

THE TRAGEDY OF NOVEMBER 8 2016

Usually, when an election produces tragic results, it is the opposition, and those who supported it, to be blamed. That is partly true in this one. Their candidate and his party used an unprecedented barrage of lies which they had crafted into a virtual storm of deception over several years and unleashed on the public.

They blatantly stoked fear and hate against vulnerable minorities, and the ignorant and mean-spirited responded enthusiastically, in numbers larger than we hoped existed.

But that was only part of the story. The horror of November 8, 2016 was wrought not so much by our enemies, but by those who should have been our friends. People who believe that health care and a good education should be a right, not a commodity; people who do not hate and fear immigrants and people of other religions, cultures, and colors; people who believe workers should receive a living wage, a fair share of the wealth they produce. We should be able to count on these and others, not to agree on every issue, but to unite against a clearly disastrous political threat.

Many did unite-- more, actually, than voted for Trump. But not enough in the right states to make a difference. Some, instead of supporting the candidate who could have buried Trump in a landslide victory, spent the weeks before the election ranting about her faults, hurling accusations and insults at her, trying to convince everyone around them not to vote, or vote for a minor candidate with no chance of winning.

They seemed obsessed with political perfectionism. They were like the children no one wants to play with because they want everything their way, or not at all. Either they don't understand the basics of politics, or they're too in love with their self-image as radicals that they're willing to sacrifice our progress and the hope for more.

That is not how progressives are supposed to behave. Whether moderate or radical, our focus should be on our fellow human beings, seeking every bit of justice, equality, and shared well-being that is possible for everyone that we can.

If we must fight one another over personalities, over whether a progressive is not progressive enough, insulting our own closest allies, then we will accomplish none of our goals. Our disunity will make us easy prey to the reprehensible forces of divisive hatred, of greed, of selfish disregard for the common people. That will enable the defeat of us all by a coalition of the worst. That is what happened on November 8.

According to the Arizona Republic: *'With just over 97 percent of the votes counted, it's becoming apparent Arizonans were not enthusiastic about Tuesday's election.*

[The Arizona Secretary of State's office](#) now counts 1,975,407 votes cast statewide, for a turnout of 55 percent — so far the lowest level of voter participation during a presidential election in years. The number will rise as the rest of the ballots are tabulated, but it won't come close to recent elections. In 2012, a total of 2,323,579 Arizonans cast ballots, for a [turnout of 74 percent.](#)'

All of you who said not to vote, or vote for pointless third or fourth parties, who constantly attacked the woman who was by far the best of the two real choices-- you got what you wanted. Low turnout. Apathy. Do you like the result?

Do I sound angry? Yes, I am. My anger is not so much against the opposition, but at those who claimed to be progressive, left-wing radicals, liberals, on the side of the common people, but who BETRAYED us.

Those who supported Bernie Sanders, that was fine. So did I. But remember this: he didn't betray you; you betrayed him. He did the right thing. He called on all of you to support Hillary Clinton, to unite to defeat Trump.

He asked you to vote, and elect progressive Democrats to Congress. Instead, you did nothing but whine, and attack our best hope of averting what happened, a good liberal Democratic woman who stood for and worked for care and protection for children and the disadvantaged, for women's rights, for universal health care. You called her evil and corrupt, though you had no proof. Like the Republicans, you made your case with speculations, implications, irrational assumptions. You even adopted some of their propaganda.

Progressives are supposed to have intelligence and education on our side, more than the opposition. How is it that some fail to understand politics, or refuse to THINK? Basic reason alone should have been a better guide.

Those of you who still think you were right, enjoy the President you elected.

--COSMICRAT 11-10-2016

From People For the American Way

Trump has challenged our First Amendment freedoms and showed contempt for our Constitution. Now he'll assume the highest office in the land.

Today is a day for mourning because this is a national tragedy. But we get through tragedies.

And we pick ourselves up and continue to fight, because it's the only thing we can do, and because the American Way is now about to come under attack like never before. We can't -- and we shouldn't -- sugarcoat it: this is a catastrophe for America, the world, and possibly for our fundamental rights.

But we will survive it. We will learn from the loss. Donald Trump as a candidate broke every rule. He completely changed the game and the progressive movement will have to recalibrate in some areas to adapt.

But between now and the next election, we have so much more to do, because groups like PFAW and activists like you will be, in many ways, the last line of defense against an aggressive right-wing agenda that threatens the very fabric of who we are as a country.

One last point:

We woke up to election results that were on the wrong side of history this morning but WE are on the right side of history. And we will prevail.

**We've been slowed but we have not been broken ... because this organization and this movement are simply not built to break.
So let us mourn today. Because, tomorrow, it's once again time to fight.**

We are so grateful to have you with us. We're going to need each other in the dark days ahead.
Thank you.

Sincerely,
Michael Keegan, President

Dear MoveOn member,

This is a disaster.

We fought our hearts out to avert this reality. But now it's here.

The new president-elect and many of his most prominent supporters have targeted, demeaned, and threatened millions of us—and millions of our friends, family, and loved ones. Both chambers of Congress remain in Republican hands. We are entering an era of profound and unprecedented challenge, a time of danger for our communities and our country.

*In this moment, we have to take care of ourselves, our families, and our friends—especially those of us who are on the front lines facing hate, including Latinos, women, immigrants, refugees, Black people, Muslims, LGBT Americans, and so many others.
And we need to make it clear that we will continue to stand together.*