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Howard Zinn –

Civil disobedience is not our problem. Our problem is civil obedience. Our problem is that numbers of people all over the world have obeyed the dictates of the leaders of their government and have gone to war. Millions have been killed because of this obedience. Our problem is that people are obedient all over the world in the face of poverty, starvation and stupidity, and war, and cruelty. **Our problem is that we are obedient while the jails are full of petty thieves, and all the very grand thieves are running the country.** That's our problem."

Jesse Ventura –

Your wages should be high enough to accomplish that. (On Raising the Minimum Wage)" -"I don't care if it's the ditch digger or the biggest financial planner on the subsidies, without food stamps, without welfare, without anything like that, **"Republicans are not a political party. It's a mental condition."**

**Democratic Convention Between
June 1 to June 8 2020**

In Memoriam

Long time club member dies

Mickie Lee Leach Brabham, one of the early members of Lake Highlands White Rock Democrats, died on March 16, 2020 with her children by her side. She attended many of our meetings with her husband Paul Brabham, who preceded her in death. Their daughter, Anne Brabham was a long time member as well, and worked for the Democratic Party for some time. Mickie worked in the US Cadet Nurse Corps in WWII, and locally after completing Nursing School in 1946. She was active in the League of Women Voters, UMW, and hosted initial meetings of Richardson North Dallas Democrats in her home until membership grew beyond the space of their home. Donations in her honor may be given to the North Texas Food Bank.

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Noam Chomsky –

"That's the standard technique of Privatization: defund , make sure things don't work, people get angry, you hand it over to private capital." - "It's pretty ironic that the so-called 'least advantaged' people are the ones taking the lead in trying to protect all of us, while the richest and most powerful among us are the ones who are trying to drive the society to destruction." - "As long as the general population is passive, apathetic, diverted to consumerism or the hatred of the vulnerable, then the powerful can do as they please, and those who survive will be left to contemplate the outcome."

John Adams –

"Government is instituted for the common good; and not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men." - Also, "The Government of the United States is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion." Treaty of Tripoli, 1787

For fun President Barack Obama's hilarious ... - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxFkEj7KPC0>

NEXT VIRTUAL CLUB MEETING - May 16, 2020 | 10:00 AM

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

[COVID-19 Lessons Learned and Planning for the Future](#)

COVID-19 has exposed fundamental cracks in our economic system. The very same system that President Trump has called "the greatest economy to ever exist." BUT LIKE MOST THINGS HE SAYS, HE IS LYING AND HE IS DEAD WRONG:

- * 27 million Americans are uninsured
- * 78% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck
- * 53% of Americans don't have 3 months of living expenses saved
- * 40% of Americans can't cover a \$400 emergency
- * No Federal Paid Sick Time
- * Banks have prioritized BIG business over YOUR Business
- * No Federal Paid Time Off
- * Wages are decreasing for the working class while the rich get richer

If you are as angry as I am about some of the decisions being made that affect your livelihood and risk your health, you will want to register for the upcoming [May 16th LHWR Democrats meeting](#) where we will discuss where we are with the response to COVID-19 and where we need to be going to make our country stronger and to mitigate future pandemics and crisis.

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)



LESSONS LEARNED AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE - COVID-19



5.16.2020 | 10:00 AM

REGISTER AT: <https://bit.ly/lhwrmay>



DR. CAROLYN SALTER
US CONGRESSIONAL
CANDIDATE - CD 5



DR. JOHN CARLO
CEO OF PRISM HEALTH
NORTH TEXAS



JOHN TURNER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TX HOUSE 114

REGISTER AT: <https://bit.ly/lhwrmay> (Case Sensitive)



AND THEN WE HAVE

LHWR Democrats Annual Picnic

Join the Lake Highlands White Rock Democrats on Saturday, July 18th for our Annual Spring (well, this was rescheduled from the Spring to Summer) Picnic at Flagpole Hill! We are expecting dozens of Democratic candidates to be in attendance, current elected officials, and eat lots of wonderful food cooked by our own club officers.

