bishop Vaughn to jump in here and get her reaction because we can see he wants to see something. Go ahead.

SCOTT: Well, I want to say something, too.

VAUGHN: Thank you, Pamela.

BROWN: We'll go back to you. Don't worry. We'll be fair.

VAUGHN: I'm sure there are people that were there that were undecided. There were people present that spoke to me and said, you know, he is not our guy, but he is not as bad of a guy as we thought he was. Certainly, you know, he appeared to be very -- a nice man. There was nothing about him un-nice.

However, when you come into a church service for the first time as a Caucasian, 70-year-old kind of ultraconservative person, this was his first time in our experience. This was really his first time ever walking into a black church. So, we know this. So, now, you want to engage us less than two months to the election. And it's a little late Mr. Trump. It's just a little late.

(CROSSTALK)

SCOTT: I'm going to get in here too --

BROWN: OK. I want to let Bishop Vaughn wrap it up for me. We have to be quick here. Go ahead, Bishop Vaughn.

VAUGHN: In contrast, Hillary Clinton has made basically every African-American convention, summit, conference. She is even slated to be at the National Baptist Convention the 8th of this month.

SCOTT: OK, but let me say this --

VAUGHN: She's been in my church. She's been in African-American church. She is always engaging --

(CROSSTALK)

BROWN: Pastor Scott, because in the essence of time I want to get to Pastor Scott.

SCOTT: Donald Trump has been engaging the African-American. I took a hundred pastors to New York almost a year ago. He has been engaging.

VAUGHN: Then, why are his poll numbers so low.

SCOTT: Let me talk --

BROWN: Bishop Vaughn, we need to let Pastor Scott talk.

SCOTT: What I don't understand is this, Corletta, why would you decline an invitation to go sit at the table with him personally and then go sit in an audience at a church. So, this is why I don't understand.

(CROSSTALK)

VAUGHN: Let me explain to you.

And I declined.

(CROSSTALK)

SCOTT: You didn't come.

BROWN: All right. We have to let Bishop Vaughn respond to that allegation --

SCOTT: You chickened out. It's not an allegation.

(CROSSTALK)

BROWN: Pastor Scott, you have got to hold on --

(CROSSTALK)

BROWN: Bishop Vaughn, quickly and then we have to go -- Bishop Vaughn.

VAUGHN: Bishop Wayne T. Jackson is my friend. I was there --

SCOTT: But you're your own person.

VAUGHN: He asked me to attend.

SCOTT: You had a chance to sit at a table for five hours with Donald Trump --

(CROSSTALK)

[19:40:01] BROWN: OK, Pastor Scott, you keep interrupting her with your allegations.

SCOTT: It's not an allegation. It's the truth.

(CROSSTALK)

VAUGH: I was at the service or a service to support my friend, Bishop Wayne T. Jackson. I was not there to hear from Donald Trump.

(CROSSTALK)

BROWN: You brought your A-game on this Labor Day. Thank you. Thank you to you both for bringing that lively conversation to us. We'll carry it on offline. Appreciate it.

VAUGHN: Thank you, Pamela.

OUTFRONT up next, the CNN special report, Ivanka Trump opens up about her father's use of colorful language to describe women.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

IVANKA TRUMP, DAUGHTER OF DONALD TRUMP: You know what? He calls men some pretty rough names, too.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: Plus the story behind this photo right here. Have you seen this? Is President Obama giving Russian President Vladimir Putin the death stare?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BROWN: Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump revealed. Tonight, CNN brings you two special reports on the presidential nominee. You'll hear personal stories about each candidate from those who know them best. I have the opportunity to sit down with Hillary Clinton who opens up on a range of topics, including one she rarely speaks about, Monica Lewinsky.

Let's listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLPI)

BROWN: How difficult was it to go through something so private, so personally, under the glare of the spotlight as the first lady?

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: It was really hard. It was so painful.

And I was so supported by my friends. My friends just rallied around. They would come. They would try to make me laugh. They would recommend books to read.

We would go for long walks. We hanged out, you know, eat bad food -- I mean, the kinds of things you do with your friends. And it was something that you just had to get up every day and try to deal with while still carrying on a public set of responsibility. So, it was very, very challenging.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: And I want to bring in my colleague, Gloria Borger, CNN chief political analyst, and host of "The Essential Donald Trump".

We are there almost there. We are almost to the finish line. I want to talk about the special reports. First, just the one about Hillary Clinton, because I personally was struck doing this interview with her and just how open she was, how engaging and really revealing about personal moments.

She is not someone -- you've covered her for years -- she's not someone who typically sort of talks about the personal and goes beyond policy, right?

GLORIA BORGER, CNN CHIEF POLITICAL ANALYST: No. I think she is very policy-oriented. And I think look, this is such a difficult moment in her life. Some times when you have distance from these tough times, it's a little bit easier for you to talk about it, keep it in perspective and reflect about it.

I think that's what she was doing with you, which was now she can sort of take a step back and have a way to talk about it to the American public, which, you know, a lot of voters haven't forgotten that difficult time.

BROWN: Do you think that hurts? Helps?

BORGER: No. I think she does herself a lot of good, because, you know, as we have been talking about this, that Hillary Clinton has an edge to her that some people think could use a little softening. And I think when you watch that clip, you say, wait a minute. She is somebody who went through a very difficult time in the public eye and had to deal with that as a woman.

BROWN: And you talked to Donald Trump's three adult children about some of the difficult times they have been through with their father going through divorces and such. They also respond today this idea that their father is a sexist.

Let's listen to what Ivanka Trump that had to say about that.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BORGER: I'm asking you as a daughter, a mother, a businesswoman, much has been said about what he regards women. So, if I ask you the question flat-out, is he a sexist?

IVANKA TRUMP: He's absolutely not a sexist. There's no way I could be the person I am today if my father was a sexist. I would not be one of his senior most executives and I would not be working shoulder to shoulder with my brothers. I would be working for my brothers, if at all.

So, you know, I think actions ultimately speak louder than words. My father has 40 years of history of employing women. I think in terms of the nomenclature he uses, the labels --

BORGER: Bimbo, the words sometimes --

IVANKA TRUMP: Yes, no. People say -- except you know what, he calls men some pretty rough names too.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BROWN: So, you got some key insights from the children, and also from business associates, some of whom we've never even heard from before, right?

BORGER: Right. The thing about doing a profile and a biography of Donald Trump, it's very different from doing one of politicians I have covered because the people you talk to who are the closest with him or who had worked with him are in business for his family. And, you know, he gets mixed reviews on business. There are lots of people who think -- who like doing business with him and a lot of people who didn't like doing business with him.

The most loyal people he has really are his family. And his adult children have not only been surrogates, Pam, but they are very involved in the running of this campaign. You know, son in law, Jared Kushner, very involved in the running for this campaign and he goes to them to make decisions, as much as he does to his top campaign advisers, which is different for me. In any political campaign, I've covered, I really -- I haven't seen that.

BROWN: Everything about Donald Trump's campaign has been different. I learned a lot working on this project about Hillary Clinton who has been in the public eye for so long. I imagine a lot of people are going to learn about Donald Trump, things that they didn't know before. Looking forward to seeing your report.

BORGER: You too.

BROWN: Thank you.

And you can watch the two special reports tonight, "The Essential Hillary Clinton" airs next at 8:00 p.m. Eastern, and "The Essential Donald Trump" runs at 10:00 p.m. Eastern, only on CNN.

And OUTFRONT up next: is Russia trying to undermine the presidential election?

[19:50:01] Why Hillary Clinton is worried.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BROWN: A seemingly intense moment right here. Check this out, a moment between President Obama and Russian President Vladimir Putin at the G20 Summit in China today. One topic on the agenda: the recent cyber attacks widely blamed on Russian hackers.

CNN chief national security correspondent Jim Sciutto is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: What we cannot do is have a situation in which suddenly this becomes the Wild Wild West.

JIM SCIUTTO, CNN CHIEF NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): President Obama warning Russia today about Moscow's expanding cyber attacks on the U.S. This as U.S. intelligence agencies are increasingly focused, U.S. officials tell CNN, on Russian influence on the upcoming presidential election.

Director of National Intelligence James Clapper recently told CNN he is concerned the Kremlin may be seeking to undermine confidence in the vote.

(on camera): Is it your vote that Russia has the intention of, if not influencing this election, undermining confidence in the U.S. political process?

JAMES CLAPPER, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE: They see a U.S. conspiracy behind every bush. They believe that we are trying to influence political developments in Russia.

[19:55:06] Their natural response is to retaliate.

SCIUTTO: Multiple agencies are now assessing the scope of the Russian intrusion, which includes hacking into voting data and systems. Russia's intention is not clear, maybe less to help one candidate over another than to sow doubt in the overall process and final results.

CLAPPER: Was this just to stir up trouble or was this ultimately to try to influence an election? And, of course, this is serious, serious proposition.

SCIUTTO: So serious that today, President Obama raised the issue as he and Russian President Vladimir Putin met on the side lines of the G20 Summit in China.

OBAMA: We've had problems with cyber intrusions from Russia in the past, from other countries in the past and look, we are moving into a new era here where a number of countries have significant capacities. And, frankly, we've got more capacity than anybody both offensively and defensively.

SCIUTTO: Sources tell CNN the U.S. intelligence community believes Russia was behind the recent hacks of the Democratic National Committee, "The New York Times", and think-tanks in Washington. Investigators are also looking into who breached voter databases in the states of Illinois and Arizona. For his part, President Putin has denied any tampering.

VLADIMIR PUTIN, RUSSIAN PRESIDENT (through translator): I don't know anything about it. And on a state level, Russia has never done this.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SCIUTTO: President Putin also said that Russia doesn't have any preference for who wins in November. He says Moscow just want someone who can make responsible decisions. He said, quote, "Their last name doesn't matter" -- Pam.

BROWN: Jim Sciutto, thanks so much for that.

And up next, we are moments away from the first of two CNN specials on the lives of the presidential candidates.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BROWN: Well, thank you so much for joining us.

My special report, "UNFINISHED BUSINESS: THE ESSENTIAL HILLARY CLINTON" is coming up. And we talk about a range of issues. I interview circle of her best friends, her family as well. So, that is coming up.

And then, right after that, "ALL BUSINESS: THE ESSENTIAL DONALD TRUMP", and here it is.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Jim Sciutto, Phil Mattingly, Sunlen Serfaty, Sara Murray, Tim Naftali, Kayleigh McEnany, Martin Savidge, Karen Maginnis

8192 speakers\_end

[19:00:11] JIM SCIUTTO, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, the FBI releasing its report on the Clinton e-mail investigation. What did she say behind closed doors?

