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Washington Is Sick And The American People Know It

24 09 2010



By [Timothy D. Naegele](#)^[1]

Peggy Noonan, a former presidential speechwriter for Ronald Reagan, pens regular columns for the Wall Street Journal. In her latest, she states:

This [November's] election is more and more shaping up into a contest between the Exhausted and the Enraged.^[2]

Amen . . . and Barack Obama and his Democrats know it. Their supporters are exhausted, disillusioned and demoralized; and many are angry at his policies such as the Afghan War.^[3] His detractors and opponents are angry, livid, galvanized and motivated; and they consist of Republicans, Independents^[4] and disenchanting Democrats, some of whom are part of the Tea Party movement.

The handwriting is on the wall—and the blood is in the water—that he is likely to be a one-term president. White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel is rumored to be leaving; and Obama brain truster David Axelrod will be too, probably sometime next year. Top economic adviser Larry Summers is departing; and

the list goes on and on. While there is generally attrition in any White House staff because of the long hours and staggering workloads and pressures on families, these departures can be viewed as “rats leaving a sinking ship.”

Noonan cites Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee as saying prophetically:

The more [voters] know, the less they like Washington.

At long last, the light is shining through. The innate wisdom of the American people is in the process of being heard and felt.

When I left Capitol Hill after working there for three and a half years, there was one four-letter word that stood out in my mind, and it still does today: “S-I-C-K.” I vowed that neither of my kids would ever work there. I had seen raving narcissists and demagogues who were not nice people—and equaled or surpassed those in Hollywood where I had grown up.

I saw senators and congressman chasing and bedding female staffers between the ages of about 22-26, and wrecking their lives in the process. When the women reached about 28, they were considered “over the hill,” and a new batch of fresh young faces would replace them. I saw attractive young female staffers flock to the politicians like groupies are attracted to rock stars and other celebrities. I saw lobbyists providing women for sex to important committee chairmen.

I saw power trips that were way out of proportion to the actual power wielded. I saw senators and members of Congress pontificate on empty chamber floors, and pass legislation that often did not help anyone, but merely “congested” and “polluted” government for both the regulators and public alike. Laws were put on the books almost ceremoniously to display motion and activity, even if they were truly bad laws that made little or no good sense—and none were ever taken off the books. Programs were still being funded even though they had outlived their usefulness years if not decades before.

I saw lobbyists literally run Washington, because they had the skills and knowledge that the politicians did not have. House staffs were small unless the member had seniority. Hence, the input of lobbyists was essential to the passage of legislation. They wrote it; and they got it passed and their clients benefited; and somehow—by hook or by crook—the politicians benefited financially or in other ways. It was dirty, but those participating simply looked the other way.

In short, the American people, God love them, are waking up bigtime to the mess that is Washington, D.C.—a corrupt, politically-polarized toxic city. Throw in the present economic problems that this country has not experienced since the Great Depression, which will be with us through at least the end of this decade^[5], as well as Obama’s no-win Afghan War and other national security worries^[6], and he and his Democrats are potentially in for a very rough ride. Like Lyndon Johnson in 1968, it is doubtful whether Obama will be able to run in 2012, much less be reelected.^[7]

Noonan cites the role of women in the coming election, and the fact they are worried about how the economy has been taking an enormous toll on their families, which will only get much much worse. She quotes Rep. Blackburn as saying: “I look at this year as the Rage of the Bill-Paying Moms.” Amen to that too . . . or as Sarah Palin calls them: the “Mama Grizzlies.” And most of us know that those who are wise never mess with a mother Grizzly.

