

## Observations and ideas for the 2020 campaign

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**Basic Principle of Law:** Enact only laws that can be enforced. Enforce them.

- The coronavirus shutdown threatens a fiscal disaster for King County and Washington. To address this, issue “Corona Virus Bonds” closely modeled on the War Bonds of WW2. I’ll commit a quarter of my fortune. Get Gates and Bezos on board and we’ll be OK.
- The coronavirus shutdown is the moral equivalent of a General Strike. That’s why Wall Street and the Republicans are so freaked out. Good!
- DACA & Citizenship: Apply Louis XIV’s policy – if you live in France, you’re French.
- The 40 year run-up of the Dow and the enrichment of the 1% are directly connected to 40 years of wage stagnation, union busting and destruction of the middle class.
- This rising inequality partly explains the rage of Trump’s followers. They have been dispossessed. Their nihilism seeks to destroy the “System” - competent governance and civil society. They chose their weapon well. Bottom line: we must reverse the dispossession of ALL Americans, even the Trumpies. Let them know: nation building begins at home.
- “Socialism” has been demonized. Use “Robust Public Sector” or “Commonwealth”.
- Market Libertarians: Delusional fantasists – markets are creations of the State. Make the Amazon vendor platform part of the Post Office. And have the CFPB regulate it.
- Republican governance: Do nothing or just screw up. Practice willful and malicious incompetence while complaining endlessly about government.
- Wall Street traders obsess over “market inefficiencies”, relentlessly sniffing them out and ruthlessly exploiting them. In politics, inequity of representation is market inefficiency. Gerrymandering, voter suppression, propaganda and campaign donation bribery are all inefficient. Half the U.S. Senate is chosen by 16% of the population.
- Re-invent community security without police. Re-imagine public safety for ALL.
  - Cops are handed authority to use violence with impunity. What could go wrong?
  - Meet the demands of BLM. Work with all communities to create public safety.
- The cost of university education is extortionate. Adjusted for the CPI, my undergraduate school is now three times as costly. What does all that money buy?
- In 1960, health care absorbed about 8% of the GNP. Now it absorbs 17%. And the nation is roughly 3 times richer. What has driven that? A detailed audit is needed.
- The business model of American healthcare: Extract money from the sick and vulnerable.
  - The mugger’s marketing strategy: “Your money or your life”
- What the American Economy truly rewards: Risk and Theft
  - Risk, in the form of dangerous working conditions and risky financial leverage, is laid off on the powerless and unsophisticated using abusive contracts.
- Poverty in America is criminalized. Republicans dream of restoring tax farming, vagrancy laws and debtors’ prison.

- The \$2 trillion CARES Act amounts to \$6,000 per person. What's with \$1,200? Distribute that to the 50 million lowest income households (about 125 million people). That would be \$40,000 per household on average – enough to discharge a lot of burdensome debt.
- Trump pardons we can anticipate: Harvey Weinstein, Larry Nassar and Jeffrey Epstein. This will all be done in addition to his legion of henchmen and enablers.
- Between January 3, 2021 and January 20, 2021, impeachment **and** conviction might be possible. Strip Trump of citizenship. Let him seek asylum in Russia.
- COVID-19 death statistics: Cuba, 8 per million; USA, 461 per million, 57x greater.
- Designate the Federalist Society, the Proud Boys and their ilk as terrorist organizations.
- Difference between an investment banker and a mafia capo? Mafia capo is man of honor.
- Between a stock broker and a bookie? No self-respecting bookie would tout a horse.
- **Modern Conservatism:** Devoted to creation & maintenance of hierarchy & dominance. Inevitably accomplished by violence or its threat.
  - INcludes: Oligarchy, Xenophobia, Injustice, Cultural stasis, Patriarchy, Misogyny, Coercion, Chauvinism, Cult of the Leader, Punitive society, Miserliness/Austerity
  - EXcludes: Conservation, Stewardship, Prudence, Preservation, True Patriotism
  - The modern conservative is engaged in one of man's oldest exercises in moral philosophy; the search for a superior moral justification for selfishness — J. K. Galbraith.
- Let Mexico build the wall! Along the 1824 border. Trump would go for it in a heartbeat.