RSVP TO THE PICNIC HERE: <https://www.lhwrdemocrats.org/picnic> This is a fun, low-key social event that is great for new members wanting to become more familiar with the club, long-time members wanting to see friendly faces, and non-members wanting to [check out the club before joining](#). Everyone is welcome and the picnic will be a kid and dog-friendly event. We do ask that you keep your dogs (not kids) on leashes. ;)

Lake Highlands White Rock Democrats Annual Picnic July 18, 2020 (NEW DATE)
10 AM - 2 PM Flagpole Hill 8015 Doran Cir Dallas, TX 7520

NEW DATE
JULY 18, 2020

PICNIC @ FLAG POLE HILL
SATURDAY | JULY 18, 2020
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
FOOD | DRINKS | FUN
8015 Doran Cir, Dallas, TX 75238
\$5.00 - RSVP at
www.lhwrdemocrats.org/picnic

DO YOU WANT TO
MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN?
VOTE
the
GOP
OUT!

ACTION ALERT

Dallas Comprehensive Environment & Climate Action Plan (CECAP)

The Dallas City Council is about to vote (scheduled for Wednesday, May 27th) on the Dallas Comprehensive Environment & Climate Action Plan (CECAP). CECAP will create a comprehensive roadmap that outlines the specific activities that the city can undertake to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve environmental quality in the city. It will build upon our understanding of the climate and other environmental challenges facing Dallas, existing efforts by the City and other stakeholders, information synthesized in the new City of Dallas greenhouse gas inventory, and with community input. The Plan will focus on activities that

can achieve the greatest emission reductions and deliver the most benefits to communities most affected by climate change impacts
Send your Councilman a message and let them know you encourage them to VOTE YES on CECAP.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE CECAP VERSION SENT TO CITY COUNCIL](https://27aab9a-6024-4b39-ba78-f6074e2fc631.filesusr.com/ugd/349b65_38f32c6b85ae4b20b67b79ecb5b0b106.pdf)

https://27aab9a-6024-4b39-ba78-f6074e2fc631.filesusr.com/ugd/349b65_38f32c6b85ae4b20b67b79ecb5b0b106.pdf

Here are the email addresses of the Councilpersons in our area. Here is a sample email you can send:

Dear _____, Sending a word of encouragement to you and the Dallas City Council to vote YES to move forward with CECAP. It is so important for our city to join the group of C40 cities addressing the climate crisis. Incredible work has been done by the city over the last year to develop a plan that moves our city in the right direction.

There will always be more that we can do, but the CECAP plan that has been generated is a critical first step in our commitment to a responsible approach to address the climate crisis. Thank you for all that you do for our city and especially the leadership shown during the COVID pandemic. Best wishes to you and your family to be safe and stay healthy!

Sincerely, YOUR NAME

- District 9: Paula Blackmon** paula.blackmon@dallascityhall.com
- Deputy Mayor Pro Tem/District 10: B. Adam McGough** adam.mcgough@dallascityhall.com
- District 13: Jennifer Staubach Gates** jennifer.gates@dallascityhall.com
- Council District 14: David Blewett** david.blewett@dallascityhall.com

Stay safe, and let's use this time at home to get organized, get energized, and get ready to BEAT DONALD TRUMP in November!

Leadership Lessons During COVID-19

By Brian Hasenbauer

In a national crisis, leaders at each level of government are being challenged and put to the test. Each of these leaders is dealing with similar challenges, including uncertainty, limited resources, and very likely a lack of sleep. This set of common challenges helps to give us a look at each of their leadership styles in somewhat of a controlled setting to determine who is doing a superlative job and who isn't measuring up. We see certain leaders rise to prominence and political stardom as the nation embraces them as the de facto leaders of the United States. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo and California Governor Gavin Newsom are two leaders that come to mind as rising stars. We are also seeing other prominent leaders display pettiness, bravado, and character traits that are anything but traditional characteristics of an effective leader.

Failure of Presidential Leadership

In a global crisis, the President has traditionally been looked to as the public official that instills confidence, implements sound policy, and shows courage and vigor to lead the nation through the crisis. During turbulent times, leaders' words matter and have a tremendous impact. The speech that comes to mind when I think of instilling confidence during times of crisis is Winston Churchill's "we shall fight on the beaches" speech given shortly after the disaster at Dunkirk that almost destroyed the entire British Army.