Plus, Donald Trump making a hard sell to African-American voters, but did he make a mistake by scripting his answers?

And a massive storm threatening to spoil the Labor Day holiday up and down the East Coast. Let's go OUTFRONT.

Good evening and a happy Labor Day to everyone. I'm Jim Sciutto in tonight for Erin Burnett. And OUTFRONT tonight, I do not recall. Hillary Clinton gave that answer at least 39 times during an FBI interview about the use of her private e-mail server. Clinton also said she relied on the judgment of experienced staff when it came to sharing classified information over e-mail. All this contained in the report that the agency compiled before, you'll remember, deciding not to recommend charges against her. Republicans of course quick to pounce.

Donald Trump saying in a statement, quote, "Hillary Clinton's answers to the FBI about her private e-mail server defied belief. After reading these documents I really don't understand how she was able to get away from prosecution." Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus calling the report, quote, "A devastating indictment but as you would expect the Clinton campaign is seeing it very differently, saying quote, "These materials make clear why the Justice Department believe there was no basis to move forward with this case."

Phil Mattingly, he is OUTFRONT tonight. Phil, is this report the bombshell that some had been bracing for?

PHIL MATTINGLY, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Well, Jim, as you pointed out and it is important to note, this was the baseline for the FBI's decision not to bring charges or at least recommend bringing charges against Hillary Clinton. That said, it was also the baseline for FBI Director Jim Comey to call Clinton and her advisors extremely careless and how they handled classified information and there are plenty of examples not only backing up what Comey said but also giving ammunition to the Republicans and the Trump campaign to continue to attack Hillary Clinton on this issue.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MATTINGLY (voice-over): Tonight, less than two months after the FBI recommended no charges against Hillary Clinton --

JAMES COMEY, FBI DIRECTOR: We are expressing to justice our view that no charges are appropriate in this case.

MATTINGLY: The private notes of the FBI agents investigating her use of a private e-mail server revealed, redacted but unprecedented nonetheless. The notes lay out the probe in details, Clinton's own interview with the law enforcement officials.

COMEY: Although, we did not find clear evidence that Secretary Clinton or her colleagues intended to violate laws governing the handling of classified information. There is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive highly classified information.

MATTINGLY: The documents revealed that Clinton told FBI agents that she couldn't recall any training or guidance on the handling of sensitive information. Clinton said she relied on her aids to quote, "Use their judgment when e-mailing her and could not recall anyone raising concerns" about information sent to her private account. The notes also showed that the FBI presented Clinton with copies of e- mails discussing the classified U.S. drone program.

Clinton responded that she thought drone strike information classification, quote, "Depended on the context," noting it was a subject frequently in the press. Clinton was also asked about the markings on an e-mail that denoted classified information.

COMEY: I think it's possible -- possible, that she didn't understand what a "C" meant when she saw it in the body of an e-mail like that.

MATTINGLY: Clinton told the FBI she was unaware what the marking meant in question the classification.

COMEY: Do we solemnly swear --

MATTINGLY: The public release comes after the FBI provided the documents to lawmakers. Some Republicans expressed outrage at the Justice Department's decision not to bring charges against the Democratic nominee.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We believe that you have set a precedent and it's a dangerous one.

MATTINGLY: And in the wake of Clinton herself offering her clearest apology yet on the issue on CNN last month.

HILLARY CLINTON (D), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: When I try to explain what happened it sounds like I'm trying to excuse what I did, and there are no excuses. I want people to know that the decision to have a single e-mail account was mine. I take responsibility for it. I've apologized for it. I would certainly do differently if I could.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MATTINGLY: And Jim, as you noted, the Clinton campaign saying they are pleased with this release. Here's why? These documents were already given to lawmakers on Capitol Hill and there's a lot of concern inside Clinton's team, that they would selectively release excerpts to make Clinton look bad. Still, the Trump campaign having a field day with this and with good reason there, as well. One of the issues that was brought up in this report. Clinton used 13 separate devices over the course of this issue. Her advisers and her aides couldn't find any of them. Two of them they said were destroyed by hammers -- Jim.

[19:05:06] SCIUTTO: Phil Mattingly in New York. OUTFRONT now, former federal prosecutor and CNN senior legal analyst Jeffrey Toobin.

Jeffrey, you've heard a lot of depositions, legal interviews, those answers, I do not recall. I rely on my staff's judgment, what do they say to you?

JEFFREY TOOBIN, CNN SENIOR LEGAL ANALYST: Well, they say she was carefully prepared by her lawyers says to someone who is being questioned especially by an FBI agent where if you make a false statement, it's a crime is they tell you don't speculate, don't guess. If you don't know say you don't know. If you look at the questions to which she said I don't know is actually pretty understandable. There are very detailed questions about classified information. She did not pay a lot of attention to these issues much to her misfortune and I -- her denials of knowing actually, I think seem somewhat believable.

SCIUTTO: All right. So as a lawyer, you look at these notes, these interviews. We know the FBI already decided not to recommend charges, but as you see their background materials in effect, does that decision not to recommend charges surprise you?

TOOBIN: Not at all. I mean, this does not seem like a prosecutable case. Hillary Clinton seems like a clueless baby boomer who is at sea with technology and who was very careless as Jim Comey said about how she handled classified information. This was a botch from day one, but the idea that she intentionally disclosed classified information which is what you need for a criminal case seems very basically impossible to prove from this information so you can certainly see why the FBI declined to prosecute.

SCIUTTO: And maybe why they released this.

Jeffrey Toobin, thanks very much. OUTFRONT now, senior special writer for the Wall Street Journal, Monica Langley, executive director of the New York Democratic Party. Basil Smikle, he's a Hillary Clinton supporter. Donald Trump's supporter Kayleigh McEnany. Karine Jean- Pierre, she's a Hillary Clinton supporter, also the national spokesperson for MoveOn.org. Donald Trump supporter Pastor James Davis. And CNN presidential historian Tim Naftali.

Karine, if I can start with you. Because I mean, this is basically a political question now, legal questions has been decided by the FBI, they're not going to recommend charges. But 39 times she says, I couldn't recall. I mean, why not just answer those and the other questions directly, head-on?

KARINE JEAN PIERRE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: Well, I think Jeffrey Toobin kind of went into the reasoning as to why not do that. Look, I mean, just to step back for a second. Look, she apologized, she said it was a mistake, she said she wouldn't do it again. And let's be clear here, FBI Director Comey said that there was nothing illegal done here. What we're seeing now is basically we're seeing how the sausage was made, right? We're seeing exactly how it went down and what we're learning is that the FBI did a thorough investigation and there is nothing there.

SCIUTTO: Kayleigh, I imagine you have a different view.

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Yes. She said I do not recall if I used an iPad in the last two years. I do not recall if I used a flip phone. I do not recall if I had classified intelligence briefings. I guarantee you viewers at home can recall if they've used a flip phone or an iPad. That is simply unbelievable. She in my opinion has to see the American public. Not only that, to say that she did not know that "c" stood for classified, after signing a non- disclosure agreement that she understood how she handled classified information, means that she is either ignorant or she deceived us by telling us, she didn't know what "c" meant. So, the choices are not good. It's ignorant or deception, either ones to me is disqualifying to be the next commander-in-chief.

SCIUTTO: Basil, I want to get to another issue there. Because I do want to give you a chance. But I just want to play Hillary Clinton's sound when she first spoke about her private-mail server. Have a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CLINTON: There is no classified material. So I'm certainly well aware of the classification requirements and did not send classified material.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SCIUTTO: So, the FBI, she basically threw it off on her staff. She said I relied on experienced staff in effect to decide what material was shared via e-mail. There she was taking responsibility with the FBI, she seemed to be passing the buck.

BASIL SMIKLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY: Well, even in the CNN interview, she actually, she did take responsibility. She said it's on me. I apologize but I think a lot of what was --

SCIUTTO: To the FBI, she said I relied on my staff.

SMIKLE: And that could be true because, look, two of the things that came out of these reports and these e-mails. One, that she actually works really, really hard. She's an incredibly busy person and it's conceivable that someone in that position of power could say, you know, you guys handle it and let me focus what I need to focus on so on and so forth. That is actually conceivable. It doesn't have to be the either/or that you presented. I understand that some people may take it that way.

MCENANY: What's the third option?

SMIKLE: The third option is that she's actually telling the truth, you know, because I think sometimes we try to find a way for things to not be true. No, you offered the choice of being ignorant or incompetent. I'm offering the option of her actually telling the truth.

[19:10:17] MCENANY: You're secretary of state and you don't know classified markings.

SMIKLE: She relied on her staff in a way that she has ultimately taken responsibility for. And I think that's the point.

SCIUTTO: Monica, you've covered this a long time. You're in deep touch with the Trump campaign. So, you've had Congressional hearings on the e-mails. You've had the FBI investigation decision not to prosecute. You now, in effect looked at the veil and showed all the documents and all the interviews, and all of the data they had to base that decision on. From your perspective, does this diminish this as a campaign issue now?

MONICA LANGLEY, SENIOR SPECIAL WRITER, WALL STREET JOURNAL: I think it heightens it. I was at the Trump campaign headquarters today, and as this was coming out they were salivating. I mean, they view more and more e-mails as evidence that Hillary Clinton should not be president. I mean, this adds to the e-mails about the Clinton Foundation and its ties with the State Department and the fact that Jeffrey just said she was clueless and the fact that the FBI said she was careless and now they're saying, does this mean she's incompetent? Believe me, Donald Trump is going to hammer these points at the first debate.

SCIUTTO: Karine, how do you respond to that and how does the Clinton campaign respond to that? When you look at the numbers, 80 percent, this is a recent Bloomberg poll, 80 percent of voters said they were bothered by how Hillary Clinton handled her used of e-mails and we know that that's been reflected in her trustworthy numbers.

JEAN-PIERRE: Yes. But the polls are also showing that people don't actually care about the e-mails, either. Not when I say, don't care. They're sick and tired of hearing about the damn e-mails, right? As Bernie sanders has told us before himself. And so, what they care about, what voters want to hear about is who is going to take this country in the right direction and when it comes to that question, Hillary Clinton wins that question time and time again.

