

so much it is a pleasure to be back at CPAC oh stop it get out of here come on come on I love you I love you more come on

thank you very much thank you to Matt and to the rest of the team for the invitation it is a special honor to be at CPAC this year because I think this year I may be the only speaker who is not actively planning to run for president in 2024.

obviously president Trump is running again I'm noticing a lot of Governors and senators and businessmen and Candace lots of other people who might be interested

but I am not

because I am not old enough so so this this CPAC has relatively low political Stakes for me personally but the political Stakes for our country are very very high

which is why I suspect so many people are planning to run for president because they're seeing what we're all seeing that when it comes to protecting our country Joe Biden has failed on every point

it's not hyperbole it's not a cheap political shot

it's just a plain fact

our country faces mounting threats on every single front inflation is at 40-year highs illegal immigration is at all-time highs and for the first time since World War II we've seen the outbreak of a major war in Europe a war that we are funding to the tune of 100 billion dollars with no end in sight now there is one silver lining to that particular storm cloud which is that I believe we can now all write off zelinski as a dependent on our tax returns which will help us recoup a little bit of that money maybe basic aspects of Life are breaking down

marriage rates and birth rates are at  
all time lows in recent years for the  
first time in history our life  
expectancy has declined driven largely  
by suicides and deaths of Despair drug  
overdoses  
our nation allegedly the most advanced  
on Earth can't even protect its own  
citizens from Street criminals the  
murder rate has reached its highest  
level in nearly three decades  
many conservatives are tempted to throw  
up their hands the challenges seem too  
enormous the conservative optimists  
differ from the conservative pessimists  
only in as much as the conservative  
pessimists say that things can't get any  
worse and the conservative optimists say  
oh yes they can  
things might get worse  
but they don't have to  
these problems are not as complicated as  
many people would have us believe most  
of these problems are pretty simple the  
patron saint of this conference Ronald  
Reagan was once mocked for making this  
point  
the Liberals Reagan said say we offer  
simple answers to complex problems  
well perhaps there is a simple answer  
not an easy answer but simple if you and  
I have the courage to tell our elected  
officials that we want a national policy  
based on what we know in our hearts is  
morally right  
Ronald Reagan did his part  
he did his part  
but we don't need to look back to the  
1980s to see the wisdom of these words  
we can look around us today and not very  
far from home  
until recently El Salvador was the most  
dangerous country on Earth today it is  
one of the safest countries in Latin  
America  
El Salvador's president naive bukele cut

the nation's murder rate in half in just  
one year  
how did he do it well he built a big  
prison and put all the criminals in it  
seems pretty simple  
he humiliated the criminals he knocked  
down their symbols and their monuments  
and he enforced the law I'm sure it  
wasn't easy but it was simple demoralize  
the bad guys encourage the good guys  
pursue a national policy based on what  
we know in our hearts is morally right  
president bukele explained the secret to  
his nation's improbable success  
he said the nation was turning back to  
God  
turning back to the most important  
values honor loyalty courage love for  
our fellow man he said those values had  
been degraded in El Salvador as they are  
now degrading in our own country  
but it wasn't too late  
how he asked could a nation not rise up  
with values such as those  
if one of the weakest countries on Earth  
can do it why can't we  
I think we can I think we can  
unfortunately  
unfortunately many conservatives think  
we might not be able to because though  
conservatives have many virtues we're  
intelligent we're funny devilishly  
handsome  
unfortunately  
sometimes conservatives lack imagination  
we suffer from low expectations we think  
that the thing that we can most hope for  
is that we halt the left exactly where  
it is preserve the status quo and hope  
we don't lose any more ground it  
sometimes feels as if all conservatives  
do is defend the policies that the  
Liberals fought for 10 years ago  
the clearest example of this is the  
battle over transgenderism on the one  
side of the debate you've got the

liberals who argue that third graders should be taught to change their sex in schools on the other side of the debate you've got the conservatives who say that we should wait until fourth grade doesn't seem like much of a difference to me

the problem with transgenderism is not that it's inappropriate for children under the age of nine the problem with transgenderism is that it isn't true the problem with transgenderism is that it puts forward a delusional vision of human nature that denies the reality and importance of sexual difference and complementarity

the problem with transgenderism is that it's acceptance at any level necessarily entails the complete destruction of women's bathrooms women's sports all of the specific rights and spaces that women currently enjoy

