

Inquiring Minds: *SEARCHING FOR A BETTER REPUBLIC*

#50 Oct. 2018 “The ballot is stronger than the bullet.” -Abe Lincoln ([and other quotes](#))

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REASON TRUMPED BY POLITICS

She was a credible, he wasn't. She had nothing to gain, he had everything to lose. She had a clean past, he didn't. She took and passed a lie-detector test, he didn't even try. She welcomed a thorough FBI investigation under oath, he didn't. She conducted herself in a controlled and respectful manner, he lost his his composure and revealed his political bias against the Clintons and Democrats without evidence, threatening them with “what goes around comes around.” Yet the more credible person lost—for now. It was a bitter disappointment, for her, for her believers, for justice, and for the nation at large—[as polls show](#).

FIXES FOR A BETTER GOVERNMENT REASONS TO BELIEVE AND RESTORE HOPE

1. Take back the House of Representatives and, in a perfect world, maybe even the Senate.
2. Clean up the [voting restrictions](#) introduced by Brian Kemp in Georgia by defeating his bid for governor by [Stacey Abrams](#).
3. Replace Texas Ted Cruz with [Beto O'Rourke](#).
4. Press on with the Mueller Investigation.
5. Go back to the 60-40 margin for approving Supreme Court Justices. This alone which will produce less partisan nominees.
6. Keep fighting [gerrymandering](#).
7. Limit the powers of Senate leaders to arbitrarily block a vote or hearing on nominees for Supreme Court as with [Merrick Garland](#).
8. Limit the Powers of the President by: requiring tax returns before being nominated, establishing and enforcing decorum in debates, limiting Executive Orders, and abolishing Presidential Pardons for political purposes, etc.
9. Keep investigating and, if evidence emerges, impeach Chief Justice Kavanaugh and Trump.

10. Changing the Electoral College [state by state](#).

THE FREE PRESS AND YOUR VOTE ARE TWO OF MANY TOOLS TO CHECK THE CHAOS DT's attack on the free press gives it strength and stature as an effective antidote to [his record of lies, distortions, and/or misrepresentations](#). With the



Stacey Abrams running for Governor in Georgia



Beto O'Rourke vs. Cruz in TX

recent demise of the Supreme Court, these are our last hopes. But we must use those tools, must stay tuned in and informed as possible, painful as that process is at times. And yes, our peace of mind will suffer. We must be as steadfast and determined as Winston Churchill was in WWII—no one said democracy was easy. We may have to give of our time, our treasure and/or our talent to support our values if we really hold them dear. We need more than love and desire. Let us act, reaffirm our resolve in the face of recent defeats.



Merrick Garland blocked by Mitch McConnell

We don't have to descend into the mob DT wants us to, but just get smarter, work harder and harness the energies around us. We cannot wait for common sense to impose itself. We have to work to have our dreams come true. I am trying to psyche us both up for the task at hand. - Joe B