SCIUTTO: Pastor and Tim, just to be clear, we're going have you back after the break, as well, but do you think that holds up? I mean, that Tim, you've covered a lot of campaigns, you've watched them, that people get kind of sick of it. And the reason there is no smoking gun, do they turn the page on that issue. TIM NAFTALI, CNN PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN: Well, the problem is that for people who watched the Clintons for many years, there's the sense of, oh my goodness, not again. If not necessarily the case that something wrong was done. But the handling of it, you know, the Republicans in Congress have some very interesting bits and pieces in this report. There are examples of nondisclosure. The fact that the FBI was not told that there was a second server, that the things had been moved from one server to another server.

The fact that there were some deletions that occurred after "The New York Times" came out with the story in 2015 and that's not proof of wrongdoing, but it's proof of mishandling and one would think that the Clinton team after all they went through in the '9s would have been better at figuring out how to be transparent. So, I'm not suggesting that the Trump campaign is going to get a lot out of this because national security leaders, Republican and Democrats have also supported Hillary Clinton and they know about classified material. But it does say something about the Clinton team and it does say something about how transparent a Clinton presidency might be.

SCIUTTO: Listen, hold those thoughts, folks. We do have the benefit of time. We're going to have you back after this break.

But OUTFRONT next, controversy surrounding Donald Trump's plan to win black voters in Detroit. Why his preparation for the visit has some questioning whether he is really sincere.

Plus a new report says a missing American could be in North Korea, if you can believe it, teaching English to Jim Jong-un. His brother will join us live tonight.

And breaking news, a deadly storm sweeping up the East Coast with millions in its path this holiday weekend. We will have a live report.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:17:12] SCIUTTO: Tonight Donald Trump attempting to court black voters who so far are all but shunning the GOP nominee. Meeting today with community leaders in Philadelphia, tomorrow, traveling to Detroit where he'll attend services at a black church as well as do a taped interview with the church's pastor. That interview raising questions because his campaign according to a document obtained by the New York Times initially scripted his answers word for word.

So, will this new push work? Sunlen Serfaty is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

SUNLEN SERFATY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Donald Trump is making a direct pitch to minority voters. Meeting face to face today with black leaders in Philadelphia. The trip comes a day ahead of a high-profile visit to Detroit on Saturday where he will tour Ben Carson's hometown with his former rival and attended an African- American Church. DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: You have so many in poverty and the crime is horrible and the education is terrible and they live terribly, and I say what do you have to lose? I say it to them, what do you have to lose? Give it to me. I'm going to fix it.

SERFATY: But the GOP nominee is already facing controversy with his visit. After the New York Times published an eight page Trump campaign internal memo. A draft script for a planned interview with 12 questions the campaign had worked out with the church's pastor and suggested answers for Trump.

One of the questions asking Trump if his campaign is racist. Trump, according to the document obtained by the times is instructed to avoid repeating the word racist in his response and advised to say, quote, "Coming into a community is meaningless unless we offer an alternative to the horrible progressive agenda that has perpetuated a permanent underclass in America." The Pastor Bishop Wayne Jackson tells CNN, he stands by the decision to share the questions in advance.

BISHOP WAYNE JACKSON, INTERVIEWING TRUMP AT CHURCH TOMORROW: I don't see anything wrong with it. I never lied about, you know, or tried to be deceitful about it.

SERFATY: But says he's ready to throw Trump some curveballs.

JACKSON: I have questions that they don't know about no one know about, I changed them after that came out.

SERFATY: Amid concerns about the authenticity of the scripted conversation. The campaign now says Trump will give a short speech to the congregation but even that detail is in dispute. Jackson, in a second interview on CNN today indicating that is not set in stone.

JACKSON: No, he's not --

(CROSSTALK)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Will he be sitting in the service? Will he be sitting in the service, Bishop?

JACKSON: Yes. He'll be sitting in the service.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SERFATY: And campaign events like this are typically very carefully choreographed well ahead of time by the campaign and this is just highlighting how this visit which is now less than 24 hours away still has some major areas of contention and confusion over what exactly Donald Trump is going to do while he's in Detroit. Now the pastor today also emphasizing that he is a Democrat, Jim. He says he wants his church to be inclusive though and predicts that tomorrow Trump will get the embrace of his congregation -- Jim.

SCIUTTO: Sunlen Serfaty, thanks very much.

My panel is back with me. And Pastor Davis, I want to start with you. Scripting answers right down to instructions not to use the word racist and respond to the question about whether his campaign is racist. Why would black voters hear those answers, then and believe that they were sincere?

PASTOR JAMES DAVIS, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: Well, I think that, you know, the intelligent listener to this conversation, they're hearing him. We've had this discussion about venue now for the last two weeks that you have to be in front of black people in order to hear you. It's ridiculous. Because if you're standing in the middle of a cornfield in Iowa, microphones and cameras are going to be pointed at him. And so, as such, you wanted to have -- if it's going to be a ten-minute thing, like with anything, you're going to have some questions that are on there that we make sure we get to in order to make sure that we get the answers that we want. And so, as a result, it comes out to be this nefarious thing and we know Bishop Wayne Jackson, he's a man of impeccable integrity, he would never script something in order to get an answer that was --

SCIUTTO: But the Times reporting is not the bishop scripted but the campaign felt the need to script word for word.

DAVIS: But again, has Mr. Trump ever been kept on script ever even with this **immigration** speech the last couple of days. I mean, he's always going to put something in there and they wanted to make sure again that we stay on. The campaign issues it and then they come back again. The questions came from the church. It seems that Hillary Clinton was in hiding all this time and she didn't come out until he began to directly go after and say, I am going to cause the, you know, to engage the black vote.

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: He's got a multiple decade record of engaging the African- American community. And look, I don't begrudge any leader meeting with a presidential candidate. I don't begrudge that at all. My concern however is that we are less than three months out, just over two months out of this election and he now decides that he wants to go to an African-American church? My concern is that, number one, it's scripted in a way that a television show that his reality show would be scripted and I do not want him to appropriate a political -- an institution like the black church which is a powerful political and social and economic institution in communities of color.

I do not want him to appropriate that for a show. That is my major concern, and the fact that he's gone out there and made these incredible statements about -- and thrown up all these stereotypes about what's happening in the black community and not understanding the nuance and the complexity of the community. That's my concern.

[19:22:38] SCIUTTO: Let me -- because you raise a point. I just want to play some of the statements that Donald Trump has made about the black community since the start of this campaign. Let's have a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP) TRUMP: What do you have to lose? You're living in poverty? Your schools are no good. You have no jobs. We'll get rid of the crime. You'll be able to walk down the street without getting shot.

I have so many African-American friends where they're doing great. And they're making good money, they're living a good life.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SCIUTTO: Kelly, you know that these comments were criticized at a minimum tone deaf by him. You have those comments and you have this new outreach. How do you expect black voters to turn on a dime and having heard these for months hear a new message or be open really to a new message this time around?

MCENANY: Well, it's really important, I think, to understand who is really kind of leading the effort to introduce Donald Trump to the African-American community and that is Ben Carson. Ben Carson has a personal --

SCIUTTO: I'm asking about the guy running for president now.

MCENANY: Wait.

SCIUTTO: How do voters respond to that different -- the message they've heard until now and then this new message?

MCENANY: Well, it's the same message. Donald Trump has been saying for months and months and months since he first got into this race and the economy is bad that it has failed all voters and now he's specifically addressing the African-American community. And it's not the first time. I'm sure Pastor Davis can speak to this. He's had multiple meetings with Pastor Darryl Scott, we remember the meetings with the pastor, you can probably speak to this better than I am because you've been a part of it.

MCENANY: But why are the numbers then -- and I want to get your thoughts too Karine, why are the numbers so anemic in terms of the support?

DAVIS: Because there's been this narrative for the last year of painting him in a racist light.

SCIUTTO: But those are words he just said. I didn't take those out of context.

DAVIS: Again, it's because that's how it's taken and that's how it's painted that those words -- because once again, if you're speaking to the people that are suffering the worse, that's who he's talking to, he's not talking to the middle class bhoswasy (ph) sort of speak in the speech. He is speaking to the people that are catching it.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

SCIUTTO: Let's give Karine the chance to respond.

DAVIS: And those are the ones that he was speaking too.

JEAN-PIERRE: OK. To me the African-American outreach by Donald Trump is a nonstarter because he lost the African-American vote back in 2011 when he decided that he was going to be the grand wizard of the birther movement which birtherism inherently is racist, right? And it was, he insulted not only the office --

DAVIS: But there was --

JEAN-PIERRE: No, let me finish. Let me finish. He insulted not only the office of the presidency. He insulted the first black president by doing that. And so African-American voters are sophisticated, smart voters. They vote for their self-interests just like white voters and they are not going to vote for someone who stood in front of a white audience and did a character assassination.

DAVIS: Because it came into the political discourse in 2008 from somebody in her camp, and then we just ignored that. Yes, he picked it up in '11 and carried the baton, but it started with Hillary Clinton.

JEAN-PIERRE: That is inherently racist for her because her camp said it.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

MCENANY: Pastor Davis is absolutely correct. Hillary Clinton introduced this when she was asked if Barack Obama was a Muslim. She said as far as I know, no. She started this.

SCIUTTO: But when you compare it to the months of perpetuating this myth it's not exactly equivalent.

SMIKLE: He had a movement. It was a movement. It was a birther movement.

SCIUTTO: We'll going to have to leave it there. But again, we have the advantage of more time after this break. And OUTFRONT next, Donald Trump losing support from some of the top Hispanic surrogates after his latest **immigration** speech. Has Trump squandered a chance to reconnect with Latino voters?

And breaking news, Hermine churning its way up the Atlantic seaboard, more than 30 million people in its path this holiday weekend.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:30:13] JIM SCIUTTO, CNN ANCHOR: Welcome back.

A defiant Donald Trump tonight vowing to crack down on all undocumented **immigrants** convicted of a crime, meeting today with the mother whose daughter was killed by an undocumented **immigrant** nine years ago.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP) SHALGA HIGHTOWER, DAUGHTER KILLED BY UNDOCUMENTED **IMMIGRANT**: You were the first person to step up and actually give her recognition, and I truly, truly thank you from the bottom of my heart that you would help me not let her memory be in vain.

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: She will not have died in vain.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SCIUTTO: The big number now, according to **immigration** officials, of the estimated 11 million undocumented **immigrants** in the U.S., 121 were charged with homicide between 2010 and 2014.

Sara Murray is OUTFRONT live in Trump Tower here in New York.

And, Sara, what was Trump hoping to accomplish with his meeting today?

