

"Politics" Is A Dirty Word

Politics can be traced as far back as Aristotle, the "Father of Political Science". The very definition of politics is about people making **agreements** so that they can **live together** in groups such as tribes, cities, or countries and all share benefit from those agreements. The problem is that we all think we know best.

Perhaps we should remember our veterans and look to them for guidance. Do they worry about politics when on a mission? Do they concern themselves with party affiliation when fighting to protect our nation? They stand united for the success of the mission. When it comes to politics, choosing sides can be a painful decision. An increasing number of folks don't want to identify which party they belong to for fear of alienating a neighbor, coworker, a family member, or friend. Voting is a privilege that we as Americans are blessed with, thanks to our veterans protecting our country and our constitution. In America, we are free to choose, and should not feel fear or shame for what we believe.

Our choices shouldn't drive us away from our fellow Americans...but it does! Political Parties are dangerous! When running for office, an individual should do it on their own merit. The substance of their character and platform should be the markers that will land them in a leadership position. Oh yeah and how about a good grade on a United States Constitution quiz!

How about term limits? Imagine the changes that would happen if a Senator or Congressional Representative knew that politics was not a life long career, but truly public service? The ripples would flow to the very core of all the political strife that we are now experiencing. The bellicose and slanderous insults are just going to drive us further in the mud.

Our veterans have laid their lives down for this nation. Think about the slogans and mottos of our service men and women. "Army of ONE", or the Marines "Semper Fi", or "Semper Fidelis" which means Always Faithful. The Air Force has a few including "Aim High, Fly-Fight-Win, and Integrity first, Service before self, Excellence in all we do". The Navy has had several mottos but the one that resonates is "Non Sibi Sed Patriae" which means Not for self, but country. The Coast Guard defends our coastlines and carries the motto "Semper Paratus" which means Always Ready. Our National Guard serves both our communities and our country with the slogan "Always Ready, Always There". These mottos and slogans, by our warriors should hold a direction for us all.

We can't let 2020 put all of us asunder, and you know, the devil is in the details. We are AMERICANS, One Nation Under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all. Remember that when you see an ad or a yard sign that you don't agree with.