



The

Phyllis Schlafly Report



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Americans Elected 'A Choice, Not An Echo'

In the final days of the presidential campaign, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump held a series of last-minute rallies in the battleground states. The huge differences between those events revealed stark differences between the two candidates for our nation's highest office.

Since Hillary couldn't draw a large crowd on her own, she depended on appearances by famous entertainment personalities such as Lady Gaga, Bruce Springsteen, Jon Bon Jovi, Katy Perry, Beyoncé and Jay-Z. Despite the free tickets given away by her campaign, many in the audience left before Hillary even took the stage.

Some of those entertainers include vulgar and obscene lyrics as part of their act, but that didn't stop Hillary from hypocritically hugging them on stage. Besides embracing the worst elements of the entertainment industry, Hillary's own use of coarse language has been widely reported by the Secret Service and military aides assigned to protect her.

Following the vulgar entertainment, Hillary's brief remarks consisted mostly of politically correct platitudes, such as claiming to be "inclusive" while attacking her opponent as "divisive." Of course, the real Hillary was when she said "you could put half of Trump's supporters into what I call the basket of deplorables – the racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, Islamophobic, you name it."

Donald Trump has proved that those epithets just don't work anymore. Most Americans are tired of being told that common-sense, traditional views are outside the bounds of acceptable conversation.

Trump had been doing 2 or 3 rallies per day, but he stepped up the pace to 4 or 5 per day during the week before the election. His 7-day schedule included several stops each in the states of Florida, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Michigan, plus visits to Iowa, Colorado, Ohio, New Hampshire, and Minnesota.

There's no need for extra entertainment at a Trump rally, because Donald Trump himself is who the people came to see and hear. Most of Trump's rallies drew crowds of 5,000 to 25,000 people, often with thousands more lined up outside waiting to get in.

Unlike Hillary's substance-free remarks to people who mainly came for a free concert, Trump gave a full-length speech at each of his rallies. Unlike Hillary, Trump never lost his voice, his energy and incredible stamina, his humor, or his authenticity.

At every stop, Trump reinforced the signature issues of his campaign: build a wall on the southern border, stop illegal immigration and sanctuary cities, stop the influx of refugees and Muslims (unless they can survive "extreme vetting"), repair trade agreements that encourage companies to shift jobs overseas, rebuild our badly depleted military while staying out of unwinnable wars in the Middle East, repeal and replace Obamacare, end Common Core and restore local control of education.

Each of these issues is linked to the corrupt bipartisan cartel that has run our national government since Ronald Reagan left office in 1988. Imagine if this election had come down to Clinton versus Bush, as many predicted last year. The Clinton and Bush families agree on most issues, so it's no surprise that several Bushes publicly supported Hillary.

The theme that runs through any Donald Trump speech is his instinctive desire for Americans to start winning again, after decades of losing to foreign rivals. Trump understands that the world is filled with enemies, adversaries and competitors, not friends, allies and partners.

The stakes in this election were illustrated by an article the *Wall Street Journal* chose to publish the Friday before the election. Entitled "A President Clinton Would Be Good for India," the article by someone named Sadanand Dhume endorsed Hillary because Trump's "antitrade tirades are dangerously kooky."

It's sad that the traditional voice of American business apparently wants the next President to be "good for India" instead of good for Americans. Too many of the Journal's readers profit from the global trading system that has outsourced millions of American jobs to India, China and Mexico, allowing those countries to grow rapidly while America stagnates.

Americans left behind by the global economy were

attracted by Trump's promise to return our country to world dominance in every field of human activity. That means employing our own citizens to help make America strong again, safe again, rich again, and great again.

To give Hillary Clinton her due, she made one statement with which all Americans could agree: "I believe this may be the most important election of our lifetimes." But the real credit should go to Donald J. Trump, for framing the issues of this election, standing up for America, and providing voters with a real choice, not an echo.