"We shall fight on the beaches; we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender." These encouraging words provided every Englishman and woman the confidence and assurance that the British people would prevail and triumph over Adolph Hitler and the Third Reich. This confidence and encouragement are what people need from their leaders during times of crisis. Not the false and misleading statements we have heard from Donald Trump, such as "it's going to be fine," "we have it under control," and "anyone that wants a test can get a test." What we have seen from our current President is far from encouraging and assuring. For the most part, his addresses to the nation have been full of lies, misinformation, and a continued airing of petty feuds and childish insults that are less than could be considered stately.

The Presidential press conferences conducted by Donald Trump consist of attacks on political opponents, discrediting the media covering him as fake news, making insulting and degrading remarks about Governors, deflecting responsibility to others, and

relaying misinformation to the public regarding potential cures. His promotion of unproven treatments and drugs (such as ingesting disinfectant or taking drugs not approved for treating COVID-19) has led to actual deaths.

I'm not sure it's by choice or by design, but it's clear that there is no leadership coming from the White House, and the White House has abdicated responsibility for this Global Pandemic to the Governors of each state. With the current occupant in the White House, the buck certainly doesn't stop with him. No, he's made it clear. It's not his responsibility.

Abdicating responsibility and blaming others is not the type of leadership required during a crisis. Because of this leadership void at various levels of government, we are seeing leaders emerge from all levels of government to fill these voids.

Leadership Doesn't Equate to Height of Political Office

It's imperative to note that the quality of leadership doesn't equate to the level of government of our elected officials. For instance, in Dallas County, we have seen exemplary leadership from every level of government, including our County Judge, Clay Jenkins. Just because you are a Governor or even President, that is no guarantee that you have the executive skills required to lead and communicate effectively during times of crisis. Time and time again, the President has fallen short of providing effective leadership, and he has left a leadership void that is now being filled by local and state leaders.

The Value of Local Leadership

In the DFW metroplex, Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins has become the voice of reason and calm in terms of elected leaders. His press conferences are science-based and do an exemplary job of communicating necessary and actionable information and guidelines for citizens to follow. His focus on the challenges at hand and providing specific guidance is refreshing when compared to the impromptu comments and misinformation coming from Presidential press conferences. Judge Jenkins doesn't use his press conferences to belittle the media or attack political opponents. No, with Judge Jenkins, the buck stops with him, and he takes responsibility where appropriate.

During this pandemic, the elected officials making many meaningful life and death decisions are our County judges, Mayors, and municipal leaders, not the federal government, and not Donald Trump. The nation is seeing the worst examples of leadership coming from the White House. In Dallas, we are fortunate to have a front seat to the exemplary leadership of Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins as he guides us through this mess that is being made worse by our current President.

Maybe one day, we will see the leadership qualities of Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins put to use in a higher capacity. After all, we are in dire need of new leadership in the Governor's mansion and in Washington, D.C. Whatever is next for Judge Jenkins, one thing can be sure, America needs and deserves more leaders like Clay Jenkins and fewer like Donald Trump.

Brian Hasenbauer

President Lake Highland White Rock Democrats

Henry Wallace – U.S. Vice President - “A fascist is one whose lust for money or power is combined with such an intensity of intolerance toward those of other races, parties, classes, religions, cultures, regions, or nations as to make him ruthless in his use of deceit or violence to attain his ends. (Seniors for a Democratic Society)” - “American fascists claim to be super-patriots, but they would destroy every liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. They demand free enterprise, but are the spokesmen for monopoly and vested interest. Their final objective is to capture political power so that using the power of the state and the power of the market simultaneously, they may keep the common man in eternal subjection. (Occupy)” - “With a fascist the problem is never how best to present the truth to the public but how best to use the news to deceive the public into giving the fascist and his group more money or more power... They claim to be super-patriots, but they would destroy every liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. (1944)”

Mother Jones report: Though President Donald Trump has not been big in the empathy department during the coronavirus pandemic—he more often talks about his own TV ratings than the tens of thousands Americans who have died during the crisis—the Trump campaign wants his supporters to know that Trump truly cares about them during this time of tragedy and hardship. As proof of Trump’s deeply felt concern, his campaign is offering to send his devotees a set of Trump-Pence pint glasses. All for just a contribution of \$31.00.