there can be no middle way in dealing with transgenderism it is all or nothing if transgenderism is true if men really can become women then it's true for everybody of all ages if transgenderism is false as it is if men really can't become women as they cannot then it's false for everybody too and if it's false

then we should not indulge it especially since that indulgence requires taking away the rights and customs of so many people if it is false then for the good of society and especially for the good of the poor people who have fallen prey to this confusion

transgenderism must be eradicated from public life entirely the whole Preposterous ideology at every level it's simple

it is as simple as the advice Don Corleone gave to Johnny Fontaine you're going to act like a man

what's the matter with you  
we talk a lot about rights and rights  
are very important but so are duties and  
men have a duty to act like men  
it's not complicated  
some people  
some people maybe not the people in this  
room  
but in the online and television  
audience they're probably clutching  
their Pearls at such a clear and simple  
statement  
I don't know why do these people forget  
transgenderism did not exist as a  
political matter until about eight years  
ago when Barack Obama and some liberals  
in North Carolina introduced it through  
military policy and bathroom ordinances  
eight years ago the notion that a man of  
any age had some sort of right to strap  
on stilettos and read a book to your  
kids that would have been met with  
nothing but laughter and Scorn by  
everybody in the country  
and then a handful of devoted radical  
left-wing activists pushed relentlessly  
to normalize this crazy notion and the  
craziest part is the conservatives now  
want to meet them halfway  
but there is no meeting halfway between  
truth and falsehood between reality and  
delusion  
there's no neutrality  
we are either gaining ground or we are  
losing ground meeting the Liberals  
halfway will always take us all the way  
down their Road to Perdition in the long  
run  
always  
that's the story of the last 50 years  
this is what happens over the last 50  
years the Liberals introduced some crazy  
idea that conservatives briefly oppose  
it the Liberals stand firm and the  
conservatives cave and then you know  
what they say they say okay we're fine

with that crazy idea we're the thing the  
Liberals are saying now we're fine with  
that but that new idea we oppose that  
that's crazy  
when the feminists of the 1970s started  
burning their bras and saying that a  
woman needs a man like a fish needs a  
bicycle the conservatives they said  
that's crazy  
then what happened  
they caved the conservatives came they  
said feminism is fine but all that  
sexual Revolution stuff that's crazy all  
that Village People stuff over there  
that's crazy  
and then what happened they caved they  
said the sexual Revolution stuff is fine  
but transgenderism oh no I'm sorry first  
they said redefining marriage oh that  
would be crazy  
then what happened  
they caved then they said okay the  
redefinition of marriage that's fine but  
that transgenderism stuff that's crazy  
then what happened now they're saying  
transgenderism's fine but just don't  
trans the kids that's crazy in fact what  
they're saying now is transiting the  
kids in some cases is fine just don't  
trans they're really little kids  
that would be crazy  
and so goes that's how it goes it was  
ever thus  
from the moment the Liberals accepted  
the conservatives rather accepted the  
Liberals premise in the 70s that men and  
women are interchangeable the moment  
they went along with the bra burning  
feminists  
it was all lost because  
transgenderism flows naturally from that  
premise and conservatives became to  
quote Michael malice  
progressives driving the speed limit  
they offered voters not a choice but an  
echo to quote Phyllis Schlafly

[Applause]

issue on which we haven't caved that  
would be the issue of life  
and you want to hear a crazy coincidence  
it's the only issue on which we've won  
it's the issue on which we stood firm we  
didn't meet anybody halfway we said  
murder is wrong we're not going to give  
up and now Roe v Wade is gone deader  
than Disco  
no coincidence

National decline is not inevitable it is  
only inevitable if we believe that it is  
if we give up if we give up and give in  
to popular and destructive Fashions as  
though they could ever supplant simple  
and eternal truths

Cardinal Manning said there is a day to  
come which will reverse The Confident  
judgments of men  
those men say we offer simple answers to  
complex problems I hope we still do  
I hope that we still have the Simplicity  
and the courage to say that men ought to  
act like men

the criminals ought to go to jail  
that marriage Real Marriage the kind  
between a man and a woman is the  
fundamental building block of our  
society the basic unchangeable political  
unit that our Republic was built for a  
moral and religious people and so our  
country founded as a shining City on a  
Hill should always give glory to God and  
relentlessly pursue what we know in our  
hearts is morally right no matter the  
odds no matter the consequences no  
matter the passing Fashions of the day