Trump Takes on the Global Elite

A candidate's closing argument, or last speech before the election, can be revealing. Who can forget Obama's ringing declaration that his victory in 2008 would be "the moment when the rise of the oceans began to slow and our planet began to heal"?

The speech that Donald Trump delivered on October 13 in West Palm Beach will be studied for years by political scientists trying to understand the Trump phenomenon. There has never been a speech like it in American political history.

Appearing before thousands of cheering supporters at the South Florida Fairgrounds, Trump began his address by defining his campaign as a movement: "Our movement is about replacing a failed and corrupt political establishment, with a new government controlled by you, the American people."

With the understanding that his movement is on the verge of becoming a new party in America, Trump then unloaded a fierce attack on the corrupt leadership of both political parties. "The Washington establishment, and the financial and media corporations that fund it, exist for only one reason: to protect and enrich itself. The establishment has trillions of dollars at stake in this election."

"As an example, just one single trade deal they'd like to pass involves trillions of dollars, controlled by many countries, corporations and lobbyists." We saw how that worked after then-Senator Obama promised in 2008 that he would "renegotiate NAFTA," then renounced that pledge as soon as he moved into the White House.

"The political establishment that is trying to stop us," Trump continued, "is the same group responsible for our disastrous trade deals, massive illegal immigration and economic and foreign policies that have bled our country dry. It's a global power structure that is responsible for the economic decisions that have robbed our working class, stripped our country of its wealth and put that money into the pockets of a handful of large corporations and political entities. The political establishment has brought about the destruction of our factories, and our jobs, as they flee to Mexico, China and other countries all around the world."

By an ironic coincidence, a few days before Trump's speech, Britain's *Financial Times* newspaper reported, "The world's economic elite spent this week invoking fears of the existential crisis facing globalization while avoiding any mention of Donald Trump by name." Bloomberg followed with a similar story that "The emergence of Donald Trump as a political force reflects a mood of growing discontent about immigration and globalization."

"The Clinton machine is at the center of this power structure. We've seen this first hand in the WikiLeaks documents, in which Hillary Clinton meets in secret with international banks to plot the destruction of U.S. sovereignty in order to enrich these global financial powers, her special interest friends and her donors."

That was a reference to Hillary's \$225,000 speech to South American bankers on May 16, 2013. Hillary told her appreciative audience that her "dream" was to have completely "open trade and open borders" throughout the entire Western hemisphere.

Hillary's anti-Americanism includes her record of favors for the outsourcing firm Tata, which exploited the H-1B visa system to replace tens of thousands of Americans with guest workers from India. Tata gave money to the Clinton Foundation, participated in the Clinton Global Initiative, and Hillary declared "I am delighted to be the Senator from Punjab as well as from New York."

Trump then turned his attention to "the most powerful weapon deployed by the Clintons," namely the press. "Let's be clear on one thing," Trump continued, "the corporate media in our country is a political special interest no different than any lobbyist or other financial entity with a political agenda, and their agenda is to elect crooked Hillary Clinton."

Trump reminded his supporters that they are part of a worldwide uprising against the globalist elite. "We've seen it in the United Kingdom, where they voted to liberate themselves from global government, global trade deals, and global immigration deals that have destroyed their sovereignty and have destroyed many of those nations."

"But the central base of world political power," Trump said, "is right here in America, and it is our corrupt political establishment that is the greatest power behind the efforts at radical globalization and the disenfranchisement of working people. This is our moment of reckoning as a society and as a civilization itself."

"The corrupt establishment knows that we are a great threat to their criminal enterprise," Trump concluded. "They know that if we win their power is gone. But, it all depends on whether we let the corrupt media decide our future, or whether we let the American people decide our future."

Trump Takes Charge

The town hall telecast from Washington University in St. Louis on Sunday, October 9, was a reminder of why Donald Trump dominated the field of 17 candidates who tried out for the Republican presidential nomination. Trump's compelling performance in the second presidential debate was one that none of the other Republican hopefuls could have given.