SARA MURRAY, CNN POLITICS REPORTER: Well, Jim, it certainly gave him an opportunity to call out Hillary Clinton and say this is an issue that she has been ignoring and to say that he would be the candidate who makes this stop, who's going to be tough, who is going to crack down on these things and crack down on illegal **immigration**. But it also gives him the benefit of having these images of him showing his softer side and seeming like he's sympathetic to a family that is made up of a number of minority voters, people that he's had difficulty relating to throughout his presidential campaign, Jim.

SCIUTTO: Trump's son Eric said he is surprised a number of Hispanic surrogates withdrew their support even just within the last 48 hours. How concern side the campaign about that loss?

MURRAY: I think the campaign is certainly concerned about where their numbers stand with African-American voters and where their numbers stand with Latino voters. But also, Jim, this is important, about the number of white voters who believe that Donald Trump might be racist and that's a reason for him not to vote for him. And I think that what we saw -- we saw Donald Trump come out and say he felt like his speech was misunderstood. I think this gives you an indication that they were a little bit surprised to see this backlash.

But I have to tell you, I've talked to a number of different people who watch that speech and who were activists, who deal with Hispanic voters and they told me after that speech, they just feel like Donald Trump does not have a chance to move his numbers with this community. Even if he does come out in the coming weeks and soften the language, they feel like that speech is what is going to leave the lasting impression with Hispanic voters from now until election day.

SCIUTTO: Sara Murray, Trump Tower, thanks very much.

I want to bring back my panel.

So, Tim, Trump was sort of two days, really, two moments. When Trump was in Mexico, I heard this from commentators on the right and the left and how powerful a moment that was for him, next to a Mexican president, looking presidential. By that evening, you have Twitter fight with the Mexican president over what was exactly said over who was paying for the wall, and then you have the speech with a diametrically opposed point of view with **immigration**.

A lost opportunity for Trump?

TIM NAFTALI, CNN PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN: Oh, huge. When he appeared on Hannity, he met with his, as he says, his Hispanic advisory group, and he said perhaps, we should soften some of the laws and, of course, there was an uproar, people questioned him and he backed away from that.

I would love to know what he said to his Hispanic advisory board. I suspect that oftentimes, Donald Trump wants the people he's talking to, to like him, and I suspect that he had this engagement with them, and he comes out of it and it goes on to Hannity a few days later.

And then there was a strategic discussion in his camp and they must have been trying to figure out, are we going to try to broaden in a way you have to if govern or are we going to stick to the issue that made us the nominee?

Well, I think that the decision was made after President Pena Nieto tweeted a ld Trump saw that tweet and was angry and arrived in Phoenix and said, you know what? I'm going to talk about the wall. I'm going to talk about paying for the wall.

SCIUTTO: Monica, you were with the campaign. You had unique access.

MONICA LANGLEY, SENIOR SPECIAL WRITER, WALL STREET JOURNAL: Right.

SCIUTTO: Just after, what really happened?

LANGLEY: I was with Donald Trump yesterday in his motorcade, on his plane, after he had come in from Mexico to his speech from Phoenix. It was true he was going to leave out payment of the wall in his big speech Wednesday night, but once the Mexican leader tweeted, "I told Trump I'm not paying for that wall," Trump was very upset.

He was, like, well, I'm not going to let that go and we all know from how he behaves in the primary, if he gets punched he punches back harder.

SCIUTTO: How does that work, Kayleigh, and Pastor James, how does that work for him? There was this moment to be presidential and then you have a tweet and then you change, in effect what sounds like was a agreed-upon softening of the message? How is that a successful strategy?

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, CNN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: He's reiterating and not reneging on his promise that he made through the entire primary and that was to say Mexico was paying for the wall and he didn't need to discuss it. There was an article out today that they're considering taking elicit assets from the --

(CROSSTALK) SCIUTTO: Based on the word "discuss", and apparently, the president said that he brought up, that it was not going to pay for it.

MCENANY: I don't doubt that he made a comment that it's happening, but it was not discussed. Donald Trump did not engage in that discussion because he did not need the permission.

SCIUTTO: He left the impression that it didn't come up and the Mexican president said --

MCENANY: And the president stood by him when he made that comment. If I'm going to believe someone, I'm going to believe the person who said it on stage and was not rebutted by the partner standing next to him.

SCIUTTO: Monica you --

LANGLEY: He was not going to give up on the payment of the wall. He was not going to talk about it in deference to the Mexican president, after their really good meeting, he thought. And then he decided, I'm throwing it in, and thing is, even though you think it was a missed opportunity, the Trump campaign still believes it went very well. He looked presidential and he came back from that day and they had the biggest fund-raising day in the entire campaign, $5 million raised in a single day, and they're saying we have shown by going to Mexico and by going to Louisiana, we are out there taking the big moves and Hillary Clinton is doing her Hamptons to Hollywood fund-raising.

SCIUTTO: The question is does that accomplish the goal of drawing in more Latino voters? That's the question.

Karine, I think I know what your view is, but pastor, I want to hear from you, as well.

PASTOR JAMES DAVIS, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: I think there is a huge cross-section of American voters that are tired of soft leadership and of what Donald Trump represents is someone that says what he means and means what he says and he reiterated and doubled down on his original posture.

SCIUTTO: Karine, pipe in.

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: When you have David duke, the former grand wizard of the KKK and Ann Coulter celebrating your speech, your alt-right speech that you give after visiting the president of Mexico, that's a problem. That does not mean you're doing good outreach.

(CROSSTALK)

SCIUTTO: I want to get your thoughts and I want to play a bit of sound that's relevant to you.

This is the founder of the group Latinos for Trump. A warning he gave last night. Just have a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MARCO GUTIERRZ, CO-FOUNDER, LATINOS FOR TRUMP: My culture is a very dominant culture and it's imposing and causing problems. If you don't do something about it, you will have taco trucks on every corner.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SCIUTTO: Taco trucks on every corner. What's your reaction?

BASIL SMIKLE, HILLARY CLINTON SUPPORTER: I don't know why he's afraid of that. I'm good with that.

SCIUTTO: There appears to be -- racist is not the word, but an offensive message there, an insulting message.

SMIKLE: There absolutely is, and to me, what's interesting is that the speech in Phoenix was of the darkest I've heard from Donald Trump and to me for the Republican Party that talks a lot about family values, what he's doing in his speech and what he's proposing to do with his policies is to break up families all over this country, of multiple ethnicities with his deportation forces.

He's not -- as Hillary Clinton is, he is not in support of the deferred parents.

SCIUTTO: Kayleigh, just a quick response before we go.

MCENANY: Dark is the favorite adjective of the Hillary Clinton camp and what's dark is not Donald Trump's **immigration** policy. What's dark is the fact that there were parents on that stage who lost their children in the hands of illegal **immigrant**. Hillary Clinton has no plan for redressing that and making sure that no future American citizens are killed.

SMIKLE: But as the reporting has said of the 11.4 million that was 121 --

MCENANY: One is too many. Ask Kate Steinle's mom, ask Kate Steinle's mom.

SMIKLE: and that is absolutely correct, but you are also condemning the rest of those families because what he's doing --

(CROSSTALK)

SMIKLE: Well, actually he called them murderers and rapists.

MCENANY: No, he did not.

SCIUTTO: We're going to have to leave it there.

OUTFRONT next, Hermine packing high winds and rain threatening the Labor Day weekend for millions of Americans, myself included, along the East Coast.

An a stunning new report claims that an American who went missing in China more than a decade ago is now in North Korea tutoring Kim Jong- un. His brother will be my guest. That's live coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:43:01] SCIUTTO: Breaking news: a dangerous tropical storm right now roaring up the east coast packing winds of nearly 50 miles per hour. The storm is generating life-threatening conditions, including dangerous surf, damaging winds, drenching rains. The big concern right now for more than 30 million people, major coastal flooding.

This storm already taking the life of one person in Florida, leaving thousands of homes and businesses in the dark and underwater across Florida.

Martin Savidge is OUTFRONT. He's in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina.

Martin, the storm now bearing down on the Carolinas. What are conditions like where you are right now?

MARTIN SAVIDGE, CNN CORRESPONDENT: The conditions have been changing dramatically just in the last half hour. The winds have definitely been picking up and the rain which has been steady all day long, though, is falling now or striking me with a much greater force.

Here's the thing that's unique from what happened 24 hours ago, when it came ashore in Florida as a hurricane. This tropical storm is doing just the opposite now. It is going to pass over the outer banks and go out to sea -- so from land, out to water.

The thing is water is gasoline to a tropical storm like this. So, it's expected that it will begin to intensify, which, of course, for everyone along the Eastern Seaboard, that is not good news. The storm could strengthen from this point on out.

The big concern right now, coastal flooding, six to eight inches projected here, wind speeds of 50 to 55 miles an hour, not a devastating storm but a greatly disruptive storm. Already in South Carolina alone, over 700,000 people without electricity. That number is expected to grow as is this storm.

Back to you.

SCIUTTO: Talking beach closures now as well now. Martin Savidge, thank you.

I want to turn to meteorologist Karen Maginnis.

Karen, this storm expected to cause dangerous conditions for folks really across the eastern seaboard this holiday weekend. Can you walk us through those?

KAREN MAGINNIS, AMS METEOROLOGIST: Yes, between 30 million and 40 million people will be impacted.

[19:45:04] Now, this doesn't look like that robust hurricane that we were looking at just about 16 hours ago, but it's going to exit off the North Carolina coast. As it does that, it's going to encounter that warm stream of water, the gulfstream just off the coast and it is going to linger and it is going to travel a little bit, but nothing dramatic. As we heard martin just mention and coastal sections of North Carolina, six to ten inches of rainfall. This is low-lying territory, and they're going to see quite a bit of damaging flooding, a heavy coastal flooding and storm surge. You're going see plenty of power outages there, as well.

All right. So, we talk about the spaghetti models and take a look at this and most of them in agreement off the coast of North Carolina, but then it really looks like spaghetti. It's turning around on itself and it doesn't have any particular direction, but what can we expect?

Let's go ahead and show you what's happening on the floor. We take this system off the coast of North Carolina. We could see wind gusts up around 60 miles an hour, but steady winds, 35 to 40 miles an hour, but then racing all of the way up the coast, all the way into Massachusetts. We are looking at what could be a pretty devastating Labor Day weekend.

We head back towards the board. What's going to happen? This post- tropical system will be off the coast of New Jersey and it's going to impact folks there. Could see severe flooding even over the dunes and back bay flooding and it will be quite the system to watch for the next five days.