IT'S NOT ABOUT ME... IT'S ABOUT CONTINUING THE REVOLUTION

VOTE BRIAN HASENBAUER - NATIONAL DELEGATE FOR BERNIE SANDERS TX SD 16



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SANDERS - TEXAS SD 16

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What Are Your Favorite Drive-Thru Restaurants during COVID 19 Time?

You cannot go wrong with Taco Bueno's Whole Lotta of Box (6 tacos/6 burritos and sides) but make sure you finish it off with Cheesecake Chimichangas!
one of Dale McEowen's favorite desserts

Members of the President’s Task Force Pres. Pannel Caught off-guard: "Members of the panel are often caught off-guard by Trump's comments, a source close to the coronavirus task force said, adding the President's remarks sometimes seem 'surreal' to the experts sharing the podium at the daily news conferences. One official said task force members can never tell what precisely Trump will absorb from their briefings, often picking something small and fixating on it during the televised news conference afterward."

Don't be seen: "Some members of the task force have become aware that their reactions to Trump are being captured on camera, leading the experts and administration officials to either remind themselves to remain expressionless as the President is speaking or to stay away from the podium in order to avoid the camera."

He is President, so real doctors sit, as Birx did Thursday, stony-faced (**seriously, watch her face**) as he peddles snake oil while millions of Americans look on.

She wasn't there at Friday's very brief briefing, and neither was Fauci, who hasn't attended a Trump-led briefing for more than a week, though he appeared by video at the NFL draft (**yes, really!**). Would Trump's suggestion of sunlight under the skin have led him to leap up and grab the microphone from Trump, as he has suggested he probably shouldn't do?

Trump's original generals all left. **All of the generals he touted having in his administration early on were either kicked out or resigned.** His previous doctor -- the long-haired guy with the John Lennon sunglasses -- says **Trump dictated a letter claiming superior health** during the 2016 presidential campaign. Trump's war is not on medicine. It's on science itself. He buried a massive climate change report assembled by 300 government agencies because "I don't believe it."

He pushed raking forests as the antidote for wildfires.

This goes beyond science, too. He's skeptical of economics, of intelligence, of computers, of technology.

He's got his own theories. That's one thing when it comes to economics. There's room for debate.

On medicine, for your own safety, get a second opinion.

Declaring War on a Virus Ignores the Neoliberal Policies That Put Us Here

Despair and Disparity: The Uneven Burdens of COVID-19

On March 30, *CNN* correspondent Miguel Marquez visited Brookdale Hospital in Brooklyn, New York, and subsequently referred to hospitals treating COVID-19 patients as **“medical war zones.”** Political leaders like New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and global media outlets have repeated this kind of language of war by reminding us that measures preventing public gatherings last occurred during World War II.

Adopting war metaphors to describe our present experience of the pandemic is dangerous because it obscures the structural differences between war zones and pandemic zones, and encourages U.S. citizens to see themselves as victims of war. What is unfolding in the U.S. with COVID-19 is not a state fighting a war against its enemies, but a state-corporate assemblage that is maximizing its profits and using the pandemic as an excellent market opportunity.

Using war metaphors has allowed an egoistic and incompetent president to self-fashion himself as a hero. Donald Trump calls himself “a wartime president” and defines his response to COVID-19 as a “war against the virus.” These claims would probably surprise many in countries such as Afghanistan and Iraq, where people have been subjected to drone surveillance, bombs and U.S. occupation for nearly two decades. Moreover, the U.S. recently announced it would **slash \$1 billion in aid to Afghanistan** during a time when it is estimated up to 80 percent of the population there could contract COVID-19 and the country already does not have the means to handle the pandemic.