The chickens are coming home to roost in America, at least economically and politically. Hold on tight. It is apt to get very ugly.^[8]

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[1] Timothy D. Naegele was counsel to the United States Senate's Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and chief of staff to Presidential Medal of Freedom and Congressional Gold Medal recipient and former U.S. Senator Edward W. Brooke (R-Mass). He practices law in Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles with his firm, Timothy D. Naegele & Associates, which specializes in Banking and Financial Institutions Law, Internet Law, Litigation and other matters (see www.naegele.com and http://www.naegele.com/naegele_resume.html). He has an undergraduate degree in economics from UCLA, as well as two law degrees from the School of Law (Boalt Hall), University of California, Berkeley, and from Georgetown University. He is a member of the District of Columbia and California bars. He served as a Captain in the U.S. Army, assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency at the Pentagon, where he received the Joint Service Commendation Medal. Mr. Naegele is an Independent politically; and he is listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in American Law, and Who's Who in Finance and Business. He has written extensively over the years (see, e.g., http://www.naegele.com/whats_new.html#articles), and can be contacted directly at tdnaegele.associates@gmail.com

[2] See <http://www.naegele.com/documents/TheEnragedvs.theExhausted.pdf>

[3] See, e.g., <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2010/09/09/are-afghanistan-iraq-and-pakistan-hopeless-and-is-the-spread-of-radical-islam-inevitable-and-is-barack-obama-finished-as-americas-president> and <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2009/12/26/obama-in-afghanistan-doomed-from-the-start/>

[4] See, e.g., <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2010/03/31/the-rise-of-independents/>

[5] See, e.g., http://www.americanbanker.com/issues/173_212/-365185-1.html and <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2009/12/16/the-great-depression-ii> and http://www.realclearpolitics.com/news/tms/politics/2009/Apr/08/euphoria_or_the_obama_depression.html and <http://www.philstockworld.com/2009/10/11/greenspan%E2%80%99s-legacy-more-suffering-to-come/>

[6] See, e.g., <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2010/01/19/emp-attack-only-30-million-americans-survive/>

[7] See, e.g., <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2010/09/09/are-afghanistan-iraq-and-pakistan-hopeless-and-is-the-spread-of-radical-islam-inevitable-and-is-barack-obama-finished-as-americas-president/> and <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2010/09/01/the-speech-is-barack-obama-smoking-pot-again/> and <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2010/01/20/the-end-of-barack-obama/> and <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2010/01/01/barack-obama-america's-second-emperor/> and <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2009/12/26/obama-in-afghanistan-doomed-from-the-start/> and <http://naegeleblog.wordpress.com/2009/12/05/is-barack-obama-a-racist/>

[8] The Washington Post's Charles Krauthammer has fine article about the Tea Party movement and the likely tsunami that will engulf Obama and the Democrats, which is worth reading too. Among other things, he points out that in the bellwether state of Ohio, former President George W. Bush is preferred over Barack Obama by 50 percent to 42 percent.

See <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/23/AR2010092304746.html>
and http://www.publicpolicypolling.com/pdf/PPP_Release_OH_901.pdf




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Obama's Democrat Faithful Are Losing Hope, Which Spells Trouble



The National Journal is reporting:

The artist whose poster of Barack Obama became a rallying image during the hope-and-change election of 2008 says he understands why so many people have lost faith.

In an exclusive interview with National Journal on Thursday, Shepard Fairey expressed his disappointment with the president—a malaise that seems representative of many Democrats who had great expectations for Obama.

...

Fairey . . . said it's easy to see why young voters are down on Obama and the Democrats. He lamented that health care reform was watered down, Tea Party activists have been emboldened, and his man has fallen short on bold campaign promises like closing Guantanamo Bay.

“There’s a lot of stuff completely out of Obama’s control or any of the Democrats’ control,” Fairey allowed. “But I think there’s something a little deeper in terms of the optimism of the younger voter that’s happening. They wanted somebody who was going to fight against the status quo, and I don’t think that Obama has done that.”

. . . [Fairey] said that he couldn’t design the same Hope poster today, because the spirit of the Obama campaign hasn’t carried over to the Obama presidency.

See http://news.yahoo.com/s/ynews_excl/ynews_excl_pl3712

Cracks in the support of the Obama faithful are emerging, which at the very least may create apathy in November, and as 2012 approaches. With the Republicans, Independents and Tea Partiers energized and moving against Obama, his agenda and the Democrat Party already, disenchanted Democrats may foreshadow deep and lasting problems for him.

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Rahm Emanuel Leads Exodus Of Obama Aides From White House

The UK's Independent has an article about this subject.

See <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/rahm-emanuel-leading-exodus-of-obama-aides-from-white-house-2089118.html>

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