Back to you, Jim.

SCIUTTO: Karen Maginnis at the CNN weather center.

OUTFRONT next, an American that went missing in China 12 years ago, new reports says he may be teaching English to the North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un. His brother is my guest live coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:50:46] SCIUTTO: Tonight, an astonishing report claiming that an American student missing since 2004 is now living in North Korea and working as an English tutor for Kim Jong-un.

David Sneddon, then 24 years old, had worked in South Korea as a missionary for the Church of Latter-Day Saints. He went missing while hiking in China. When investigators failed to find any trace of him, Chinese authorities suggested he may have fallen to his death.

But Yahoo News Japan reports that Sneddon now lives in the capital of Pyongyang with a wife and two kids. The State Department officials tell CNN that they have investigated these claims that first surfaced some four years ago, but have found nothing to corroborate them or this most recent report.

OUTFRONT tonight, we have David Sneddon's brother, James.

James, thanks so much for joining us tonight.

JAMES SNEDDON, DAVID SNEDDON'S BROTHER: Sure. Glad to be here.

SCIUTTO: So, James, you and your family have always believed your brother to be alive, and I know you've traveled to China several times to retrace his steps. What leads you to believe that there is something to back up and that these latest reports are credible?

SNEDDON: I think it's quite simple, from our perspective. This is essentially the story that we've been told for more that five years, with information given to us by very credible organizations in the international community. And this latest report really came as a surprise to us, and it just echoed things that we've already known. So, that alone for us speaks of its veracity.

SCIUTTO: And the substance, this is based on defectors from North Korea coming to South Korea, who said that they've seen someone who fits your brother's identity?

SNEDDON: I don't know that we have determined the informant, if you will. I think Mr. Choi who provided the information has his sources. We need to determine who those informants are and to determine that credibility. But that's a likely scenario.

SCIUTTO: Now, I know this remains an enormous mystery, and based on the State Department. The State Department says it has looked into these for years and it hasn't found anything to back this up and what's your advice to the State Department when it says that?

SNEDDON: It's a very curious comment, I think, that the family often wonders. You know, I think you have to look at what we set out to do 12 years ago. We went to China literally to find our brother and bring home. We thought we would find him.

And as we got more information about where he went and people that witnessed him, it was very clear that he did not die in the gorge. Hiking it myself having hiked many years with my family in the mountains, it's really kind of implausible. So, we had that information.

And it wasn't until later in time when people came to us with the story that we had presented and they said, hey, you might look into this other scenario and it's very impossible. It's an M.O. for North Korea. We think it could be the solution for David's missing scenario.

And it just grew from there. So, it's nothing that we generated or it came to us from other sources is what folks need to remember.

SCIUTTO: James, is there sport or backing from the U.S. government that you don't believe you're getting?

SNEDDON: It's actually -- I think it's growing. I think the interest and the desire to resolve it is increasing and certainly this latest development improves that. I think it's fair to say we'd like to see more attention from investigative resources or even possibly the State Department, but they have a history of also being very helpful. And so, you know, it's a U.S. citizen. That's the bottom line. He went missing under unusual circumstances. If he is helping this regime, it should be very concerning that we're empowering and strengthening them with intelligence and expertise that they're operators, and I think it's something that we should look into. It should be I think an easy answer for most people.

SCIUTTO: Now, if it was possible that your brother were to hear you or somehow hear what you were saying to us tonight, what would you want to say to him?

SNEDDON: We haven't forgotten you, David. I think that's what we worry about most, is he has -- there's no communication for him, we believe.

[19:55:03] And we just haven't forgotten and we're not going to stop until we at least know what happened. And we want you to come home.

SCIUTTO: James Sneddon, we wish you and your family the very best. Thanks so much.

SNEDDON: Thank you.

SCIUTTO: And we'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SCIUTTO: Thanks for joining us. I'm Jim Sciutto. Have a great weekend for you East Coasters, I hope it's a dry one.

"AC360" with Anderson starts right now.

**NEW\_DOCUMENT\_HERE**

Erin Burnett, Jim Acosta, Jeff Zeleny, Tom Foreman, Drew Griffin, Jennifer Gray, Kyung Lah

8312 speakers\_end

[19:00:11] ERIN BURNETT, CNN ANCHOR: OUTFRONT next, **immigration** blowback. Donald Trump's Latino supporters jump ship. One of them saying he doesn't want to be part of Trump's scam.

Plus, a dangerous hurricane bearing down on the U.S. millions in its path from Florida all of the way up the east coast and CNN going one- on-one with Trump's controversial doctor. Wait until you see this. Let's go OUTFRONT.

And good evening. I'm Erin Burnett. OUTFRONT tonight, whiplash. In less than 24 hours Donald is speaking on both sides of the border and both sides of his mouth. Trump talking tough today on **immigration** on the campaign trail.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(CROWD CHANTING)

Build the wall! Build the wall!

DONALD TRUMP (R), PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: We're going to build the wall. Mexico is going to pay for the wall. We're going to stop --

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: But in a radio interview with conservative host Laura Ingraham, Trump created more confusion by saying, he was going to soften his position on deporting undocumented **immigrants**.

TRUMP: Well, there's softening. Look, we do it in a very humane way and we're going to see with the people that are in the country.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Joe Biden hitting the campaign trail today firing back at Donald Trump dismissing Trump's high-profile Mexico visit and his **immigration** speech.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: I don't know if he knows his own **immigration** policy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And Tim Kaine charging that Trump lost his nerve when he went face to face with Mexico's president.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. TIM KAINE (D), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Losing his will and losing his backbone in key moments when negotiator but then pouring on the red meat and saying the divisive things when he thinks it's going to wipe an audience up. Again, to keep America safe. It's no time for amateurs.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Jim Acosta begins our coverage OUTFRONT tonight in Miami. And Jim, so last night the fiery speech after the much more tempered speech in Mexico, and now today saying he's softening. What's going on?

JIM ACOSTA, CNN CORRESPONDENT: That's right, Erin. Donald Trump is back to referring his **immigration** stance as a softening, but that is not how his toughest critics and even his strongest supporters see it and as we saw earlier today, some of its own high-profile Latino surrogates are bolting from his campaign.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA (voice-over): Donald Trump proved once again today his stance on **immigration** is a moving target.

TRUMP: We're going to build the wall. Mexico is going to pay for the wall.

ACOSTA: At two different events in Ohio, the GOP nominee was both talking tough on **immigration** while toning down his rhetoric on Mexico one day after his historic visit with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto. A visit designed to show he could be diplomatic.

TRUMP: I just came back from a wonderful meeting with the President of Mexico where I expressed my deep respect for the people of this country.

ACOSTA: Adding to the confusion, a talk radio appearance where Trump insisted he is softening, suggesting he will prioritize the deportation of undocumented criminals over the removal of law abiding unauthorized **immigrants**.

TRUMP: Oh, there's softening, we have a lot of people in this country that you can't have and those people will get out and then we're going to make a decision at a later date once everything is stabilized. I think you will going to see there's really quite a bit of softening.

ACOSTA: Problem is --

TRUMP: There will be no amnesty. You cannot obtain legal status or become a citizen of the United States by illegally entering our country.

ACOSTA: Most of his supporters and critics heard Trump hardening in his **immigration** speech in Phoenix warning every undocumented person in the U.S. is subject to deportation. He addressed some of his own Latino surrogates strait for the exits.

JACOB MONTY, FORMER TRUMP HISPANIC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER: I've resigned. I know other people have resigned. It's not a good feeling because the alternative is not much better but I'm unwilling to be part of his propaganda machine.

ACOSTA: The Clinton campaign insists Trump hasn't softened a bit except when it comes to confronting Mexico's president over who should pay for a wall on the Southern U.S. border, a matter Trump claims he didn't discuss with Pena Nieto.

TRUMP: We did discuss the wall. We didn't discuss payment of the wall.

ACOSTA: The Mexican president insists he made his stance clear.

PRES. ENRIQUE PENA NIETO, MEXICO (through a Translator): I was emphatic to a firm that Mexico would not pay by any means for the wall.

ACOSTA: Tim Kaine accused Trump of cracking on the wall.

SEN. TIM KAINE (D), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: That was a choke, and I think it shows that diplomacy is not for amateurs. Donald Trump is an amateur.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ACOSTA: And Erin, we should point out tonight, there's a bit of a mini staff shake-up going on inside the Trump campaign. We found out from sources that earlier today Rick Gates, a deputy who is under the former campaign chairman of Paul Manafort is leaving the campaign while the campaign is now bringing on a man named David Bossie to be the deputy campaign manager. You might remember, David Bossie worked with the conservative group Citizens United and so here we go heading into the final stretch of this campaign, it's September now and Donald Trump is still making moves with his staff -- Erin.

[19:05:24] BURNETT: All right. Thank you very much, Jim.

And OUTFRONT now, David Gergen served as adviser to four presidents including Reagan and Clinton. Clinton supporter Basil Smikle, senior advisor to the Trump campaign Boris Epshteyn, Clinton supporter Karine Jean Pierre. A national spokesperson for Moveon.org. Trump's supporter Joe Visconti and Mark Preston, executive editor of CNN politics.

Mark, let me just start with you, though on that news, yet another change, shift within the Trump campaign. A Manafort loyalist out and another change. Change is still happening here, three different leaders in just two months. MARK PRESTON, CNN POLITICS EXECUTIVE EDITOR: Right, and the question is, will we continue to see changes, you know, in the coming weeks? Look, this has been a campaign that is certainly unconventional and has really thrived on chaos in being disarray. However, we are at the point right now where the campaign really needs to bring it together, and I have to say though that Kellyanne Conway and Steve Bannon when they had taken over a few weeks ago have really tightened things up. I don't think it's necessarily going to hurt Donald Trump right now. I think his bigger problem right now is really appealing to a broader base of voters and he really needs to focus that.

BURNETT: All right. And Boris, to that point, a broader base of voters. Jacob Monty resigning from Trump's Hispanic Advisory Council, one of several today to saying they no longer could stomach being with the Trump campaign. This is not what you wanted to hear after last night. These are guys who had gone on TV, Hispanic-Americans and said Donald Trump is not that bad. Vote for him.

BORIS EPSHTEYN, SENIOR ADVISOR, DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN: Steve Cortes is another Hispanic-American who continues to be an ardent supporter. You know, and it's one thing in the report to name names, Jacob Monty is the only name we just heard. So, there are those --

BURNETT: There are several others.

