

TRUTH TELLING IS IMPORTANT TO OUR SEEKING JUSTICE

By: Frederick K. Brewington, Esq.

While much of our history as a Nation has been focused on truth telling, we must also admit that a good part of our history has been spent avoiding the truth. As we listen to a man who has immersed himself in being untruthful and blatantly asking us to accept his second lie when he denies that he was untruthful, we must stop and evaluate this dangerous trek that we find our selves on. The impact of hearing daily falsehoods from our Nation's President is that we become desensitized to the impact that each one has on our personal existence as well as our existence as a country. A country who makes fraud, false statements, material misrepresentations, intentional disparagements, and perjury crimes can ill afford allowing the chief executive to continue going unchecked and unchallenged by those that were elected and entrusted to do just that. Shame on Congress and shame on us for allowing the members of the Senate and House to be little more than pretenders of the Constitution and the rights which we claim to hold high.

The slippery slope on which we find ourselves just one year after Trump took the oath of is that it has gotten worse. Recall that on January 20, 2017 Trump took office, and after the inauguration he and his minions, including press secretary Sean Spicer stated that it was "the largest audience to ever witness an inauguration, period, both in person and around the globe". Of course this alleged fact was proven to be false. Despite the clear ability to evaluate the credibility of these statements, the claim was made by Trump that "[t]he rest of the 20-block area, all the way back to the Washington monument was packed,". However, as evidenced by photographic images showing the very area at the time of the swearing in, his claim was just not true. His claim of there being a million to a million and a half people present to seem him take his "oath of office" was disputed and then shown to be clearly fictional. How can America depend on the words Trump uttered in his "oath of office", if he cannot be trusted to be truthful about a simple fact relating to crowd size. Despite these truths having been revealed, in a classic act of bullying and defiance, Trump declared that the media would "pay a big price". This turn of events unfurled themselves in just the first few days of this man's official duties. Since that time there has been a literal storm of false, malicious and intentional trumped up statements that have made the Arc of the Universe question its very existence.

The blatant disregard by Trump for what his false, crass and sophomoric words and personal attacks mean on the nation and world has impacted us as Americans in dealing with each other and has impacted us in the eyes and heart of the peoples around the globe. On this Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday, beloved, it is not acceptable for good people to stand silent while our stated commitment to truth telling and justice seeking is trashed and devalued. If we are to recapture the heights of respect, hope and dignity we achieved when tears rolled down many of your faces as President Obama emerged to America following his victory in November of 2008, we must not accept what is now coming from the White House.

Black and Brown Peoples of world do not come from "s—hole countries". That lie has been compounded by the denial by the President that he did not make the comment. But it is even made outrageous by the persons who were in the room when it happened claiming that they "don't recall" Trump making that statement. The elected leaders that would now tell the American people

that they “don’t recall” what the President of the United States of America said about Haiti and nations from the mother Continent need to check themselves and evaluate if they think we are just that stupid.

I will not agree to excuse and minimize the lies and falsehoods, which are now common place by our officials. I cannot agree to accept the baggage that comes with these blatant acts of dishonesty, racism and disrespect. What we are experiencing now from our elected officials, should not be, and must not be our ‘new normal’. If we allow it to go unchecked and just happen, we are then deserving of the fallout that it births. Stand up now and speak truth to untruth; daily speak the power of resistance against the allure of complacency; and openly seek justice everywhere that you go and where ever you see the parturition of injustice. Dr. King’s words are more true than every, ***“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”*** For justice to be achieved there must be truth. The abuse of ‘truth telling’ is simply wrong and is not what and who we have claimed to be. In short, all that stands to alter and bastardize the truth cannot be countenanced if we are to truly seek justice.

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