

A series of articles on
The Donald Trump
and
Hillary Clinton
Presidential Race

With associated letters to the editor

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Uyless Black

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Preface

After the presidential primaries had settled on who the candidates would be for the Republican and Democratic parties, I began writing a series of articles about Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.

I post some of my material on Blog.UylessBlack.com and to a restricted list of readers who have expressed an interest in my work. For the Trump/Clinton assessment, I enquired if the local paper where I live in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, had an interest in publishing this work.

The *Coeur d'Alene Press* responded positively to my proposal. Shortly thereafter, I gave the newspaper my observations about Trump. In hindsight, given the conservative climate in North Idaho, I should have skewered Clinton first. I suspect I would have gained more empathetic readers in preparation for the Trump skewer.

Anyway, my intent was to write a negative column about both candidates. I know from years of experience that writing laudatory words about political figures does not bring forth as much interest as does highlighting the disapproving attributes of these people. This approach may seem cynical, but politics in the national arena is not for the faint-hearted.

In addition, I was not (and am not) enamored with either candidate. I am not alone in my opinions about the candidates. This week (September 30, 2016), the editorial board of the newspaper *USA TODAY* declared by unanimous consensus that "Donald Trump...is unfit for the presidency." However, the board, "does not have a consensus for a Clinton endorsement" either. This newspaper reflects my reasons for coming to the same conclusions, which are described in this composition.

During this time, I mentioned to a friend that I was going to post these pieces onto my blog and to my list of readers. We both agreed that---up here in the panhandle of North Idaho---my Trump criticism would bring forth more negative responses than my Clinton criticism. Of course! The ratio of Republicans to Democrats in this part of America is so heavily sided toward Republicans that Democrats are little more than noise on the political spectrum.

Sure enough, the three pieces on Trump brought forth a cascade of ideological vitriol, with an occasional well thought-out letter coming through the flak. A substantial amount of the correspondence that admonished my concerns about Donald reminded me of a saying, "The Ignorant, therefore Doctrinaire Syndrome." After many years of writing books and articles for the public, I continue to remain amazed at the utterances that spring forth from ill-informed people who are too lazy to do a bit of home work (research) about a topic.

Nonetheless, regardless of the political colors of red or blue, some of the Hillary wrath was equally banal. Still, I was heartened by several well-informed and well-stated responses---red and blue. You will read them later in this material.

During this process, I was accused of being a lot of unsavory things; among them, a Democrat! I am with neither party. I am a registered Independent in the state of Idaho. I was accused of having a closed mind about Mr. Trump; that my analysis of his acute narcissism was mistaken for a person prone to harmless bombast; that my uneasiness with Hillary's history was my inability to look to the core of her career...and so on.

I did not expect to change a single opinion of those who had made up their minds. But I did hope to engage those who still had an open opinion about the candidates, and I believe many undecided voters are still mulling over the issues surrounding the two candidates. It is this group of readers I hope I have reached.

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I stated that given what I wrote, I could not support either candidate. I wanted to remain above the fray, at least for these articles. Upon voting day, I will not remain above the fray. I will cast my vote as an independent for the person who I believe can do a better job in the presidency.

Even if my preferred candidate loses, I will get behind the winner if these efforts will move a disgracefully non-performing Congress to separate their ideological stalemates from those issues that really count: the physical security and economic well-being of America.

We Americans should warn Congress: Argue about gay rights, prayer in schools, Christmas mangers on courthouse lawns, mixed marriages, Mexican-proof walls, and Muslim-proof seashores. Debate them until the cows come home. Whether you like this unpleasant truth or not, in the long run, these soft issues will not affect the *essential* well-being of America.

We will muddle through these mental masturbations, but they will become increasingly irrelevant to the majority of Americans who are becoming more urbanized, more Democratic, less religiously doctrinaire, as well as more tolerant of different sexual and racial views.

In so many words---with doubters and their redoubts here and there as isolated exceptions---America is becoming more tolerant of our differences, as long as these differences do not put us at risk.

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What's next? America's citizens must demand that Congress get its priorities straight. As examples: Sequestration (across the board spending cuts) is proving to be too blunt a tool for imposing restraint; managers should be given more leeway in how sequestration affects their operations. One prominent example is denying the Department of Defense the ability to do long range planning. The Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission Supreme Court ruling has further eroded citizens' respect for and belief in America's politics. A partially populated Supreme Court is emasculating one of the great strengths of America: its judicial system. Wall Street's power and an increasingly monopolistic business environment are eviscerating small business America. The emergence of the shadow banking system (replaying the run-up to the 2008 financial meltdown) can lead to another meltdown. Government shutdown is an insult to the taxpayers who keep the shut-downers on the government payroll.

While Congress argues Doe vs. Wade for the N¹⁰ time, America's infrastructure is falling apart. Detroit's schools resemble war-torn third world counties. Flint, Michigan's children are drinking lead-laden water. Bridges are built that go nowhere. Some of the bridges that actually have a destination collapse from neglect.

America, the most affluent and powerful nation the world has ever known, is not taking care of many of its own citizens. Even more disgraceful: America *can* take care of these citizens, but it *will not*.

Acknowledgments

The *Coeur d' Alene Press* is a local newspaper. As stated in the Preface, it is located in a predominately conservative part of America, North Idaho.

A few years ago, I began sending *The Press* a selection of my blog postings, some of which the newspaper published. Most of the articles are politically neutral. All are based on my experiences and zeal for doing research: digging in and finding out.

My assertions brought forth many responses that had conservative leanings. No surprise there, and for the most part, I accepted these responses, as I am a fiscal/economic conservative. Where I diverge from much of the population in this part of America is that I am a liberal on many social causes.

The Press could constitute itself to report on local affairs: the opening of a new store; the extraordinary charitable contributions the citizens in this part of America give to the community; the emphasis on nearby events. Generally, these articles are non-controversial.

Nonetheless, this paper has the courage to publish subjects beyond the local high school football scores. *The CDA Press* staff supports, at the risk to its long-time security, issues that are socially and politically controversial in this neck of the woods.

Those who publish work that might be contentious to a local readership---but do it anyway---have my greatest admiration. *The CDA Press* is one such example



Tuesday
August 23, 2016

What's in it for me?

Donald Trump: A study in narcissism

First in a three-part series

By UYLESS BLACK
Special to The Press

For months now, the media has focused on the extent to which Donald Trump displays narcissistic traits, such as a sense of self-importance and entitlement, with displays of arrogance and the belief of being special. Pew Research Center published a list that ranked presidents on "grandiose narcissism." Here is Pew's list of the Top 10 narcissistic presidents:



Black

1. Lyndon Johnson
2. Theodore Roosevelt
3. Andrew Jackson
4. Franklin Roosevelt
5. John Kennedy
6. Richard Nixon
7. Bill Clinton

Analysis

8. Chester A. Arthur
9. Andrew Johnson
10. Woodrow Wilson

Quoting the Pew study: "...Grandiose narcissism is a distinctive type of narcissism characterized by exhibitionism, attention-seeking, inflated demands of entitlement and denial of weaknesses. ...Presidents are more narcissistic than the average American. Moreover, the level of grandiose narcissism in presidents has increased in recent decades."

From an examination of the list above, it is obvious a high level of narcissism does not disqualify a person from being the United States President. But can a person exhibit narcissism that is so excessive it disqualifies the individual from carrying out the duties of the presidency? That is the question the three articles in



Trump

this series address.

Donald Trump's book, "The Art of the Deal," was a major factor in making the man known to the American public. The book was ghostwritten by Tony Schwartz. Ghostwriters attempt to identify with the person for whom they are writing, to put themselves in the shoes of their subject. Nonetheless, Schwartz

See BLACK, A7

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BLACK

from A1

admits he made a Faustian bargain by taking on this project, partially because he came to realize how narcissistic the man is — to the point that Schwartz states Trump could not interact with his own ghostwriter!

Schwartz said, "But I knew I was selling out. Literally, the term was invented to describe what I did." Schwartz made millions of dollars on the book by passing off what contains a substantial amount of fiction as nonfiction.

Last week, I received an email from a friend and former business colleague. Part of his correspondence reads as follows (it is paraphrased to remove his identity and some four-letter words):

I will not vote for Hillary under any circumstances that I can envision. On the other hand, the GOP offering is [irritating]. The way Trump is behaving, Clinton should be sending him a check and supporting his campaign. I am actually entertaining the possibility that he's a Clinton mole. It's hard to accept that a serious candidate would act so much against his own interest, day after day.

My friend's last statement captures why so many people cannot get a handle on Mr. Trump. Time and again, Donald Trump shoots himself in his political foot, seemingly without regard for the wreck he is making of his campaign and America's conservatives at large.

As of this writing, it appears Trump cannot curtail his behavior. It appears he cannot change, even when loyal and powerful supporters beseech him to at least tone down his self-aggrandizement and his inflammatory, hateful oratory.