EPSHTEYN: Now, with all due respect to those individuals and that's their individual choice and we do hope to win back their support by November 8th and for them to vote for Donald Trump because in the end it's a binary choice between Donald Trump on one side who will secure the border, who will end sanctuary cities and catch and release and make sure e-verify is universally instituted and Hillary Clinton whose **immigration** by the way is completely muddled.

But what we do know is 100 day amnesty, 550 percent increase in Syrian **refugees**. Her **immigration** policy is open borders, no America. That's the bottom-line.

BURNETT: David, okay, Basil, go ahead.

BASIL SMIKLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY: Listen, what Donald Trump has been doing is playing good cop/bad cop with the American people. His speech last night was one of the darkest I've ever heard. It was authoritarian, and the specter of these deportation forces going into my community, into our community.

EPSHTEYN: Oh, nice!

SMIKLE: And rounding up individuals is scary to me. And I think the American people should resoundly reject the kind of language that -- the kind of language that Donald Trump is bringing to this race. It's absolutely scary.

EPSHTEYN: But that's not what's happening in the polls.

SMIKLE: But the fact of the matter is that Hillary is about keeping families together. That's not what Donald Trump is talking about. BURNETT: You're right the polls are narrowing, but David Gergen, what is the significance? You had Alfonso Aguilar, you had a pastor in Texas. You had Mr. Monty. All of these individuals, high-profile Hispanics, you said, they could no longer be with the campaign. Basil is right. Others are saying. But those people have all been out vocally saying, last night's speech was too much. Will it matter?

DAVID GERGEN, FORMER PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER: I think we have to see it in context and that is Donald Trump is getting closer and he still could win this thing. Nobody should count him out, you know, he's showing the strength that we had not expected given everything else that's happened. Having said that, this has been a mess and he wasted basically two weeks, precious weeks in the campaign over trying to find a position he can support that would keep his base while also expanding his appeal in the Hispanic community.

And at the end of two weeks, he's come around always full circle and he's done it in a way he's now strengthened his base, but at the expense of the Hispanic-American, he has totally bombed his bridges into the Hispanic community now. This is basically over. You know, we're going to see more resignations from this group.

EPSHTEYN: If I may --

GERGEN: OK. But I just want to finish here. And during these two weeks he could have let Hillary Clinton be the headline and she's been all the defensive.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

EPSHTEYN: I know we're not the same person. Very different views, mine are right, his are wrong.

SMIKLE: Yours are right and mine are left.

EPSHTEYN: You just came out today, you had more e-mails come out today that the Clinton Foundation -- Doug Band requested passports of Huma Abedin, she said, we'll work on it, we'll figure it out. So, that's the real key --

BURNETT: Now, that was to go with Bill Clinton to release the journalist from North Korea. So, that was the context for that --

(CROSSTALK)

We are going to talk about --

EPSHTEYN: As far as the specific issue goes on **immigration**, Donald Trump has been specific and been consistent on **immigration**. I've been on this program for two weeks -- these two weeks saying exactly what he said --

BURNETT: Okay. Hold on for a moment because here he is -- it doesn't seem like that, okay, because it does seem like he's trying to have it both ways. Here he is yesterday, OK? In an eight-hour period in Mexico and in his speech. Let me play. (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

[19:10:07] TRUMP: We did discuss the wall. We didn't discuss payment of the wall and that will be for a later date.

We will build a great wall along the Southern border and Mexico will pay for the wall.

And there is crime, as you know, there is a lot of crime and there are a lot of problems, but I think together we'll solve those problems.

I am going to create a new show, deportation task force, focused on identifying and quickly removing the most dangerous criminal illegal **immigrants** in America.

For a second and third generation Mexicans are just beyond reproach. Spectacular, spectacular, hardworking people.

We have no idea who these people are, where they come from. I always say Trojan horse.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: Joe?

JOE VISCONTI, DONALD TRUMP SUPPORTER: I think this is unbelievable. People don't realize what he said last night. The left has been looking for substance and he's bringing substance. The countries that will not -

BURNETT: But the question here is, he's saying different things at different times. Not the substance.

VISCONTI: No, no, very careful what he said. He said countries won't take these **immigrants** back these illegals. You watched for Donald Trump, game this situation and shake down those countries for money at the end of the day however this pans out. So they'll pay for the people that should go back to those countries, whether it's Mexico, Guatemala. Countries that won't take the people back. Watch Trump turn this into a financial win.

BURNETT: Quick final word. Mark, quick final word.

PRESTON: He won the day in the morning, he lost the day in the evening and the ramifications are, is what we're seeing in the last 24 hours and will continue over the next few days.

BURNETT: All right. You're all staying with me. Next, a dangerous hurricane about to slam the East Coast. One governor calling it life- threatening to the millions in its path. We have the very latest on this as the storm approaches coming in the next couple of hours.

And breaking news, Hillary Clinton releasing record-setting fund- raising numbers. Should the Trump campaign be scared?

And CNN goes one-on-one with Donald Trump's doctor. (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Why did you write that letter? Was it a joke? The words you chose, the way you wrote it?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I was just rushed for time. I had people to see.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:15:53] BURNETT: Breaking news. Hillary Clinton smashing fund- raising records for the month of August. Just moments ago the campaign revealing that the Democratic nominee has $143 million from August, that was involving 37 fundraisers, $62 million of that total haul is directly for her campaign. It is the biggest yet for her campaign.

Jeff Zeleny is OUTFRONT. And Jeff, obviously this came from more than just fundraisers but even so, you're talking about millions of dollars from fund raisers, each of them and some very rich people.

JEFF ZELENY, CNN SENIOR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: No doubt about it, Erin. It really is a gold-plated list of who's who of celebrities, first of all. And a combination of celebrities, actors, athletes and others. Remember that California fundraising swing shake a couple of weeks ago, $20 million in three days alone on that. Last week in the Hamptons, one night alone some $7 million here. But it's not only that, to add up to the eye-popping number of $143 million, she's also getting a small set of donors to give to a lot of state party committees across the country. The maximum amount that some people can give if you give to absolutely everyone $366,000 from one person alone. That's how this number gets so high, Erin. All legal and part of the campaign finance laws, but that's how the number gets so high.

BURNETT: And by the way, and I say this totally, politically, it's why people think the system is so broken. And you say, there's limits of this and you can give nearly $400,000. I mean, it seems ridiculous to most people. But she's doing very well obviously when it comes to fundraising, how though is that impacting the polls or are the polls reflecting that big haul?

ZELENY: Well, Erin, not really. I mean, other than that aside, August had been on track to be a good month for her after that convention. And our CNN poll of polls which is a survey of the five most recent, highly respected national surveys, she started the month ten points ahead of Donald Trump. But Erin, she's ending the month only five points ahead of Donald Trump. You can see right here 42 percent to 37 percent.

So still a lead for sure in this national poll of polls, but not what many Democrats had hoped for and the reasons campaign officials believe is the drip, drip, drip that we talk about so often here. The e-mail controversy, the Clinton Foundation controversy. But when Labor Day begins the traditional kickoff of the campaign, that's where she begins here, a lot of money, but quite a few vulnerabilities, as well.

BURNETT: All right. Jeff Zeleny, thank you very much. My panel back with me. And Boris, you have to admit these fund-raising numbers are impressive. These are big numbers.

EPSHTEYN: Listen, the Clintons have proven, they're good at making brags, they're good at taking money, they've been doing that since they left the White House.

BURNETT: OK. These are fundraisers --

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

That's what happens when you leave the White House dead broke and now are worth $250 million. May I just -- it's all about the polls. We are either tighter up in a lot of these few polls.

BURNETT: OK.

EPSHTEYN: LA Times, Reuters, et cetera.

BURNETT: OK. Karine, respond to this --

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, NATIONAL SPOKESWOMAN, MOVEON.ORG: Yes. Way to muddle everything. Look --

EPSHTEYN: It's called an answer.

JEAN-PIERRE: Yes. Well, that's what you think. Look, she's playing the long game here, right?

EPSHTEYN: Sure.

JEAN-PIERRE: There are -- her map is expanding while his map is shrinking, right? It's about getting to 270 and maybe more. And so, this is what's going on, so she's getting all this money and it's great and this is what the national political campaigns are all about is fundraising and you can't run the campaign --

VISCONTI: We're doing it in Michigan, in Pennsylvania, and Ohio and Florida.

JEAN-PIERRE: She's running a real campaign.

VISCONTI: But more money in the product no one wants -- that's why her polls are going down.

JEAN-PIERRE: She has an army in ten to 11 states.

BURNETT: Hold on everybody, because here's the thing. This money is coming from rich people. Justin Timberlake, Paul McCartney. I mean, it's hard for her to say, it isn't hard for her to say. Oh, I'm with the average American when it's all these rich celebrities.

SMIKLE: Oh, she could say that because she actually has a record of supporting the middle class. She has a record of going into communities.

EPSHTEYN: Where's the example?

SMIKLE: She has a record of going into communities and working with people.

VISCONTI: She has a record of supporting the Clinton Foundation.

SMIKLE: She's actually has a record doing this, but I will say this because --

EPSHTEYN: Hold on. Hold on.

SMIKLE: It was the Warren Hatch bill.

EPSHTEYN: Would you stop?

SMIKLE: That say, there was a mention of state parties, let me talk about that, because what that money actually helps us do is build the party from the ground up. All of these state races --

BURNETT: She's raising money for a lot of others. OK.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

JEAN-PIERRE: I want to add.

SMIKLE: You had state Senate races and areas where things like the death penalty are on the table.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

JEAN-PIERRE: The Senate is in play and, you know, the house and we'll see what happens there. But that is also very important, that's the long game. It's not just her president --

EPSHTEYN: You keep saying, but we're gaining in every state.

[19:20:38] BURNETT: Hold on a second. David, to that point, the polls are tightening significantly. She spent a lot of time fundraising. Trump had a tough month, okay? And yet her lead was cut in half by the poll.

GERGEN: Well, I think there was the convention bump, to be fair about it. And yes, I think they get settled into a five-point race and what the Trump people really ought to be worried about is that once it closes more, they are still behind. They're behind in every single swing state. Eleven swing state behind. Every single one of them. Now, Trump is very competitive here, but why are they raising all this money? Obviously, it's partly for insurance for her campaign. But it's also, they want to roll up the score, and again realize that if they can get the Senate and if she can open this race up more, if they can go back to ten points after the first debate and then she can get the House and she can govern more effectively. That's what the name of the game is really here is how do you -- we can win the presidency, but how do we govern and we need a big win to govern that. BURNETT: Is that really possible, Mark?

