

The Obligation of a Citizen

As President Obama said, the obligation of a citizen does not end at the voting booth.

When the President is right, as he has been on most domestic issues, he deserves our support. When he is wrong, we need to speak out. It is time to end drone warfare, to withdraw our troops from Afghanistan, to stop NSA violations of our 4th Amendment rights, to pardon Bradley Manning, end all prosecution of Edward Snowden and Julian Assange, and to protect future whistleblowers and reporters who reveal the truth about our government's actions.

BUT, OUR OBLIGATION TO ACT STARTS AT THE VOTING BOOTH. Our duty to THINK about that action, to understand how essential it is, to understand how much is at stake for our nation, and for the world, comes long before that. DO NOT LISTEN to the misguided who tell you it doesn't matter, that there is no difference.

It should be clear that I am not addressing those who do not care about their fellow human beings, those who are motivated only by greed, hate, and the power to subject others to their will. They are the problem that the rest of us must solve.

The majority of us do want a nation, and a world, in which we all cooperate to improve the lives of everyone. But we have not done nearly enough to achieve that.

Because some Democrats, some liberals, some progressives didn't vote we are getting NOWHERE on too many issues. Income inequality is still getting worse. Immigration is not reformed. Warmongers threaten diplomacy and make peace harder to achieve. Even basic gun control laws are blocked. American citizens are being denied voting and reproductive rights in many states. We are not doing nearly enough to promote clean energy and protect our climate.

We need a working Congress, united for progress, not a divided dysfunctional one clogged with obstructionist Republicans and Tea Party scum!

You say Democrats aren't perfect? Of course they're not. But, we cannot set them right until we defeat the real enemy. We are fighting World War 2 again, with ballots at home, not bullets abroad. The Republican party has gone so far to the right that Hitler would feel at home in it. Vote Republicans OUT.

-cosmicrat May 24 2014