Why continue to tread a path that is destroying any chance of his election and is tearing apart the Republican Party? Many Americans mistrust and even dislike Hillary Clinton. Why not go the high road and take advantage of this fact? If Donald Trump would stop alienating so many people with personal insults and focus his attention on America and not America's personalities or his need for bombastic flair, he might actually make it a tight race with Clinton.

The polls of support for Trump are sinking like a lead weight. Yet, he continues down the road to self-destruction. Why? A clue is offered by the American Psychiatric Association.

Narcissistic Personality Disorder

In 1980, the American Psychiatric Association introduced the term "narcissistic personality disorder" as "behavior that deviates markedly

from the expectations of the individual's culture." This human trait is distinguished from personality problems such as anxiety and depression, which may come and go depending on the condition of our mental makeup and the circumstances in our lives.

Unlike mood swings, the departure, say, of an uninvited guest from someone's home will not cause narcissistic personality disorder to take a temporary leave from a person's character. As a study in Harper's Magazine claims, a "personality disorder is something you are." We cannot will it into non-existence. Drugs will not mask its presence. Vodka will not wash it away. If we have the affliction, it is part of our being.

The word "narcissistic" is associated with other words, such as egoistic, vain, selfish, self-important, conceited, and self-absorbed. It is not a word that most of us wish to have associated with our persona. Of course, most people exhibit degrees of narcissism and some acts of narcissism can be beneficial to a person who comes into contact with narcissists. The list of narcissistic presidents cited above attests to this fact.

Levels of narcissism

For this article, and considering the American Psychiatric Association's definition, my view of narcissism differs from dictionary definitions. I make this distinction in order to examine more closely the behavior of Donald Trump.

To begin this discussion, here are two dictionary definitions of narcissism. One definition is, "extreme selfishness, with a grandiose view of one's own talents and a craving for admiration..." Another is, "excessive or erotic interest in oneself and one's physical appearance." I do not view narcissism this harshly, as I believe there are different levels of narcissism; some healthy, some unhealthy.

Thus, it seems logical to state the American Psychiatric Association's definition of narcissistic personality disorder aligns with someone who is beyond the narcissism displayed by many people; beyond ordinary narcissism, if you will.

The Mayo Clinic definition of narcissistic personality disorder is similar to the definitions above, but goes a step further: "a condition in which people have an inflated sense of their own importance, a deep need for admiration and a lack of empathy for others. But behind this mask of ultraconfidence lies a fragile self-esteem that's vulnerable to the slightest criticism." The italics are made by this writer to emphasize that people who suffer from NPD cannot tolerate reproach or denouncement.

Therefore, this disorder differs from run-of-the-mill narcissism (if there is such a thing) in that a narcissistic personality disorder causes problems in many areas of life, such as relationships, work, school, or political and business affairs.

On Wednesday, Part 2 will focus on another narcissist — one we know well: Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt.

Uyless Black is a prolific researcher and professional writer whose undergraduate degree is in psychology. He later obtained graduate degrees in computer systems as well as money and banking. He resides in Coeur d'Alene.



Wednesday

August 24, 2016

Trump not alone on big narcissism stage

By UYLESS BLACK
Special to The Press

Analysis

For the second article in this series, it will be helpful in our analysis of Trump's narcissism to compare his behavior to a former U.S. President who was noted for his narcissism: Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt. This man was vain, self-important, egotistic, and bombastic. His narcissism is rated second in the Pew study (see Tuesday's article).



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Roosevelt loved slaughtering bison and other vulnerable critters on a mass scale, once bragging that a "beast" he had wounded (a rhinoceros) that was charging him had "meant mischief." Meant mischief? Yes,

after being ambushed with a gun, most creatures would react with "mischief." Like many vain-glorious people, Teddy often looked at situations only from his point of view.

But he also displayed great empathy and sympathy for both strangers and loved ones. He was a sickly kid who overcame serious childhood diseases, such as asthma. It is no wonder he adopted an assertive personality, partially to survive. His eldest daughter, Alice Roosevelt Longworth, offered this observation about her father: "When Theodore attends a wedding he

wants to be the bride, and when he attends a funeral, he wants to be the corpse." I think it fair to say that such an attitude had a twinge of narcissism to it.

Yet with all his bombast and self-serving behavior, Teddy Roosevelt is considered by many historians to have been an exceptionally fine president. Among other accomplishments, he busted up large business cartels, established the national park system, and was instrumental in having the Panama Canal built.

I am reminded of a quote he made about character. It could have come from the mouth of Donald Trump as well: "I care not what others think I do, but I care very much about what I think of what I do!"

However, Roosevelt did not make it a habit of insulting and denigrating his opponents, certainly not to the extent that Donald Trump does.

Roosevelt's statement "Speak softly, carry a big stick, and you will go far" is in marked contrast to Trump's constant swaggering boasts. How can we relate to a person who brags, "My IQ is one of the highest — and you all know it! Please don't feel so stupid or insecure. It's not your fault."

Roosevelt was a narcissist, but not in the conventional sense of a dictionary definition. He treated people with respect and valued their worth. In spite of his nature, he exhibited self-control. This writer does not discern in Donald Trump a manageable form of narcissism, such as that of Theodore Roosevelt.

Wednesday, August 24, 2016

TRUMP

from A1

Key word: Disorder

The distinguishing word in narcissistic personality disorder is disorder. As mentioned, narcissism can be part of a person's makeup, and this person can lead an ordered life. Extreme narcissism (NPD) is another matter, and often leads to behavior that brings about disorderly, even chaotic situations.

Take Narcissus, for example, the man from whom this condition is named. Narcissus thought himself so good-looking that the Greek version of the myth had him die from malnutrition by a riverbank while he admired his reflection in the water. This description would fit most people's idea of a disordered mentality: reflecting on one's face in lieu of feeding it.

After reading the article in Harper's, I thought about other people I knew or had read about who exhibited

narcissistic personality disorder traits. For several years, I had been reflecting about the behavior of Donald Trump. Upon thinking about my friend's email, I could not help but draw a parallel between Donald Trump and narcissistic personality disorder (NPD). However, until Trump became a significant factor in the U.S. presidential race, I usually ignored the man as being a harmless narcissist, an obnoxious, intelligent, self-serving buffoon.

I do not have the credentials to diagnose Mr. Trump's mental health and will not attempt to do so here. But using the concepts of NPD, Trump's behavior can at least be placed in a frame of reference.

Many details of Trump's behavior might not have been known to the public had it not been for Tony Schwartz, the ghostwriter of Trump's book, "The Art of the Deal." He was allowed to shadow Trump for 18 months, which included attending meetings and listening-in on telephone conversations. During this time, Schwartz kept a journal about his personal dealings with Trump and his impressions of Trump's behavior.

This journal is summarized in a New Yorker article (July 25, 2016). Given that Donald is the Republican nominee for the upcoming term for the U.S. President, the article does not make for reassuring reading. But then, upon his coming to the political scene, I have had a sense of unease about the man. He reminds me of a loose cannon ball on the deck of a ship during a storm.

Trump's Following

I have said in other writings that I understand why so many citizens have cast their lot with politicians who are anti-government. In a separate series posted on my blog (Blog. UylessBlack.com), I document hundreds of examples of the failure of America's private and

public sectors to treat the average American citizen fairly. [Scroll down the blog page and click on "Epilogues to The Nearly Perfect Storm" (series number 8).]

Trump has a huge base of loyal supporters. You may be among them. Certainly, Trump has brought up several issues that are being glossed-over by most of the national politicians, such as illegal immigration, the waste

of America's resources, and international trade agreements that reward companies' owners but not the companies' workers. Like Bernie Sanders, he is on target about many American citizens' disgust with the politics of Washington, D.C., and their revulsion by the behavior of national politicians.

Thus, I agree with some of Trump's stand on issues. However, it is the manner in which he addresses America's pressing problems that I find disturbing. As well, some of his assertions are ludicrous.

How much is too much?

It will be of little use to rehash the statements Trump has made that have gone beyond the pale of even today's vicious name-calling politics. They are headlined practically every day in the media. While disturbing unto themselves, his refusal to move beyond generalities to address many important issues in detail should alarm even his supporters.

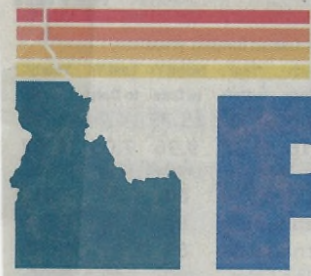


Trump

However, I cannot bring myself to remain silent on his disparagement of John McCain's prisoner of war experience, his mocking of a woman's menstrual cycle, or his insulting the parents of a fallen (Muslim) American warrior. What is amazing is that for most politicians, just one of these uttered slurs would result in their being pushed out of a presidential race. It seems Trump's strategy is to pile one smear upon another so quickly that the average citizen cannot absorb the complete inventory of his aberrational affronts.

In the final article of this series Thursday, we'll review some of Mr. Trump's statements about Americans and compare them to those of Theodore Roosevelt.