PRESTON: I'm sorry, that's just not happening.

BURNETT: House and the Senate.

PRESTON: Yes. I mean, look, the Senate is obviously a lot easier than the House.

VISCONTI: They'll never get the house.

PRESTON: The Senate is obviously a lot easier than the House and there's a good chance that the Republicans will hold on to it. But David is right. The positions that the Democrats are in the right now, as opposed to seven or eight months ago, and they're in a much better position. But to the point, all the criticisms of Hillary Clinton and even from us from not doing press conferences is she should be doing conference --

GERGEN: I agree with that.

PRESTON: -- is that the dog days of summer and her being not out there and raising all these money is going to pay off for her to buy ads in all of these states and we've seen her go up in Arizona.

JEAN-PIERRE: But she's up --

PRESTON: But that's how it works. That's how it works.

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

JEAN-PIERRE: She's up in Arizona which is a state that should be Republican.

EPSHTEYN: Hold on. Can we just be fair on one thing? We are not down in every battleground state. We are up in North Carolina, we're up in Florida, we're tied in Ohio.

BURNETT: Well, it depends on the polls.

EPSHTEYN: We are not done and the polls are a snapshot. We all agree on that. We have 68 weeks to go.

GERGEN: If the election were held today, he would lose.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I know that but let me --

(TALKING OVER EACH OTHER)

BURNETT: Right. Which is why the polls don't matter right now.

SMIKLE: The Brexit people are down by about three or four points. The polling can be wrong.

BURNETT: The polls were wrong.

SMIKLE: The polls were wrong.

BURNETT: OK.

EPSHTEYN: Wait a second --

BURNETT: Hold on. Hold on one moment.

I want to play something Joe Biden said today, OK? Because one of the things that your campaign is trying to pick on about her is the Clinton Foundation.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Right.

BURNETT: All right? Joe Biden was asked about this today and mark, there was a less than resounding defense of Hillary. Let me play Joe Biden about in the Clinton Foundation today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Do you think Americans should be concerned at all about the ethics of the Clinton Foundation? Has the Clinton Foundation always been 100 percent ethical in your view?

VICE PRES. JOE BIDEN (D), UNITED STATES: Look, I think the Clinton Foundation like all foundations have found themselves in a position where things are changing, and I think she's going to change and adjust to the realities of how complicated it's all become.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: That was not a ringing endorsement for her defense.

GERGEN: It was not, and frankly, if you talked to some of Mrs. Clinton's closest friends, you will find them sort of baffled and the last 24 hours --

BURNETT: It's interesting word. Baffled.

GERGEN: -- and they're baffled and they don't understand because they respect her in so many ways and so many things she's done and they look at this and they say, why? How did this happen? How did they allow this to happen? It looks too sloppy and it's coming back to hurt her. There's a definitely drag on her campaign. And that's why I thought Trump ought to get out of the way of this thing and let the story play out and not go down to do all of these Mexican thing.

BURNETT: All right. We're going to hit pause. We're going to hit pause.

Thank you and next, one group applauding Trump's **immigration** speech is white nationalist. The line in Trump's speech is getting their attention is next.

Plus, a space X rocket bursting into a fireball at launch in Cape Canaveral. What went wrong? And tonight, live pictures from Florida. A massive hurricane set to make landfall, tens of millions along the east coast in this massive storm's path. A live report coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:28:40] BURNETT: Tonight, white nationalists are seizing on Donald Trump's tough talk when it comes to **immigration** insisting Trump is speaking to them when he talks of deportation and restricting **immigration**. The campaign disavowing that support, but these followers have become an issue for Trump.

Tom Foreman is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

TRUMP: It is our right as a sovereign nation to choose **immigrants** that we think are the likeliest to thrive and flourish and love us.

TOM FOREMAN, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Whether Donald Trump wanted to or not, his tough **immigration** speech triggered support among people who see **immigration** by minorities as a recipe for disaster.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes. I know, the speech last night was beautiful. It was really, really good, and I was really happy about it.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The obvious difference was his skin color.

FOREMAN: Neo-Nazi Andrew England was thrilled as he appeared on the radio show a former Klansman David Duke who was pretty happy, too.

DAVID DUKE, FORMER IMPERIAL WIZARD OF THE KU KLUX KLAN: We have to take America back and we have to defend the heritage of the people who created America.

FOREMAN: In other words, white people. One goal excited special praise.

TRUMP: To keep **immigration** levels measured by population share within historical norms.

FOREMAN: Some of these groups clearly believe that would mean a preference for white Christian **immigrants**. White nationalist writer Richard Spencer cited long-ago legislation severely limiting **immigrants** from Eastern and Southern Europe, Africa, Arabs and Asians. Trump is returning to the ideas of the 1924 **immigration**act. **Immigrants** will reflect the racial makeup of the country and white nationalist publisher Jared Taylor called the speech almost perfect. Donald Trump has tied our foolish **immigration** policies to every problem we have.

Trump has already been accused several times of encouraging bigoted or racist views.

TRUMP: For a total and complete shutdown. FOREMAN: For example, for his call for a ban on Muslim **immigrants**. Now, he's pushing a somewhat different approach.

TRUMP: Applicants will be asked for their views about honor killings, about respect for women, gays and minorities, attitudes on radical Islam.

FOREMAN: And his running mate insists these policies are not about race.

GOV. MIKE PENCE (R), VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE: Donald Trump is saying we need to make sure the people that are coming into America of every race and creed and color share a fundamental appreciation for the ideals of this country. A fundamental admiration for the people of this country, and that's been something that's been a part of our **immigration** system for generations.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

FOREMAN: Still, even as the campaign says it wants nothing to do with David Duke and his ilk, Trump's approach is energizing some people who like America as a fundamentally white Christian country and wants every entrance guarded with that in mind -- Erin.

BURNETT: Tom, thank you very much.

And OUTFRONT now, Donald Trump's foreign policy adviser, Retired Lieutenant General Michael Flynn.

And, General Flynn, thank you very much for being here with me in person.

You just heard Tom Foreman's report. What's your reaction to the fact that Donald Trump's message last night is resonating with white supremacists?

LT. GEN. MICHAEL FLYNN (RET), TRUMP'S FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER: White supremacists and KKK needs to go away. And I mean, I would just say not only does Donald Trump disavow him, but I think most Americans disavow that line of thinking and those kinds of groups.

And, Erin, as you and many, many people know, the KKK came out of the Democratic Party. Senator Byrd who is deceased now --

BURNETT: What's relevant is what they're doing now.

FLYNN: I know it, but don't -- don't try to tie, you know, the KKK to the Republican Party or conservative movement in this country.

I mean, everything that Donald Trump is talking about has to do with all Americans in this country and all those **immigrants** that want to come this country legally.

So, this whole issue about what's been said about, you know, the white supremacist movement -- to me, I find them disgusting.

BURNETT: So, I understand that, but David Duke --

FLYNN: And their view is disgusting.

BURNETT: David Duke, grand wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, tweeted in response to the speech, "Excellent speech by Donald Trump, deport criminal **aliens**, end catch and release, enforce **immigration** laws and America first."

That's David Duke associated supporting, endorsing Donald Trump. That isn't the media tying David Duke to the Republican Party.

FLYNN: Donald Trump can't control what David Duke tweets out. Nobody can.

So -- but, you know, I'm not going to sit here and tell you that there's zero support, zero and zero avowment of what he represents. I mean, let's be very, very clear about that.

BURNETT: So, let me ask you, when Trump id and you just heard him there in Trump's piece, to keep **immigration** levels measured by population share within historical norms, what is he saying? Because historically that would mean that you're going to preserve a white country if it changes and you have more people who are not white that want to come into the United States, this country could become white, unless you were to keep **immigration** levels measured by population share within historical norms. Is that a white supremacist thing to say?

FLYNN: I don't know the details so you've got me on that one there. But what I will tell you is that, just looking at **immigration** flow into this country and how many we bring in every year and all of the different countries that people are coming from, I think one of the things that came out of Donald Trump's speech last night, one of the points they think is really important is these countries that do not want to accept their illegals back into their countries, and I think the number that Donald Trump talked about was 22 countries.

And so, I mean, if those 22 countries are getting any support from us financially either foreign, military sales or any other security and diplomatic funds, those are the kinds of things we ought to be looking at.

BURNETT: And that might be something. But again, I know you said this is sort of beyond your area. But to keep **immigration** levels measured by population share within historical norms, is there any way to interpret that other than to keep this country white?

FLYNN: I don't know. I don't know. I think what you'd have to do is you have to look at how do we currently do it and currently bring **immigrants** into this country and take people through the legal process which I believe takes 18 months on average. That's what I believe. I think that that system is obviously not working and the number of individuals in this country that stay beyond their visa period that are here, again, illegally, I mean, we have to fix this problem. We have to have security in this country. If we don't, then we don't have a country. BURNETT: So would you have phrased this, this way?

FLYNN: I'm not going to -- I'm not going to, you know, sit here and debate you about the way the particular words were phrased. I don't -- I don't read it like that, and I listened to the speech last night, I thought it was an excellent speech and I thought it was comprehensive and there was meat to it that people can actually say, OK, here's how we are going to approach this problem, here's how we're going to prioritize and how we're going to deal with illegals. So, there's a lot to it.

BURNETT: So, last night, Jacob Monty --

(CROSSTALK)

FLYNN: I'm sorry. I'm sorry, because I mean, what's happening is people are trying to tie, you know, tie racism. This is the argument. They're trying to tie racism to Donald Trump and basically the entire campaign.

They're making a mistake. That's a big, big mistake because it's so untrue when you look at --

BURNETT: When someone says they want to ban Muslims, there's no racism in that at all?

FLYNN: I don't think it's ban Muslims and it's where the countries of origin from some of these because it's not a blanket, because we have Muslims trying to come into this country from a variety -- and we have a lot of them already here that are great. They are great Americans and contributing.

But I know that there are some that are coming from some countries and we know -- we know that the Islamic State has said they are going to use the **refugee** flow into Europe and the United States to infiltrate into those populations. So, we have to take that seriously and when we talk about vetting of some of these individuals coming out of Syria or coming out of Iraq and out of Afghanistan, we have to take seriously the fact that they're going to do this, because every time they've said that they're going to do something, Erin, they do it.