As if in response to the pundits who demanded that he be more disciplined and "presidential" in the debates, Trump gave what amounted to a master class in those skills. Without yielding his steady command of the evening, Trump was quick on his feet and several of his retorts seemed to unnerve Hillary as she pursued her strategy of relentless put-downs.

For example, when Hillary pontificated why she considered Donald unfit to be in charge of the laws of our country, Trump responded by telling Hillary that the real reason is "because you'd be in jail" if Trump were administering the laws. People have had their lives destroyed based on a fraction of the legal violations that Hillary has perpetrated.

Hillary switched back and forth on camera from her phony smile and her mean-spirited real self, which the split screen on television captured for tens of millions of viewers to see. Trump, in contrast, came across as honest and far more believable.

Perhaps the most telling moment in the debate was when Hillary was asked about the long-delayed release of excerpts from her highly paid speeches to Wall Street bankers. She had concealed those sentiments during her campaign for the Democratic nomination, despite Bernie Sanders' taunt that her paid speeches were more important to the voters than Donald Trump's tax returns.

In one of those secret speeches, she told her exclusive audience that "you need both a public and a private position" on the issues facing America. When Martha Raddatz asked her about that two-faced admission, Hillary stammered and compared herself to Abraham Lincoln as portrayed in the Steven Spielberg movie based on a book by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Trump looked directly into the camera in disbelief at Hillary's ridiculous answer and retorted, "Honest Abe never lied. That's the big difference between Abraham Lincoln and you."

In another 2013 speech, given in New York to executives of a Brazilian bank that paid her \$225,000, Hillary said: "My dream is a hemispheric common market, with open trade and open borders." That was what her well-heeled Wall Street audience wanted to hear, but it's the opposite of what Trump and Sanders voters support.

Of the handful of Republicans who have turned

against Trump, many, like Hillary, are themselves staunch supporters of "open trade and open borders." Hillary's "dream" of a "hemispheric common market" has been a longstanding project of the Bush family, including President George W. and his brother Jeb.

Hillary's "private position" for "open borders" echoes what her husband, former president Bill Clinton, said to business leaders in Melbourne, Australia on September 10, 2001. As the host of that private meeting told the local newspaper, "The (former) president believes the world will be a better place if all borders are eliminated."

Less than 24 hours after his Melbourne speech, 19 Muslims from the Middle East exploited our open borders to launch the 9/11 attacks against America.

Two years later at Yale University, Bill declared: "I think the great mission of the 21st century is to create a genuine global community" with an "over-arching system" of global governance. And in 2007 Bill Clinton praised the benefits of "open borders" and "easy immigration" while delivering the keynote address to a conference of 14,000 Indian Americans.

Eliminating national borders is the ultimate goal of globalists in both parties, who now say we must open America's doors to thousands of Muslims posing as refugees from the civil war in Syria. Hillary would not deny or disavow Trump's charge that she plans to increase by 550 percent the number of Syrian refugees that Obama has allowed to resettle here.

In a 2013 speech in Chicago, just released by WikiLeaks, Hillary admitted that Syrian refugees pose a real threat because Syria's immediate neighbors, Jordan and Turkey, "can't possibly vet all those refugees. So they don't know if, you know, jihadists are coming in along with legitimate refugees."

Trump also effectively blamed Hillary for the thousands of criminal aliens, including murderers, who are set free and allowed to remain here because their home countries won't take them back. As secretary of state, Hillary failed to use her leverage to pressure countries to take back their own citizens.

Trump's strong performance in the second debate should silence his critics and energize his immense base that cuts across the entire political spectrum. Projecting a calm authority while staying relentlessly on message, Trump reset his campaign on a path toward victory over the establishment and the media.

Trump in Mexico Recalls Reagan in Geneva

Donald Trump's surprise visit to Mexico on August 31, where he met the Mexican president and discussed the many contentious issues between our two countries, reminds me of President Reagan's important trip to

Geneva in 1985. Reagan was more than willing to sit down with the Communist leader in an effort to build a personal connection between the two men without sacrificing America's vital interests in the Cold War.