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Uyless Black is a prolific researcher and professional writer whose undergraduate degree is in psychology. He later obtained graduate degrees in computer systems as well as money and banking. He resides in Coeur d'Alene.



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Thursday
August 25, 2016

What's in it for me? Donald Trump's view of Americans

Third in a three-
part series

By UYLESS BLACK
Special to The Press

To begin the final article in this series, here are a few of Tony Schwartz's notes about Trump. Recall that Mr. Schwartz was the ghostwriter for Trump's "The Art of the Deal." I cannot verify the accuracy of his journal, nor can anyone else. Thus, this section takes Schwartz at his word. I do so, because Schwartz began his ghostwriting project a long time ago as a somewhat neutral observer, certainly not one of disdain for or dislike of Trump. Nonetheless, it is not necessary to rely only on Schwartz. This section also provides



Black

Analysis

statements Donald has made publicly.

Schwartz describes patterns of consistent, ongoing behavior that a rational American citizen should not want exhibited in the President of the United States. Not temporary mood swings, but compulsive behavior that appears to be part of his personality.

This seems to be one reason he appears unable to focus on much of anything for an extended period. He has no attention span. One can imagine him sitting as President in the situation room being briefed about a crisis and responding with platitudes. We all resort to clichés and platitudes. They are part of ongoing human discourse. But I ask you to decide if

these quotes from Trump — publicly uttered, not at a private poker game — give you pause:

- "You know, it really doesn't matter what the media write as long as you've got a young, and beautiful, piece of ass."
- "All of the women on 'The Apprentice' flirted with me — consciously or unconsciously. That's to be expected."

- "The beauty of me is that I'm very rich."

- "I've said if Ivanka weren't my daughter, perhaps I'd be dating her."

- "I think the only difference between me and the other candidates is that I'm more honest and my women are more beautiful."

- "The point is, you can never be too greedy."

- "Look at those hands, are they small hands? And, [Republican rival Marco Rubio] referred to my hands: 'If they're small, something else must be small.' I guarantee you there's no problem. I guarantee."

- "I will build a great wall — and nobody builds walls better than me, believe me — and I'll build them very inexpensively. I will build a great, great wall on our southern border, and I will make Mexico pay for that wall. Mark my words."

- "If I were running 'The View,' I'd fire Rosie O'Donnell. I mean, I'd look at her right in that fat, ugly face of hers, I'd say 'Rosie, you're fired.'"

- "Lyin' Ted Cruz just used a picture of Melania [Trump's wife] from a shoot in his ad [a political advertisement]. Be careful, Lyin' Ted, or I will spill the beans on your wife!"

Consulting the list of narcissistic Presidents (the first article of this series), where would you place Donald Trump? For this writer, he is at the top of the list. Does this ranking disqualify him from being considered for the presidency? Of course not, but Trump's narcissistic behavior is so compulsive and extreme that the latest polls show the public is growing uneasy about the man.

Thus, returning to the central point of this article: In view of Trump's near certain defeat (as of this writing) because of his behavior, can he change himself? In other words, can he demonstrate he does not exhibit narcissistic personality

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BLACK

from A1

disorder? If he cannot change his behavior, I believe he should not be the next American President.

But here is the conundrum that might face the American voter. Assume Trump indeed "turns around" and even with his narcissism, exhibits some of the leadership characteristics of another extreme narcissist but highly successful president, Theodore Roosevelt. I think it likely that moderate Democrats, anti-Hillary factions, and pro-Bernie groups, as well as the vast majority of Republicans, might move to his side. If so, has he proven to have a born again personality or has he simply altered his external persona to satisfy his narcissistic needs — still looking in the reflecting water and chuckling to himself about his genius?

Approach to politics, approach to life

In conclusion, I cite two more Theodore Roosevelt's quotes about politics, or for that matter, life. Red or blue, conservative or liberal, rich or poor, we citizens should reflect on Teddy's idea when we cast our vote for the next President: "The most practical kind of politics is the politics of decency."

If Donald Trump continues to alienate the general populace and his political allies, he might someday reflect on another of Theodore's thoughts: "If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month."

As of this writing, it is probable that Donald Trump will fade from the scene, but not his followers, who have complaints that they believe are not being addressed by the country's leaders. Trump has said he will tone-down his vitriol, but he also said he was not sure that is what his followers want him to do.

Do his supporters suffer from massive narcissism? No, they suffer from their experience of a stagnation of living standards, unemployment, and repressed wages while 1 percent of the population continues

accumulating even more of America's wealth.

However, what many Americans seem not to know is that most of the world's modern economies are suffering from the same problems we face: dislocation of jobs

and massive unemployment. America's statistics, in comparison to that of the Middle East, North Africa, and parts of South America, are glowing.

Nonetheless, Donald Trump has addressed a

variety of major problems facing America. As said, I agree with some of them. But after much reflection about the character of this man, I cannot bring myself to support his candidacy.

...

Uyless Black is a prolific researcher and professional writer whose undergraduate degree is in psychology. He later obtained graduate degrees in computer systems as well as money and banking. He resides in Coeur d'Alene.

Wednesday, August 24, 2016

Readers Write

TRUMP: My kind of narcissist

I found Mr. Black's article in Tuesday's Press "Donald Trump: A study in narcissism" most interesting. First of all, I think the writer needs to tell us which party he supports because the article sure sounds like a statement by a Democrat.

Mr. Black gives one definition as "...extreme selfishness, with a grandiose view of one's own talents and a craving for admiration...". A quick search will reveal that Trump is not extremely selfish and has given to support a number of causes. His recent trip to aid flood victims in Louisiana is just one example.

But, notice the presidents on his list. If a person is going to be successful in this world he must have "a grandiose view of one's own talents." It is associated with a "can do" attitude. Who wants a president who is not confident in what can be accomplished? If we do not try, how can we be successful? Trump has made it clear that there are a number of things wrong with our country and he is going to take steps to correct them. Will he be successful in all of them? Not likely. But, how will he know if he does not try.

Picture a coach, if you will, who simply tells his team to go out there and play. Maybe they will succeed and maybe they won't. Of course they won't. A good coach has confidence in his team and what can be accomplished. And such is the same with a good president. He is confident in what can be accomplished, and he is going to give it his best shot.

My daughter reminded me of a passage in the Bible, Ephesians 5:29 which says in part: "For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church." I think the point is that there is a certain amount of narcissism in all of us: And especially if we expect to be successful.

To be politically correct we have to be prepared to compromise and to make adjustments. But the one who believes in a cause moves ahead without consideration of failure.

If we have to elect a narcissist to make any positive changes in our country, then I side with the narcissist. It is easy to simply give up, to insist the task is simply too great. I trust that does not happen.

I think of Teddy Roosevelt at San Juan Hill. He was not a quitter, and so the battle was won. I trust Mr. Trump does not listen to all this chatter, that he will have a successful campaign, and that he will be a successful president.

Comments: jimhollingsworth@frontier.com

JIM HOLLINGSWORTH
Coeur d'Alene

History raises ethics question for Clinton

By STEPHEN BRAUN
and EILEEN SULLIVAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than half the people outside the government who met with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state gave money — either personally or through companies or groups — to the Clinton Foundation. It's an extraordinary proportion

See CLINTON, A8

The Press, Wednesday, August 24, 2016

CLINTON

from A1

indicating her possible ethics challenges if elected president.

Donors who were granted time with Clinton included an internationally known economist who asked for her help as the Bangladesh government pressured him to resign from a nonprofit bank he ran; a Wall Street executive who sought Clinton's help with a visa problem; and Estee Lauder executives who were listed as meeting with Clinton while her department worked with the firm's corporate charity to counter gender-based violence in South Africa.

They are among at least 85 of 154 people with private interests who either met or had phone conversations scheduled with Clinton and also gave to her family's charities, according to a review of State Department calendars released so far to The Associated Press. Combined, the 85 donors contributed as much as \$156 million. The 154 does not include U.S. federal employees or foreign government representatives.

The AP's findings represent the first systematic effort to calculate the scope of the intersecting interests of Clinton foundation donors and people who met personally with Clinton or spoke to her by phone about their needs.

The meetings between the Democratic presidential nominee and foundation donors do not appear to violate legal agreements Clinton and former president Bill Clinton signed before she joined the State Department in 2009. But the frequency of the overlaps shows the intermingling of access and donations, and fuels perceptions that giving the

foundation money was a price of admission for face time with Clinton. Her calendars and emails released as recently as this week describe scores of contacts she and her top aides had with foundation donors.

Clinton's campaign said the AP analysis was flawed because it did not include in its calculations meetings with foreign diplomats or U.S. government officials, and the meetings AP examined covered only the first half of Clinton's tenure as secretary of state.

"It is outrageous to misrepresent Secretary Clinton's basis for meeting with these individuals," spokesman Brian Fallon said. He called it "a distorted portrayal of how often she crossed paths with individuals connected to charitable donations to the Clinton Foundation."