BURNETT: All right. General Flynn, thank you very much. I appreciate your time tonight.

Next, one-on-one with Donald Trump's controversial doctor.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DREW GRIFFIN, CNN SENIOR INVESTIGATIVE CORRESPONDENT: Do you fully believe Mr. Trump is capable of being president physically?

DR. HAROLD BORNSTEIN, DONALD TRUMP'S DOCTOR: Oh, absolutely. There's no question.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BURNETT: And a major hurricane threatening the East Coast, millions in its path. We're going to go live to Florida.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:41:39] BURNETT: Tonight, one-on-one with Dr. Harold Bornstein, Trump's controversial doctor who admit he wrote the letter vouching for Trump's help in just five minutes. He wrote in part, if elected, Mr. Trump, I can state unequivocally will be the healthiest individual ever elected to the presidency.

Now, those words and the phrasing raised quite a few questions about the doctor himself.

Drew Griffin is OUTFRONT.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

GRIFFIN: Good morning, Dr. Bornstein.

(voice-over): We met Donald Trump's Trump entering his Park Avenue office just as he's done for the last 35 years.

(on camera): How is it going?

BORNSTEIN: Nice to see you.

GRIFFIN (voice-over): Harold Bornstein is a 69-year-old gastroenterologist who took over this practice from his father and suddenly finds his lifetime of serving patients being turned upside down because of one letter.

(on camera): Hey, can I ask you just a couple of questions? Did you really write that letter?

BORNSTEIN: Did I really write that letter? Yes.

GRIFFIN (voice-over): It was a letter Donald Trump produced last December to prove he is healthy. A note that is being ripped apart by other doctors because of what they say is strange wording, medically incorrect terms and its unprofessional conclusions. Trump's "test results were astonishingly excellent," he writes. And "If elected, Mr. Trump will be the healthiest individual ever elected to the presidency."

Combined with his somewhat unconventional looks and his unconventional patient, Bornstein has been made out in the aggressive election coverage to be somewhat eccentric.

(on camera): So, can we just ask you a few questions without --

(voice-over): The soft-spoken doctor finally agreed if we weren't intrusive or insulting, to take a few questions on the bench outside his office. Warning us his wife would not be so hospitable.

BORNSTEIN: Right here is fine. My wife will come back. She'll get angry.

GRIFFIN (on camera): The press has tried to make you into being some kind of a lunatic or something.

BORNSTEIN: Lunatic doesn't have credentials. The only thing I've wanted to do my life is practice with my father which I managed to do until his death in this office.

GRIFFIN: And we've looked, believe me sir, we've looked at your record and we've looked for any signs of trouble and you've had a couple of medical malpractice suits that were settled.

BORNSTEIN: But that's the normal.

GRIFFIN (voice-over): The fact is that is normal for a long- practicing doctor, a few malpractice suits from decades ago settled. He's never lost his license, has never faced criminal allegations whatsoever.

An expert CNN has talked with whatever his looks or his client's, Dr. Bornstein seems like a fully competent medical professional.

(on camera): Are there any regrets you have getting involved in this crazy election?

BORNSTEIN: No. These people are my patients. I take care of them the right way.

GRIFFIN: And you fully -- whatever you wrote in that letter you fully believe Mr. Trump is capable of being president physically?

BORNSTEIN: Oh, absolutely. There's no question.

GRIFFIN: Why did you write that letter? Was it a joke? The words you chose, the way you wrote it?

BORNSTEIN: I was just rushed for time. I had people to see.

GRIFFIN (voice-over): There was no Trump limo waiting outside, he says. He just wrote the letter for a patient that he's been seeing for the last 30 years. A patient his mother found.

(on camera): What do you make of being interjected into this election?

BORNSTEIN: I make the injection. I grew up in Jamaica, New York.

[19:45:01] There's my wife. I grew up Jamaica, New York. They lived across the street and my mother found him as a patient as a member of his golf club and he stayed for 30 years.

GRIFFIN (voice-over): Then, as he warned, his wife arrived.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: You're done.

BORNSTEIN: Stop it.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: You're done. You're on private property and we're going to call the police. I'm going to call the police. GRIFFIN: I appreciate you, doctor.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm going to call the police right now. You're in private property.

GRIFFIN: Thank you, Doctor. Thank you very much.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

BURNETT: My goodness.

GRIFFIN: Yes, it wasn't the Marcus Welby M.D. ending, that's for sure, unconventional and you know, he's a physician. He's treated Donald Trump for 30 years. Who better to tell us whether he's physically fit or not?

BURNETT: He seemed rather soft-spoken, sweet and endearing in the interaction that I saw with you.

GRIFFIN: That's exactly right. He didn't want to talk to us, and he didn't want to talk us to because he feared what happened at the end and he was afraid his wife would come in. She was parking the car when we did the interview and when she came in she made it very clear enough.

BURNETT: It was a whole new look at him from what we saw before. Thank you very much, Drew.

And OUTFRONT next, a monster hurricane about to slam into Florida and then head up the east coast. We are live where the strong winds and heavy rain are picking up.

And a massive explosion on the launch pad of Cape Canaveral. What went so wrong?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:50:19] BURNETT: Breaking news: tens of millions of people in the path of a massive storm tonight. At this hour, Hurricane Hermine barreling toward the gulf coast with winds of 75 miles an hour. These are live pictures of the panhandle in Florida.

The storm is, as I said, hours away from slamming Florida bringing, potentially deadly storm surges of up to eight feet. Even more rain to already flooded areas. This is the first hurricane to make landfall in Florida in over a decade.

Let me say that again, the first hurricane to make landfall in Florida in over a decade. Florida's governor warning it's a life threatening storm. Parts of Georgia and North Carolina also under states of emergency. Warnings extend as far north as New Jersey.

Meteorologist Jennifer Gray is OUTFRONT from the Florida Panhandle tonight.

And, Jennifer, how bad is this going to get? JENNIFER GRAY, AMS METEOROLOGIST: Well, the winds have really picked up, Erin, and they will continue to do so over the next couple of hours. We are still hour away from landfall and the winds are extremely gusty. We've seen portions of tin roofs start to peel off. We've seen street signs start to go and so, we have started to see some of those signs that you get when you have a tropical system.

The very strong winds and we've also had the very heavy rain. Not raining at the moment, but I just looked at the radar and any second now, we are going to get in one of those downpours once again. The biggest problem here across where I am, in Apalachicola, and the Big Bend of Florida is going to be the storm surge. It's a very vulnerable area, a lot of bays, a lot of intercoastal waterways could see five to nine feet of storm surge and that could be deadly.

That's why they tried to evacuate many of those coastal areas, those mandatory evacuations. Not only that, the tornado threat will remain throughout the overnight hours, the wind damage --

BURNETT: All right. It looks like we lost Jennifer Gray.

I want to say, as that storm hits Florida, it will move up the coast and as we said, warnings as far north as northern New Jersey.

Also in Florida today, a massive explosion rocking Cape Canaveral. The gigantic fireball bursting into the sky. The rocket destroyed, its payload gone. That included the satellite that Facebook was using. The blast was actually a series of explosions that went on and on for more than four minutes.

The CEO of SpaceX, Elon Musk, tweeted that the occurred while the rocket was being fuelled, and at this time, we don't yet know the formal cause of the blast. No one though was injured.

OUTFRONT next, inside a group led by a flamboyant spiritual leader with more than 100 faithful followers. Is it a cult?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KYUNG LAH, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Without a doubt, for you, it is.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Oh, it's -- it's totally a cult.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[19:56:42] BURNETT: It was supposed to be nirvana, but turned out to be hell for some. Tonight, CNN goes inside Buddha Field, a mysterious community that some members call a cult.

Kyung Lah is OUTFRONT.

(BGIN VIDEOTAPE)

KYUNG LAH, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Amid the idyllic beauty in the Hawaiian island of Oahu, behind a secluded home draped for privacy sits one of the residences connected to a mysterious spiritual group to which Murti Hower once belonged.

MURTI HOWER, FORMER MEMBER: I gave 25 years of my life and I woke up and I realized I was duped.

LAH: Hower's former group is the subject of the film airing on CNN called holy hell. It offers a decades-long look at a spiritual community that went from Los Angeles to Austin, Texas, and now thrives with more than 100 followers in Hawaii, led by an eccentric and charismatic guru who goes by multiple aliases. He is often seen throughout the documentary wearing nothing, but Speedos. His face, former followers say, distorted by apparent plastic surgery and surrounded by adoring followers like Hower.

HOWER: We called it a cult. The best word you can describe it when you actually get out, it's a cult. Of course, they would say, we're not a cult. They would say, they're just wakening up, you know?

LAH (on camera): But without a doubt, for you, it is?

HOWER: It's totally a cult.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You can only comprehend what this means to finally, I have things to reveal to you in its purest form.

LAH (voice-over): Followers saw a higher being, giving up their time and their relationships and their money. But the most damaging allegation in the film is that the leader coerced male followers into sexual relationships.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: He started running you through homosexual fantasies.

LAH: Chris Johnston says he was in a five-year sexual relationship with the leader.

CHRIS JOHNSTON, FORMER MEMBER: You always say yes to the master because the master is the light, is the one who is bringing the experience of god here.

LAH (on camera): He hasn't had any criminal charges filed against him that we could find.

HOWER: They're well aware how to stay in the law and when you tell the police, the police only say, we don't have any evidence that we can go on.

LAH: Is the group hiding?

HOWER: No.

LAH (voice-over): Jentry Petzold says he left the group a year ago, but remains close friends with the leader. Petzold says he's afraid of the backlash from the film. He calls the leader a benevolent guru. JENTRY PETZOLD, FORMER MEMBER: He taught me how to love myself. He taught me how to love other people. He allowed me to be loved by other people.

LAH (on camera): In your personal experience todayM do you believe that he is a predator?

PETZOLD: No. Not even close.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LAH: People currently within the group maintain that thx sexual relationships were consensual between adults. Now, the leader did send us a written statement calling the film devastating and heartbreaking for him. He writes, quote, "'Holy Hell' is not a documentary. Rather, it is a work of fiction designed to create drama, fear and persecution knowing that's what sells. If any of my actions were a catalyst for their disharmony, I am truly sorry" -- Erin.

BURNETT: Kyung Lah, thank you very much.

And the CNN film "Holy Hell" airs tonight at 9:00.

Thank you so much as always for joining us. Don't forget, you can watch OUTFRONT any time, anywhere as always on CNN Go.

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