In light of the two-decade long “war on terror” and a longer history of imperial violence unleashed on countries around the world, using war metaphors for the COVID-19 crisis actually perpetuates the indifference many U.S. citizens feel toward the victims of its imperial wars. For example, the term “war on terror” identifies no clear enemy, and its imprecise nature has allowed U.S. forces to carry out extraordinary renditions and to torture and kill anyone it deems the enemy. Similarly, to think of the virus as an invisible enemy entering the U.S. from outside allows the state to carry out violence indiscriminately against perceived enemies and hide the inadequate measures the state has taken to protect the most vulnerable.

We've already seen in previous decades how the "war on drugs" criminalized racial minorities in the United States while distracting from U.S.-backed "low-intensity" conflicts in Central America. Today, survivors of those conflicts and their descendants are perishing in overcrowded prisons and Immigration and Customs Enforcement migrant jails. The language of war and invasion from outside veils the racist and classist response of the state to the present crisis, and ignores the realities of why a [disproportionate number of African Americans are dying](#) from COVID-19.

It is not a coincidence that the United States has 2.5 times [more prison cells than it does hospital beds](#). More than 2 million prisoners, disproportionately African Americans and people of color, remain at high risk behind bars; immigrants remain locked up in migrant jails, which were horrific before the outbreak of COVID-19; those without homes remain on the streets, vulnerable to infection and police sweeps; and Asian immigrants and Asian Americans alike face increased attacks as the president of the United States keeps calling COVID-19 a "[Chinese virus](#)."

To think of the virus as an invisible enemy entering the U.S. from outside allows the state to carry out violence indiscriminately against perceived enemies. Instead, we should think of our collective vulnerability as emerging out of the destabilizations produced by 40 years of free market economic policies. Author and journalist Naomi Klein has called the present moment one of "[coronavirus capitalism](#)," to highlight how states and corporations profit from disasters and conflicts when people are at their most vulnerable. Neoliberalism is the dangerous ideology of individual freedom that has driven policies of privatization, deregulation and financialization. Neoliberalism is dangerous because it subordinates human need to market metrics, privileges competition over cooperation and is incapable of delivering long-term solutions, operating as it does according to short-term gain

For we feel panic not simply because of the virus's potential to kill us, but also because of the neoliberal economic policies that have left us woefully under-prepared to meet this global pandemic. Even those officials at the "front lines" of fighting this virus, such as New York Gov. Andrew [Cuomo, have for decades systematically supported underfunding health care](#). At a moment in history when millions of people are losing their jobs, large swathes of the U.S. population lack access to insurance that can pay for the hospitalizations and medications they will need to save their lives.

Many hospitals around the country have been unable to cope because our health care system does not maintain hospital capacities beyond what is profitable. Hence, the panic many of us feel is amplified because we know that we may not receive the care we need, even as those who are wealthy will. COVID-19 is not the equalizer our politicians have made it out to be; it will in fact exacerbate inequality and disproportionately impact health care workers, the poor, people of color and other vulnerable groups. The panic we feel as we face the reality of the inadequacy of our social safety net is exacerbated by the despair we also feel as we witness how COVID-19 is not forcing politicians and corporations to abandon policies that are killing us, but instead enabling them to do the exact opposite.

COVID-19 is indeed a shock to the present political and economic regime, but what neoliberal practitioners are doing is assembling a response intended to expand corporate and elite power and wealth. So, even as millions of people are in fear of their lives and are unemployed, the neoliberal state is helping corporations more than survive, made amply clear by the fact that a large part of the \$2 trillion bailout is reserved for corporate well-being.

Using war language suggests that there will at some point be a victory, a defeat of an enemy. Rather, we might kindle our hope for the world by rethinking the entrepreneurial and individualist common sense produced out of neoliberalism, and instead pool resources, share information and creatively collaborate to survive this global health threat.

Here we are thinking of efforts made by so many collectives to produce face shields or masks (using personal or university 3D printers) to donate to health care workers or to invent open-source designs for ventilators that can be constructed with basic materials. These hope-driven strategies operate across national borders, are attuned to scientific data and need, and respond to the challenges of climate change rather than opportunistic calls to nationalism.

These are some of the voices and examples we should turn our attention to now, to spark our own creative and collaborative reservoirs, and to drown out the war calls.

[Candice Amich](#) Vanderbilt University.

[Nimanthi Perera-Rajasingham](#) Colgate University.

The End