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump fiercely criticized the links between the Clinton Foundation and the State Department. "It is impossible to figure out where the Clinton Foundation ends and the State Department begins," he said at a rally Tuesday night in Austin, Texas. "It is now abundantly clear that the Clintons set up a business to profit from public office."

State Department officials have said they are not aware of any agency actions influenced by the Clinton Foundation. State Department spokesman Mark Toner said Tuesday night there are no prohibitions against agency contacts with "political campaigns, nonprofits or foundations — including the Clinton Foundation." He added that "meeting requests, recommendations and proposals



Clinton

come to the department through a variety of channels, both formal and informal."

Last week, the Clinton Foundation moved to head off ethics concerns about future donations by announcing changes planned if she is elected. Those planned changes would not affect more than 6,000 donors who have already provided the Clinton charity with more than \$2 billion in funding since its creation in 2000.

"There's a lot of potential conflicts and a lot of potential problems," said Douglas White, an expert on nonprofits at Columbia University. "The point is, she can't just walk away from these 6,000 donors."

Fallon said earlier Tuesday the standard set by the Clinton Foundation's ethics restrictions was "unprecedented, even if it may never satisfy some critics."

Muhammad Yunus, a Bangladeshi economist who won the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize for pioneering low-interest "micro-credit" for poor business owners, met with Clinton three times and talked with her by phone during a period when Bangladeshi government authorities investigated his oversight of a nonprofit bank and ultimately pressured him to resign from the bank's board. Throughout the process, he pleaded for help in messages routed to Clinton, and she ordered aides to find ways to assist him.

Grameen America, the bank's nonprofit U.S. flagship, which Yunus chairs, has given between \$100,000 and \$250,000 to the foundation — a figure that bank spokeswoman Becky Asch said reflects the institution's annual fees to attend CGI meetings. Another Grameen arm chaired by Yunus, Grameen Research, has donated between \$25,000 and \$50,000.

The Press
A4 | Friday, August 26, 2016

Opinion

Readers Write

TRUMP: The great alienator

If Jim Hollingsworth needs to convince Idaho's Republican choir to vote for the Democratic mole Republican nominee, then say hello to an HRC landslide. Donald Trump is trailing in every poll in every battleground state. And Trump has now made new battleground states like Missouri, Arizona and Georgia.

So Trump's "grandiose view of his own talents" forced him to alienate every demographic that isn't white and male and have an 8 or 7 first number in their ZIP code? In 2012, Obama won 84 percent of non-whites and 55 percent of women and two-thirds of single women. So nominating a candidate who insults the very voters we need is a good thing?

Does Hollingsworth realize we Republicans have lost the popular vote in five of the last six presidential elections? And that the electorate grows 40 million in presidential elections, or 100 times Idaho vote totals? There's no gerrymandering a national election, Jim. Trump IS a self-important idiot, a limousine liberal that any Democrat should donate to. Denying that changes nothing.

Prepare to lose the White House and the Senate. You can wave your Breit (bart) gerrymandered victory flag again in 2018 when we set another low voter turnout record in a pointless midterm pick-your-voter election.

MIKE RENO
Post Falls

TRUMP: Better than Hillary

After reading the three articles written by Uyless Black, I commend him on his research abilities on Donald Trump.

However, to put things into perspective, I challenge him to follow up on a research article on Hillary Clinton. "What difference does it make?" (that four men in Benghazi were murdered) and ongoing lies (telling the wives untruths about the event), her proven record of illegally using a private server with classified information, and the list that goes on and on.

It appears Mrs. Clinton is too big to fail...I call it corruption.

Mr. Black states "But after much reflection about the character of this man, I cannot bring myself to support his candidacy." President Roosevelt's idea for the next presidency "The most practical kind of politics is the politics of decency" says it all. Clinton's past behavior is anything but decent. Her medical conditions to qualify for the presidency are questionable. In a crisis situation under the stress she may have a seizure. I say to Mr. Black, after much reflection about the character of this woman, I cannot bring myself to support her candidacy.

The real question here is what do we want for our country in the next administration? Same-o, same-o with nothing getting done or REAL change that only a non-politician with no special interest groups supporting them can deliver. The last change we saw has devastated our country. We don't need more of the same.

JoANN LOKKEN
Coeur d'Alene

AUTHOR: Can't answer question

Tuesday's front-page article in the Coeur d'Alene Press by Uyless Black caught my attention, having read The Atlantic June 2016 in-depth analysis of the Trump personality by McAdams.

Mr. Black's stated goal is to determine "...can a person exhibit narcissism that is so excessive it disqualifies the individual from carrying out the duties of the presidency? That is the question the three articles in this series address."

Mr. Black's article mirrors exactly the same list of "grandiose" narcissistic U.S. presidents that the The Atlantic lists, with the exception that Mr. Black lists 10 presidents while The Atlantic lists 7.

The Atlantic article makes many observations that would imply how impossible it will be for Mr. Black to achieve his above quoted goal. Per McAdams, Trump seems to be most like the No. 3 on the list — Andrew Jackson. To list one similarity, Washington insiders considered Jackson's election a disaster. Where will Mr. Black rank Trump when compared to Jackson — more or less narcissistic? If more narcissistic, then by what criteria and how much more? Trump insulted people, where Jackson survived 14 duels. Which style is more narcissistic?

The Atlantic article points out — "Narcissism in Presidents is a double-edged sword." It is associated with historians' rating of "greatness" but also with impeachment resolutions.

Without Trump having served as president it will be impossible to decide if he is disqualified to be president based on an observed personality trait. Besides, who will have so much wisdom as to be able to preemptively decide if a candidate now shows excessive narcissism to the degree that he must drop out of the race. Fortunately, the voter still makes the ultimate decision on qualifications.

RICHARD SHELDON
Coeur d'Alene

GOP: Sad transformation

As a young and conservative college-educated voting millennial, I am appalled at the way the GOP has changed over the last few years. This party no longer reflects the traditionally conservative values of smaller government, deference to state's rights, and fiscally responsible policy that venerates free-market capitalism. Instead, this party has shifted to reflect extreme and frankly offensive views of what American conservatism is that have been perpetuated through fear mongering in the media.

I believe in individual freedoms and individual choice, so did our founding fathers. This means that if you are gay, fine. If you want to own a gun, fine. If you want to follow a religion other than Christianity, fine. That is your choice, and that is what America and the Constitution stand for and serve to protect our right to do so.

If you truly believe that at the core of conservatism is a system of family values and modesty, how can you support Trump? He has had three wives; this is not a man who reflects the values of the Bible or America.

To grow the GOP base and to actually represent the new wave of American conservatism and changing demographics, we cannot alienate vast swaths of voting Americans because they have a different skin color or a different religious belief. America is great because of immigrants, lest I remind you all that you ancestors immigrated here for freedom and the opportunity to choose what they believe in.

NATE MONTGOMER
Coeur d'Alene

The Press

Saturday, August 27, 2016 | A5

Trump defenders

Next up:

It's Hillary Clinton's turn

The three articles I wrote about Donald Trump have received much attention, both pro and con. I have also written essays expressing my concern about the candidacy of Hillary Clinton and her fitness to fill the office of the United States Presidency as well as my disgust with the morals of Bill Clinton. The Press intends to publish them Sept. 6-8.

UYLESS BLACK
Coeur d'Alene

There is clearly no distinction between opinion and factual reporting in your newspaper. The front page used to be a place where a paper reported significant national or world events. Opinions were found on the editorial page or opinion section and were clearly labeled as such. No more in the Press.

This series is nothing but Black's personal political opinion masquerading as some sort of thoughtful analysis. Placing this on your front page shows the political bias of the Press and should convince any fair-minded person that your coverage of this Presidential election cannot be trusted as to accuracy or fairness.

As to the series itself, typical of Black's "analysis" is his reliance on alleged notes by one Schwartz who was a ghost-writer for Donald Trump. Black admits he "cannot verify the accuracy of his journal, nor can anyone else," yet he "takes Schwartz at his word." This does not pass even the lowest standard for scholarship or any real analysis.

Labeling this series as Analysis is laughable. It is no more than one man's opinion, a man who has no educational

background or experience that makes his opinion any more persuasive or valuable than any other citizen. It offers nothing of substance to this electoral process. It is in the Press simply because you agree with it.

THOMAS LAWRENCE
Hayden

I wonder if Mr. Black and the CDA Press will devote three front page articles about Hillary Clinton and her habitual ability to not tell the truth.

How many people under 40 years old remember the numerous scandals involving her and Bill when they were in the White House. Such as Filegate, Whitewater, Travelgate, IRS Illegal audits, Pardongate, missing billing law files, money made on cattle futures, etc.

How about the looting of White House merchandise to the tune of \$190,000 when they left, or the vandalism for another \$14,000.

How about the death of Vince Foster or the numerous other people who died unexpectedly.

Woman rights — hiring private investigators, even back in the Arkansas days, and of course in the White House, to dig up dirt on women Bill either

raped or molested. Thank God Monica saved her dress, as Mrs. Clinton was getting ready to call her trailer trash.