The 1985 Geneva summit was highly advertised as a potential showdown between Reagan and Gorbachev, the supposedly reasonable new Soviet leader. When it was over, Americans realized that behind Reagan's genial affability was a steely determination to protect our country against the threat from Soviet nuclear missiles.

Just as today's mainstream media is bent on undermining Trump's call to put Americans first in our dealings with Mexico, the media of the 1980s (led by ABC's Sam Donaldson and CBS's Dan Rather) were overwhelmingly pro-Gorbachev and anti-Reagan in their daily coverage.

Left-wing celebrities from around the world converged on Geneva to support the media narrative that a stubborn President Reagan was refusing to consider Gorbachev's reasonable proposals for world peace. Congresswoman Bella Abzug, actress Jane Alexander and the inevitable Jesse Jackson were giving daily interviews.

I led a delegation of 25 distinguished women leaders to Geneva to support Reagan and American nuclear superiority. The media didn't give us much coverage, but President Reagan telephoned me afterward from the White House to thank me for our support.

Reagan had been elected on a promise to "win" the Cold War against the Communist forces arrayed against America. Before Reagan, our country's foreign policy was controlled by men like Henry Kissinger, who thought victory was impossible and that his job, as he famously told Admiral Zumwalt, was "to negotiate the most acceptable second-best position" for the United States.

After three decades of steady deterioration of America's place in the world, Trump is the first candidate since Reagan who is comfortable using Reagan's vocabulary of winning. Trump has pledged to make America "win" again, instead of being cheated and outmaneuvered by our adversaries and even our so-called allies.

Trump's visit to Mexico recalls Reagan's trip to Geneva in other ways, too. At both meetings, there was one signature position on which the American refused to budge.

Reagan's no-surrender pledge was his unwavering commitment to the Strategic Defense Initiative, that is, to build and deploy a system to shoot down Soviet nuclear missiles headed for our cities. With Trump, it's his rock-solid promise to build "an impenetrable physical wall" on our southern border.

Both Reagan's and Trump's signature ideas were purely defensive weapons to which no country could have any legitimate complaint. Reagan's SDI was a non-nuclear weapon whose only function was to destroy or

deflect incoming nuclear missiles.

Reagan stuck to that non-negotiable position at the summit with Gorbachev the following year in Reykjavik, Iceland. As we now know, that's when Gorby realized he could never win an open competition with the United States, so that his "acceptable second-best position" was the dissolution of the USSR over the next five years.

Likewise, Donald Trump's wall is not a provocative, but a neighborly idea to stop the rampant illegality that harms both nations along the U.S.-Mexico border. With no legitimate objection to erecting a fence, wall or other physical barrier between our two countries, Mexico should be grateful for Trump's leadership and even agree to help pay for it.

The value of a wall begins with stopping "murderers" and "rapists" from freely entering and re-entering our country with impunity, as Trump mentioned when he announced the start of his campaign last year, but it doesn't stop there. Felony assault by motor vehicle is another deadly crime that seems to be rampant by illegal aliens driving recklessly without the licenses or insurance that law-abiding Americans take for granted.

The wall would also stop the plague of heroin that has exploded during the last few years of the Obama administration. Deaths from heroin overdoses surpassed deaths from car crashes last year and will hit a new record this year. Most U.S. heroin is delivered by Mexicans working for the drug cartels.

Of course, most Mexican immigrants are not murderers, rapists, drunk drivers or drug dealers. But even the good, hard-working people who come here from south of the border, both legally and illegally, have such low education and skills that they can't survive economically without massive public subsidies to provide for the care, food, shelter, health care, education and welfare of their children.

Voters finally have the opportunity to choose a president who will make America first by securing our border and ending one-sided trade deals that favor foreign workers rather than our own. Trump's strong stance in his meeting with the Mexican president demonstrates that Donald Trump is the "choice, not an echo."

This was the final article completed by Phyllis Schlafly before her death on September 5, 2016.

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