I wonder what Mr. Black's psychology would be of Mrs. Clinton, who knowingly stands behind her man, knowing how he abuses women. Maybe he has some insight on Mrs. Clinton's inability to tell the truth on anything! Just take some recent things, like Benghazi or her private server and all the thousands of emails she destroyed.

Yep, I am not a Mrs. Clinton supporter. Do I like Mr. Trump? Much better than her.

Would be nice to see the so called unbiased media report on some of the things everyone has forgotten. I doubt seriously if Donald gets elected, if his presidency would be riddled with corruption and scandals.

We know from her history that if Mrs. Clinton gets elected there will be nothing but more scandals like before. Not to worry though, the media will not investigate it like they should and most people will not know anything about it.

Of course there is nothing worthy of investigating of their foundation. It's only foreign money trying to influence our politicians.

GEORGE SILVA
Coeur d'Alene

Uyless Black did an editorial case study on Donald Trump's narcissism and concluded that he could not endorse him. By default one would conclude that he would endorse Hillary Clinton since a third party candidate like Gary Johnson just takes votes from the more conservative candidate, which is never Democrat.

I look forward to his case in point for support of Hillary, since this woman's lust for power, her dozens of scandals, mysterious deaths of critics make her a better alternative. I believe DT's narcissism will ultimately make him a better president; he hates to fail, is more in touch with everyday people and he has promised many moves in the right direction, most notably smashing establishment politics that only benefit itself.

KEN SIWIERKA
Hayden

Now that we have had three hit pieces on Donald Trump on the front page, I trust we can have a similar series on Hillary Clinton with the same front page coverage — written by someone qualified to present things about her that really need to be pointed out.

For what it's worth... where was the current occupant of the White House in the list of narcissists that led off the

first article? I know — a survey being quoted, but I didn't see Black editorialize about that when he wasn't bashful to link whatever he could to Trump, however weak the connection. And the second article supposedly about Teddy Roosevelt... about a third or a little more was about Teddy, then lo and behold it shifted to hitting on Trump.

Fair and balanced... not. Quite an obvious agenda was being put out in all three "analysis" articles.

JOHNNY JOHNSON
Hayden Lake

I feel that Uyless Black had done a fairly good job of giving an honest assessment of Trump and his personality traits and character until the third article. He goes to great lengths to present him as a very dangerous and scary person to be in power. I do not fault his logic that he presents but I do wonder what his end game is. Will he also do a personality analysis on Hillary Rodham Clinton.

I was born and raised in Louisiana, attended college at LSU & worked and lived in Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. I am 62 years old and have experienced a rich history of Louisiana politics which have always been colorful to say the least. I was born

and raised in Winnfield, Louisiana which is the birth place of Huey, Earl K and Russell Long to name just a few of our colorful town characters and Judge O K Allen who succeeded Huey after his assassination. I attended LSU during the tenure of Edwin Edwards as governor of Louisiana. We live and breathe over the top outrageous political characters. I studied and received a BS in Petroleum Engineering from LSU and worked in that industry 14 years. I then attended Seminary and received a Masters of Divinity and served as a minister in Texarkana for 17 years. I also received training as a chaplain before moving to CDA in late 2014.

From 1995-2013, I lived in Texarkana, Texas which is a twin city of Texarkana, Arkansas. I am very familiar with Arkansas politics and the activities of the Clintons in that state. I feel that doing an in depth analysis of Trump and completely ignoring the character flaws of Clinton and not doing likewise for her is a tragedy of injustice for your readers. The Clintons have a rich heritage of intrigue, questionable tactics and ethics that at least match or exceed Donald Trump's business and political faux pas. I also would like to point out that the CDA Press printed an article from AP about fact checking the Republican National Convention. I eagerly awaited the companion piece about the DNC. Amazingly, there was no such article.

PAT HARRELL
Coeur d'Alene

See TRUMP, A7

TRUMP

from A5

What I want to know is why the Press (generically) constantly reports how dissatisfied the voters are with Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, and then don't mention the other candidates Gary Johnson and Jill Stein. It seems to me that non-reactionary Republicans and centrist from both parties could vote for Johnson-Weld. And I would think all of the ex-Bernie followers would consider Stein.

This might be the year that alternative parties have a chance to really get some votes; at least hopefully they can get into the debates if enough people say they are interested in them now in the polls.

JAMES FULTON
Post Falls

Uyless Black's three articles on Donald Trump and his narcissisms was very interesting reading. I read the book he refers to (Art of the Deal) by Tony Schwartz and came away with an entirely different take on Mr. Trump. I read the book to get an idea of what kind of a man Donald was and what we as a country could expect from him. What I found was a very hard working and clever man that was always trying to figure the best and most efficient way of doing things.

The story of the rebuilding of the ice skating rink in New York City says it all. After many years of ineptitude by the city to get the job done and many millions of dollars spent and still no ice rink, Donald approached the city and said he would take on the job, do it in 6 months and for only \$2 million. Did he do it — you bet and ahead of schedule and under budget. He had never built an ice rink

so he found the company that was the best in the business at doing so and hired them. What this shows me is the man is resourceful and dedicated to whatever he undertakes.

Is he boastful? Yes, very much so, but deservedly so, he gets the job done and done right.

Hillary Clinton on the other hand, hasn't accomplished anything except destroying a country (Libya) and in doing so, killing the current ruler and laughing about it on national TV, getting a lot of our own people

killed and feathered her own nest heavily (can you say the Clinton Foundation). And she lied all the time while doing same and afterward when questioned. In my opinion only Dyed-In-The-Wool Democrats and those who want to keep the status quo in Washington will vote for her. God help us, as he is the only one who can if she gets elected.

Mr. Black says he can't bring himself to vote for Donald Trump. As an American that is his right. However, I can not believe anyone who is ex-military and has been where he has been can bring themselves to vote for Hillary Clinton and her ilk. They hate all of us military (current and former) people and look down on us with great disdain and dismiss us and not as good as them.

DENNIS EDELBROCK
Hayden

Should we expect a three part series from Uyless Black on Hillary Clinton? In his "analysis" of Donald Trump's narcissism, he describes "patterns of consistent, ongoing behavior that a rational American citizen should not want exhibited in the President of the United States." I'm curious to know how Black would "analyze" the pattern of consistent behavior that most characterizes Clinton?

A8 | Saturday, August 27, 2016

In the most recent WSJ/NBC Poll of Americans surveyed about the presidential candidates, 69% voiced serious concerns about Clinton's record of being dishonest.

Twenty years ago the late New York Times Columnist William Safire wrote, "Americans of all political persuasions are coming to the sad realization that our First Lady — a woman of undoubted talents who was a role model for many in her generation — is a congenital liar." This was written well before the recent string of scandals involving the State Department emails, Benghazi, huge speaking fees and the Clinton Foundation.

So rational Americans have a choice; elect a narcissist or congenital liar. Mr. Black stated "after much reflection about the character of Trump, I cannot bring myself to support his candidacy." If the candidate's character is his deciding issue, I really question how much he has reflected on Hillary Clinton.

MIKE THOMPSON
Hayden

Readers Write

PRESS: Don't bury brilliance

The CDA Press recently subjected its readers to a three-day series of front page articles written by Uyless Black proclaiming that Donald Trump is a narcissist and therefore unfit to be supported by Mr. Black for the Presidency.

In Friday's CDA Press, buried deep on page 4 of Section C, was a brilliant response written by Bill Bohannan and entitled "Trump may be flawed, but Hillary may be lethal." The article effectively defines the significant choice we all have to make this November. Beautifully written. I wish every American voter would have the opportunity to read

it. Too bad it was not featured on the front page where we found the psychobabble of Mr. Black.

**JOHN DIXON
Hayden**

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Tuesday
September 6, 2016

Hillary Clinton: Making her own rules

First of three parts

By UYLESS BLACK
Special to The Press

Recently, I wrote three articles about Donald Trump. They were posted online and in the Coeur d' Alene Press. They were critical of Mr. Trump and questioned his fitness to hold the office of United States President.

I have the same hesitations about Hillary Clinton but for different reasons. I have been researching and writing these

criticisms on both candidates for several weeks. Hillary, it's your turn in the barrel.

As a side note, many of the responses to my piece on Trump were of a high quality. No one likes criticism and most of the letters were negative toward me and the piece. Nonetheless, I respect those of you who offered thoughtful comments. You stuck it to me, but you did it with flair.

Black

Analysis

To clarify another point, several readers have offered the opinion that I am a Democrat. Others have said they cannot figure out to which party I belong. For the record, I am not a Democrat and have never been affiliated with this party. Earlier in my life, I was a Republican, a supporter of Eisenhower, and a great admirer of both Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. Currently, I

am registered as an Independent in the state of Idaho.

In my analysis of Hillary Clinton, I will not dwell on her narcissism, which is formidable but, as stated before, does not disqualify her (or Trump) to be President. Because she has a long track record in politics, this analysis will deal with her behavior during her time as first lady (at Little Rock and the White House), senator, and secretary of state.

See BLACK, A

BLACK

from A1

Before and during the time of Bill Clinton's terms in the White House (1993-2001), I was in the final years of my work in computer networks. I was spending much of my time out of the United States (1983 - 1999), lecturing about the emerging Internet. Being away from American affairs of state, I was paying limited attention to America's politics.

But I was not oblivious to the goings-on in my country. Most of the



Clinton

cities in Asia and Europe where I worked offered papers in the English language. I read them each day to keep abreast of the events in America. During these readings, I became fascinated with how the Clintons seemed impervious to what I thought were — if not illegal — then shady dealings. Investigations and trials cleared them of what I thought were misdeeds.

Still, like many Americans, I was caught up in my day-to-day work. But several events stuck with me. I describe two of them in this article and others in the next two articles

All of them revolve around my revulsion toward those in power who abuse their positions. This series is about Ms. Clinton, but I include her husband in that last statement.

Travelgate

Because of so much traveling, I relied on travel agencies to take care of my journeys. I cannot count the time and hassle these companies saved me. While reading the International Herald Tribune in London during 1993 and 1994, I came across an article that stated the Clintons had fired seven employees who were accused of misusing their positions in previous administrations to their own benefit.

Having worked in the government for several years, I wondered why such lofty people (the Clintons) would become involved in the jobs of what were essentially, low-level government civil servants. It was a passing thought, as I had more pressing matters at hand.

But some time later,

SOUND OFF

■ Readers, share your views of this article and/or your assessment of the presidential race by writing a letter to the editor. Address it to: mpatrick@cdapress.com

I read the fired staff had been replaced by — not traditional employees of the U.S. Government — but Clinton associates. Even as a political agnostic...but a former employee at the Federal Reserve Board — I found this dismissal/replacement to be disturbing.

Why would someone want to "stack the deck" in something as trivial as a travel department? I did not give it much more thought at that time, but I considered it not only odd, but a misuse of the office of the President. Even if the firings were legal, it showed a Jimmy Carter type of micro-management, not a laudable trait for a White House occupant to have. Granted, Bill was in office, not Hillary, but both had their hands in bringing in their friends to the White House Travel Office. Was it legal? Yes. Was it unsavory? I believe it was.

Whitewater

My memory of the Travelgate affair was refreshed upon reading that the Clintons had been accused of discussing the obtaining of an illegal loan (\$300,000) for some real estate in Arkansas, now known as Whitewater. One of the parties to this affair was a friend of the Clintons, named Susan McDougal.

The Clintons were cleared of any criminal activity regarding Whitewater, but independent prosecutors stated that criminal transactions took place. They also stated they believed Hillary Clinton did hide evidence about the land deal. For a while, I remained semi-interested in Whitewater until I

learned McDougal and her husband were going to prison for their illegal activities in their business (S&L) matters, some of which pertained to the Clintons.

I also learned Ms. McDougal had been accused of embezzlement during one of her jobs in California.

Ms. McDougal refused to answer questions before a grand jury about Whitewater and was sentenced to 18 months in prison. However, what provided the straw that broke this writer's back (in believing in the Clintons) was the fact that the woman's reason for remaining silent was, to quote her directly, "I feared being accused of perjury if I told the grand jury the truth!" (The exclamation mark is mine.)

When I first read that quote, I did a double take. I re-read it and later learned McDougal claimed that if she had told the truth it would have contradicted others' testimony, and she might have ended up in jail. That did it for me, as she ended up in jail anyway. So why not just tell the truth, Susan? At least that would have given you a fighting chance of staying out of prison? My view is that Mrs. McDougal threw herself under the bus to protect the Clintons.

From that time until this day, I viewed the Clintons with distrust. I believed (and believe) they adapted early in their lives the habit of playing by their own rules. In articles two and three of this series, other events are analyzed that substantiate my belief.

By the way, President Clinton granted Susan McDougal a full pardon on his last day in office.

...

Uyless Black is a prolific researcher and professional writer whose undergraduate degree is in psychology. He later obtained graduate degrees in computer systems as well as money and banking. He resides in Coeur d'Alene.



Wednesday
September 7, 2016

Hillary Clinton: The tyranny of privilege

Second of three parts

By UYLESS BLACK
Special to The Press

This is the second in a series of three articles about Hillary Clinton and an assessment of her qualifications to be the President of the United States.

I use my computer system to handle my business affairs. I control access to all my correspondence. No one else is allowed to examine my emails.

Should this level of privacy be granted to everyone?

Of course not. Consider the absurdity of employees purchasing their own email servers, installing them in their homes, and sending/receiving business correspondence through their private systems. All the while bypassing the employ-



Black

Analysis

ees' company computer systems. Most companies would fire such an employee or even bring charges for this kind of infringement.

Yet while Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton did exactly as I described above.

She took the attitude that she could maintain her own private email server, even for govern-

ment correspondence. What's next? Will she bypass the National Archives and open her State Department related files to selected scholars and other researchers?

Hillary's defenders state that none of the traffic was classified. This claim was found to be untrue. Figure 1 shows information released by the FBI and published by the New York Times that substantiates this

See BLACK, A7

The Press

North Idaho

Wednesday, September 7, 2016 | A7

30,000 released

8 included 'top secret' information	36 included 'secret' information	8 included 'confidential' information	2,000 have since been classified as 'confidential'
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Figure 1. FBI information on email on Hillary Clinton's private email server.

BLACK

from A1

point. (See <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/05/27>).

The existence of classified traffic being placed on an unclassified server is serious, but begs the issue of any data whatsoever being placed on such a server. Even if all the emails were unclassified, Clinton still violated State Department policy.

(See Figure 1, above)

Here is a chronology of several events about this subject (paraphrased from the nytimes.com website, cited above):

January 2009:

Clinton became Secretary of State and began using an email account stored on her private server. At the time, the State Department's policy stated that "normal day-to-day operations" were to be conducted on an authorized system. Hillary's system was not so-authorized.

October 2009: Federal guidelines for the storage of federal employee accounts were tightened, requiring these kinds of records be preserved in federal systems. Mrs. Clinton was Secretary of State, a very high position, but she was still a federal employee.

September 2012: A United States diplomatic outpost and a CIA facility in Benghazi, Libya, were attacked. Four Americans were killed. This calamity is inserted in the chronology because of later events, described shortly.

December 2012: The chairman of the House Oversight Committee (Darrell Issa) sent a letter to Clinton asking if she had a private email system. Hillary never replied to this letter. The State Department responded about two months after she left office, without answering the question. The Department sent the Committee information about its overall email policies, ignoring the question about private email accounts.

After Mrs. Clinton left office, State Department employees reviewing the Benghazi attacks discovered correspondence (they say for the first time) between Hillary's private email account and the government accounts of her staff.

If this brief chronology is not disturbing enough, in early 2015 it was revealed that while she had asked the State Department to release 30,000 emails to investigators, she had also deleted another 32,000 emails. She said this correspondence was about personal matters. 32,000 emails about personal matters?

In addition, she said, "I thought it would be easier to carry just one device for my work and for my personal emails instead of two." This is an astounding and erroneous assumption. Even more, she was known to carry around multiple electronic devices anyway.

Tyranny of privilege

Several months ago before the two presidential conventions, one of my best friends and I were discussing the presidential race. By then, each of us knew our favored Republican candidate was not going to win the nomination. Our thoughts turned to the Democratic race, and we discussed the issues surrounding Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton. I mentioned to him that I intended to write essays about the two (eventual) candidates. My friend, in no uncertain terms, informed me I would need a book to cover what he called the misdeeds of Hillary Clinton.

He was correct in this context: deciding what subjects to put in this piece, because the woman has generated so much controversy. As you have read, I concentrated in this article on "Emailgate" because I believe it represents one of her most serious misdeeds.

I also chose it because I believe it reveals how some of America's leaders (obviously, Hillary Clinton in this instance) become so accustomed to their power and privilege that it leads them to

think they are immune to the rules and laws by which ordinary citizens must live. A person of less stature than Clinton would have been fired (or even prosecuted).

Benghazi

I had placed the Benghazi tragedy on my research list, with the intention of putting it into this series. However, I am holding off any writing on this subject, as a few days ago, it was made public that other documents pertaining to Benghazi had been found by State Department personnel. As of this writing, there is no further information on this material. I bring this matter up in this article because it has been reported that the documents were on Hillary's server. I hope the material is made available to our citizenry. Several organizations have filed Freedom of Information requests to make the documents public.

The State Department has been heavily criticized for not responding to requests for additional security at the Benghazi facility. To her credit, Clinton took responsibility for the security problems.

However, Susan Rice (at that time, the United States UN Ambassador) did not help matters in her comments about the attack. Her statements created confusion and cast doubts on what or who precipitated the attacks. None of this information was the fault of the State Department, but the agency suffered from some of the backlash.

'Same-O, Same-O'

While doing research for the Trump and Clinton reports, it became clear that a vast number of American citizens are fed-up with the present political milieu in Washington, D.C. Count me among these people. The view is that Hillary Clinton represents this reviled establishment and her residency in the White House would perpetuate the current climate. One person wrote that it would just be the "same-o, same-o," which I took to mean that Hillary would not be an agent of change.

I think all readers can agree that changes are needed in Washington. Our country is in a state of paralysis, with partisan politics so bitter that vacancies on the Supreme Court cannot be filled (not to mention vacancies in lower courts as well). Our nation cannot move forward with a crippled (partial) judicial branch.

It is easy to also discern, even among

Clinton supporters, a feeling of discomfort, a lack of confidence in Hillary. One person told me that Clinton has had so many smoking guns in her career, there had to be some fire somewhere. Anecdotal? Yes, but that does not diminish the fact that many citizens do not trust her.

Shredding the Constitution

When Hillary Clinton was still a senator from New York, she accused the Bush administration (George W.) of using "secret White House

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email accounts" along with secret wiretaps and military tribunals. At that time, she also said, "You know, our Constitution is being shredded."

Perhaps she had forgotten about her private secret email server. "Shredding the Constitution." What irony.

...

Uyless Black is a prolific researcher and professional writer whose undergraduate degree is in psychology. He later obtained graduate degrees in computer systems as well as money and banking. He resides in Coeur d'Alene.

The Press

Readers Write

A4 | Wednesday, September 7, 2016

BLACK: Equal opportunity skewer

In a Coeur d'Alene Press letter of Sept. 2, John Dixon stated that I claimed: "Donald Trump is a narcissist and therefore unfit to be supported by Mr. Black for the presidency." Here is the direct quote from my article:

"From an examination of the list above, it is obvious a high level of narcissism does not disqualify a person from being the United States President." It is the extreme aspect of narcissism that I was addressing when writing about Donald Trump.

Mr. Dixon called my comments "psychobabble." My thoughts echo those of respected conservatives, such as Fox's Charles Krauthammer. He says Trump has an "infantile hunger for approval." Former NSA and CIA Director Michael Hayden says Trump is a "risk to America's national security and well-being."

One of my role models for many years has been George Will, another conservative. Mr. Will has left the Republican Party because of Trump. More than 90 Republican national security and defense experts signed a letter stating Mr. Trump is unfit to be commander in chief.

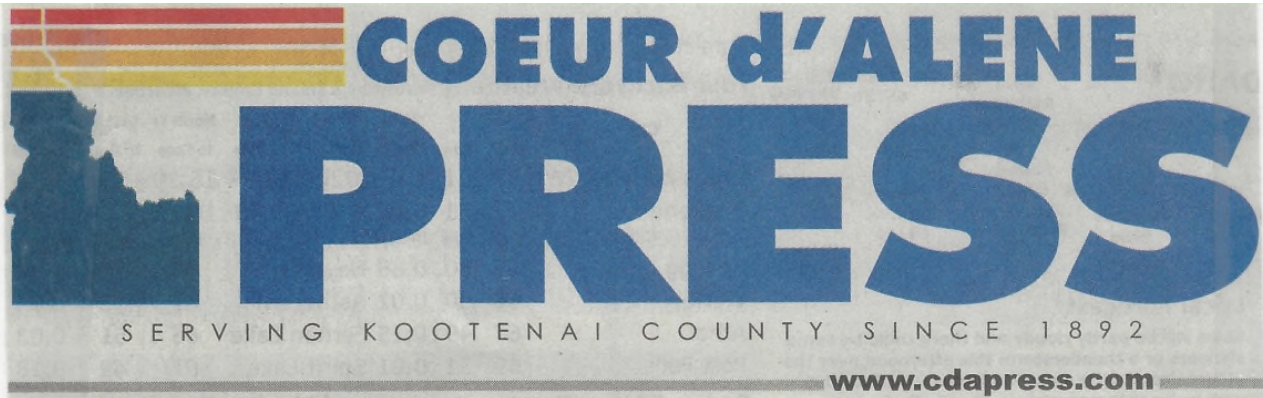
Psychobabble? If so, I am in the company of many respected Republicans who are doing a lot of psychobabbling.

To address some readers' curiosity about which party I support. I am a registered Independent in the state of Idaho.

In hindsight, given the furor I have raised about Mr. Trump, perhaps I should have submitted the Hillary skewer to The Press before I submitted the Donald skewer. But then, I suspect the series about Hillary will raise the ire of the Democrats. It's the same old story: Where one stands depends on where one sits.

I ask readers to bear in mind that I sit as an Independent, and I am writing the series on the two candidates as an independent thinker. I've no ax to grind with either candidate.

UYLESS BLACK
Coeur d'Alene



Thursday

September 8, 2016

Hillary Clinton: The tyranny of ambition

Last of three parts

By UYLESS BLACK
Special to The Press

This is the third and last article about Hillary Clinton and an assessment of her qualifications to be President of the United States.

The first two articles in this series concentrated on three major events in the political career of Ms. Clinton. They are called Travelgate, Whitewater, and Emailgate.



Black

Analysis

Obviously, other events could be included, but these affairs offer enough information to assess Clinton, and I wish to give equal space to Trump and Clinton in these reports.

These events have been used to analyze two aspects of Hillary's behavior: whether she broke the law, or whether she did not break the law but broke rules of ethics.

With the exception of you and me, everyone else on earth breaks

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the laws of their land and the ethics of their society. We humans also forgive. It is one of our most endearing traits, and one that helps hold together our social fabrics. An ethical "sin" once in a while is part of human nature, and is usually forgiven and even forgotten.

Besides, most of our ethics are not laws unto themselves. On occasion, when we humans decide that adherence to an ethical practice is vital to our society, we make it into a law, such as stealing or lying while under oath.

I bring these concepts up in this series because my research leads me to believe Hillary has not been truthful in her revelations about her participation in the Travelgate hirings and firings (as well as the misplacement of files about the event). She broke no laws, but it is my view that she misled the American public.

I have the same opinion about the Whitewater affair. When queried about Whitewater, both Bill and Hillary declare, "We lost money on the investment!" That is to say: Therefore, we must be innocent. Had it not been for Susan McDougal's statement about why she did not testify in the case, I would have believed the Clintons. But it was at this time when they lost my trust.

In the situation of the private email server, I believe Hillary knew she was violating ethics and breaking the law. Her explanations simply defy logic. She did it anyway, as if she were above the law.

The Rule of Law

A viable republic cannot function if it does not adhere to the rule of law. No one should be exempted. I listened to the reasons why Gerald Ford gave a pardon to Richard Nixon: to avoid some ten years of trials and appeals, and the resultant strain on America. Poppycock, America's fabric is stronger than what Ford believed.

I conducted research for my book (*The Nearly*

Perfect Storm: An American Financial and Social Failure) to discover that time-and-again, people who should have been sent to jail for their misdeeds ended up scot-free, with their company (no, the company shareholders) paying a fine and the public at large suffering.

When a politician or a judge is sent to jail for a crime, it is a sad event, but it proves that America is a land where the rule of law prevails. When a guilty party does not pay the price for breaking the law, the rule of law and society suffer, which often leads to other malfeasance. Is adhering to the rule of law the only viable way for a democracy to function properly? Yes, the only way.

Does the behavior of Hillary Clinton that has been described in these articles disqualify her from holding the office of United States President? Thus far, she has not been cited for breaking any laws, but I believe she broke not only rules but laws in the way she used a private email server. I also believe she violated ethics in the Travelgate and Whitewater episodes.

A couple weeks ago, my wife and I saw the movie "Florence Foster Jenkins," starring Meryl Streep and Hugh Grant. Mr. Grant plays the role of an unsuccessful actor who is married to a rich woman (played by Meryl Streep). Hugh's character spends most of his time promoting his wife's singing career, and does little to advance his own.

One of his acquaintances asks him about his seemingly sad state. Hugh responds that he is content not to be a victim of the tyranny of ambition. As I was writing these pieces about Hillary Clinton, Mr. Grant's quote came to mind.

A good case could be made that Hillary suffers from an over-reaching ambition. My wife is of the opinion that Ms. Clinton should have left Mr. Clinton long ago, but Hillary's personal ambition dissuaded her from doing so.

Thus, after much reflection about the character of this woman, I cannot bring myself to support her candidacy.

This statement is the same as my statement about Donald Trump.

Those of you who have read my analyses on Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton know I am not a great fan of either candidate. This places me (and other Americans who hold the same belief) in a conundrum, because they are the only viable candidates left standing.

Nonetheless, whoever wins will have my best wishes for success in uniting what has become a fractious national political system. If Donald can somehow unify the Democrats and Republicans into a coalition that will unite the

SOUND OFF

■ Readers, share your views of this article and/or your assessment of the presidential race by writing a letter to the editor. Address it to: mpatrick@cdapress.com

deeply divided elements of our society, he's my man. If Hillary can do it, she's my woman.

For Hillary, she has considerable experience and can handle a lot of situations on her own. For Donald, if he surrounds himself with an experienced and competent staff (and takes their advice), it could be that his deal-making talents can carry over to Capitol Hill. It is obvious our country needs people at the White House and Congress who will cut deals (compromise on occasion) and move the nation forward.

Let us hope either Donald or Hillary and the members of Congress keep in mind an old and wise observation:

The beauty of democracy is its ability to change.

The danger to democracy is assuming it cannot.

I thank you for sticking with me through six reports. Pro or con, I look forward to your thoughts.

...

Uyless Black is a prolific researcher and professional writer whose undergraduate degree is in psychology. He later obtained graduate degrees in computer systems as well as money and banking. He resides in Coeur d'Alene.

The Press

A4 | Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Readers Write

SERIES: Tale of two hammers

Mr. Black's first set of articles had some interesting thoughts and some great ideas but I thought slightly biased. The following set of three regarding our two presidential candidates left no doubt about his partisanship. Where he took a sledge hammer approach to Donald Trump he wielded a tack hammer to Mrs. Clinton. Mr. Black has joined the liberal media who have become a stenographer for Hillary's platform. Check out their softball questions. They even give her compliments on her hairdo!

I am a retired airline pilot, have spent six years in the Air National Guard, and have held high security clearances. To my knowledge there has never been anyone running for such a high office that has been engaged in pay for play. Mr. Black failed to mention the Clinton Foundation or the \$500 million net worth, gained in a relatively short time.

Mr. Black, put on your researcher hat and do a timeline on the Russian plutonium deal worth millions of dollars. I agree with Mr. Black about Hillary's blind ambition, she was an enabler to her husband during and after raping and assaulting women from Arkansas to Washington, D.C. I believe your time spent watching Florence Foster Jennings would have been better spent had you watched "Hillary's America," a well-researched and produced documentary. Clinton's hero is Margaret Sanger, a racist who thought blacks to be inferior and we [Caucasians] should purify our race. But Clinton calls Trump a racist, a man who employs hundreds of African Americans and many in management positions.

HOWARD HARDER
Harrison

The Press

A4 | Friday, September 16, 2016

Readers Write

HILLARY: Bad list longer

If as psychologists often say "the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior," then a fresh look at highlights of Hillary's past is in order.

Mr. Uyless Black shared with us four of her accomplishments in the scandal field, so I will omit them and only add some others, not necessarily in the order of events. I'm sure that some young voters were playing in sandboxes when these came up so they will have to go to the Internet to read up.

1. Using the IRS to audit all the women who had charges of sexual advances by Bill Clinton.
2. Looting the White House of \$190K when leaving.
3. Chinagate
4. Filegate
5. Vince Foster's filegate
6. Landing under "sniper fire" in Bosnia
7. Renting out Lincoln's bedroom for self-profit
8. Pardongate of friend Marc Rich in prison for tax evasion
9. Hillary's cash cows
10. Saying that Colin Powell used a personal server for State business, which he denies
11. Telling us that she only used one server while the FBI tells us it was 14

I'm not a Trump fan, but I can't see four more years of duplicating this kind of behavior.

DALE HEDMAN
Hayden

ELECTION: Shake up D.C.

Let me be the first to congratulate Mr. Black and the Coeur d'Alene Press. I was one of the first people to condemn both for their article analysis of Mr. Trump, not realizing that Mrs. Clinton's turn was coming next.

It sounded like Mr. Black could not in good conscience vote for either one, as I have heard other people saying. Other people say they would not vote at all, or vote for a third party or write in another name. I believe all of these options are a disservice to our country and the ones who went before us, to give us the right to vote.

Lets put personalities aside, forget Mr. Trump's bombastic personality or Mrs. Clinton's ability to tell the truth on anything. There is never a perfect candidate, there will always be something you do not like about that person. Think the big picture, the United States of America.

Of the two candidates, who do you think is pro-America? Who will shake up Washington?

One candidate has built many businesses that made himself rich beyond anyone's dreams and employed thousands of people. He speaks and feels what the average

American might feel in his heart. He is not a polished speaker and probably like most of us with a camera stuck in his face, says things he wished he could take back.

Think of any good business, how do you make it so? You do not make it on your own. You research and hire the best people you can to do a particular job. You make the best deals for your company. If he were to be president, he would surround himself with the best people with knowledge he does not have. The people he appoints owe him nothing.

The other candidate has never built a business, one could say she has always been on the government's dime, either state or federal. Her only contribution was to enrich herself. She has made millions not because of what she has done, but by favors done or favors to be done. Her whole political life has been one controversy and always on the edge of legality.

Everyone admits she is not a good speaker. What she does say is rehearsed and always political, to make her sound like she cares. We the people never really know what is in her heart and we know it is not true whatever she says. If she does get to be president, what kind of people will she appoint? Maybe people that have done favors for her and certainly only ones who agree with her.

There is one question no one ever asks (newspapers or FBI) about all these emails and various phones she had used: Why did she have a personal server in her basement?

Now comes the big question: Who do you think will appoint the best Supreme Court justices? This goes beyond what you feel personally about the candidates. These will be game changers for our nation. Do we want ones who uphold the Constitution or ones who want to make new laws and subvert the Constitution?

There is one candidate who will do pretty much what the past president has done, no big mystery there.

Then there is the other one, who we might not be sure of. We do know that candidate owes no political favors. We do know he will shake up Washington and all the career politicians.

How many times have you vented to your friends, family about all these what we perceive as stupid, grubby making politicians, who are only concerned with their next election and do not care about the common man?

The system is corrupt with money, political favors and lobbyists (a person who takes part in an organized attempt to influence legislators).

Yes, by writing in your own candidate, voting for a third party or just not voting at all might make you feel good (we are a feel-good society), but what does it do for our country? This is the first time in many years when we have a chance to actually shake up Washington. What was the purpose all those years ranting at the television, all your friends and family? Did you do it just to sit by the sidelines one more time?

GEORGE SILVA
Coeur d'Alene

The Press

North Idaho

September 23, 2016, page A7

Cheers to healthy communication

Dear Howard Harder and Dale Hedman,

I thank you for your responses to my series on Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. I respect the even-handed tone of your letters, a trait that seems to be disappearing from humans' written correspondence.

I cannot add much to the points made by Mr. Hedman, other than the observation that I received little in the way of feedback about my Clinton columns.

I gather most of the Cd'A Press readers agreed with my assessments. In contrast, my criticisms of Mr. Trump brought forth many negative comments, principally that I was piling on to Donald...even before I issued my Clinton skewer!

Perhaps the Trump supporters could have waited for my articles on Clinton before explaining to me that I was (a) a Democrat (which I am not), and (b) biased against Donald (which I am not).

In these six articles, the skewers into Donald and Hillary were of equal length and sharpness.

My goal was to raise the level of debate about these two candidates. To that end, I hope I succeeded, even if I am not quite as popular in my neighborhood and my community as I was before I wrote the pieces.

Nonetheless, my wife and I are still giving our annual block party for the neighborhood. ...And I thank the Cd'A Press for its courage to publish contentious journalism.

In relation to Mr. Harder's letter, your analogy of the hammers is fair. There is a great deal of difference between a person who has routinely stepped over society's thresholds of codes of ethics and the Rule of Law (Clinton, as listed in Mr. Hedman's letter and in my articles), in contrast to a person who has not (as far as we know, Trump, with some disturbing incidents, explained shortly).

Mr. Harder, as regards to Hillary, I made the point above clear in my third piece. That is the reason I wrote at some length on how important it is for our leaders to honor and respect the codes of ethics and the Rule of Law. My articles on Hillary declared she violated these mores. I did not accuse Donald of routinely tramping these foundations of our republic, perhaps because I do not know as much about Donald as I know about Hillary, or perhaps because Donald has stayed away from these temptations of power.

Space limitations prevented me from going into other areas of the candidates' behavior, such as the Clinton Foundation (that Mr. Harder mentioned) and Trump's renegeing on business contracts in Atlantic City and his mistreatment of Polish workers during the construction of Trump

Towers. My articles were restricted by keeping them within the confines imposed by the format of a newspaper.

Nonetheless, I trust my articles emphasized that we citizens must place adherence to ethics and the Rule of Law above any other considerations. In this regard, I declared I could not side with Clinton. Because of Trump's never-ending, reckless assertions, I also stated I could not side with him.

I wrote this series with the hope that I would engender thought and debate among our citizenry about this presidential race. The debate is contentious, but it is healthy. It has simulated long-dormant debates about the horse we Americans will ride into our future America.

For Mr. Harder, I would like to think if you had picked-up on my references to ethics and law, and my skewering Clinton forthwith, you would have changed some of the suppositions in your letter about my tack hammer treatment of Clinton. I thought these ideas, and Hillary's violation of them, had me apply a sledge hammer to both candidates.

That said, there will always a difference of people's perspectives about these issues. Pro or con, the comments from both of you were welcome. I wish more letters to the editor were as even tempered and well-written as yours.

...

Uyless Black is a resident of Coeur d'Alene.

OPINION



Uyless Black

My Turn