

January 12, 2016 - HILLARY

What do Hillary Clinton and Missouri's professor "get me some muscle" Glick have in common? Kevin Williamson knows.

A group of state legislators in Missouri has, after a great deal of nagging by your favorite roving correspondent and many others, come around and made a public statement that Professor Melissa Click of the University of Missouri should be fired.

Professor Click, you'll recall, is the petty commissar who assaulted a student journalist (who has since filed a police complaint) who was covering one of the daft, diaper-filling protests on the Mizzou campus. The protest was happening on a corner of the campus that not only is a public space but a public space recognized as such in Missouri state law, with access to it guaranteed. Captured on video, Professor Click attempts to intimidate the student, physically blocks him, and then swats at his face before calling for "some muscle" to forcibly remove him. So far, neither the university nor the campus police department, which are manifestly run by miscreants and moral cowards, has seen fit to do anything about the case. ...

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There was a time when even NY Times columnists were trying to read the Clintons out of the Dem party. Here's Bob Herbert from 15 years ago.

Some years ago, when Gennifer Flowers informed Bill Clinton that she had lied under oath before a grievance committee in Arkansas, the man already known as Slick Willie replied, "Good for you."

Mr. Clinton always had an easy, breezy relationship with wrongdoing. But the Democratic Party overlooked the ethical red flags and made a pact with Mr. Clinton that was the equivalent of a pact with the devil. And he delivered. With Mr. Clinton at the controls, the party won the White House twice. But in the process it lost its bearings and maybe even its soul.

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Jonathan Tobin brings the sleaze up to date.

When Peter Schweizer's book Clinton Cash came out earlier this year, most Democrats spent months dismissing its charges of cronyism and conflict of interest as partisan hackery. But on Saturday night during their party's second presidential debate, they got a taste of exactly what the former First Family's critics have been talking about. When asked about the millions she has raised from Wall Street firms over the years and what she has been giving in return for those donations, Clinton invoked the 9/11 attacks as the justification for her actions. That was a bit much even for a complacent Democratic base that understands that nothing will stop Clinton from being their nominee. It wasn't just that Bernie Sanders and Martin O'Malley made the most

of a comment that was, at best, in bad taste and at worst, an egregious and inappropriate invocation of a national tragedy. It was that even her supporters knew that it was the kind of thing that would come back to haunt her in a general election campaign. Indeed, even the New York Times editorial page weighed to register amazement that she wasn't better prepared to answer such questions.

But liberals who are either openly expressing worry about her poorly thought-out response, or who still harbor hope that somehow a more left-wing alternative to the former secretary of state can be found, shouldn't have been surprised. Indeed, though the Democrat base thinks of her involvement with the financial industry as being an aberration that is solely linked to her campaign finance machine, their concerns are directly linked to the same issues that the rest of the country has about her integrity and trustworthiness. ...

Roger Simon posts on Hillary's Watergate. Notwithstanding her poll problems, there may be more trouble heading her way.

Of all the welter of predictions for 2016, by far the most dramatic seems to have been given short shrift or swept under the rug -- the possible indictment of Hillary Rodham Clinton while running for the presidency. Were such an event to occur, it would dominate our culture as nothing since Watergate. Yet most of us put it in the back of our minds, thinking it could never happen and focusing on the latest back and forth with Trump.

Nevertheless, as pointed out on PJM by Debra Heine, it very much could happen. Heine cited Laura Ingraham's Tuesday radio interview with former U. S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Joe DiGenova, some of which went as follows in verbatim transcription (you can listen to the full interview here):

DiGenova: *Hillary Clinton's going to have problems because of what's in the emails, but also the classifications. Her biggest problem right now is the FBI. They're not going away. They have reached a critical mass in their investigation of the Secretary and all of her senior staff. And, it's going to come to a head, I would suggest, in the next sixty days. ...*

Jep and Hillary had the worst years in Washington according to **Chris Cillizza**.

... Clinton ends 2015 on a far better note than seemed possible in the doldrums of August. But, like Bush, she took home Worst Week in Washington four times this year. And problems remain. She's locked in competitive contests with Sanders in Iowa's caucuses and New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primary. Her trustworthiness remains questionable for some voters. In a December Quinnipiac University poll, 60 percent of people said they found Clinton neither honest nor trustworthy; 68 percent of independents felt that way. Meanwhile, the Justice Department continues its inquiry into whether she sent or received classified emails on her homebrew server. (She insists she did neither.) ...

Jonah Goldberg reminds us what "progressives" have in store for us.

... President Wilson is mostly remembered today as the first modern liberal president, the first (and only) POTUS with a PhD, and the only political scientist to occupy the Oval Office. He was the champion of "self determination" and the author of the idealistic but doomed "Fourteen

Points" – his vision of peace for Europe and his hope for a League of Nations. But the nature of his presidency has largely been forgotten.

That's a shame, because Wilson's two terms in office provide the clearest historical window into the soul of progressivism. Wilson's racism, his ideological rigidity, and his antipathy toward the Constitution were all products of the progressive worldview. And since "progressivism" is suddenly in vogue – today's leading Democrats proudly wear the label – it's worth actually reviewing what progressivism was and what actually happened under the last full-throated progressive president.

The record should give sober pause to anyone who's mesmerized by the progressive promise.

...

Huma Abedin says Hillary is "often confused." Judicial Watch has the story.

... The Abedin email material contains a January 26, 2013, email exchange with Clinton aide Monica Hanley regarding Clinton's schedule in which Abedin says Clinton is "often confused:"

- *Abedin: Have you been going over her calls with her? So she knows singh is at 8? [India Prime Minister Manmohan Singh]*
- *Hanley: She was in bed for a nap by the time I heard that she had an 8am call. Will go over with her*
- *Abedin: Very imp to do that. She's often confused. ...*

... "Huma Abedin's description of Hillary Clinton as 'easily confused' tells you all you need to know why it took a federal lawsuit to get these government emails from Clinton's illegal email server," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. ...

National Review

Mrs. Clinton Is Professor Click

Being a Democrat means never paying the price.

by Kevin D. Williamson

A group of state legislators in Missouri has, after a great deal of nagging by your favorite roving correspondent and many others, come around and made a public statement that Professor Melissa Click of the University of Missouri should be fired.

Professor Click, you'll recall, is the petty commissar who assaulted a student journalist (who has since filed a police complaint) who was covering one of the daft, diaper-filling protests on the Mizzou campus. The protest was happening on a corner of the campus that not only is a public space but a public space recognized as such in Missouri state law, with access to it guaranteed. Captured on video, Professor Click attempts to intimidate the student, physically blocks him, and

then swats at his face before calling for “some muscle” to forcibly remove him. So far, neither the university nor the campus police department, which are manifestly run by miscreants and moral cowards, has seen fit to do anything about the case.

When *Rolling Stone* published its breathless account of what turned out to be an entirely fictitious rape on the campus of the University of Virginia, some critics (ahem) were denounced as monsters for asking such straightforward questions as “Why wasn’t a violent gang rape, purportedly committed on a bed of broken glass, followed up by a police report, which surely, given the details, would have produced physical evidence supporting prosecution and conviction?” In the Missouri case, there was not only a police report but video of the incident, shot by the victim of the crime himself. One can only imagine what would have happened if there were a similar video of, say, a white, portly Mizzou football coach physically laying hands on a young black woman going about her legally protected and legitimate business on the campus.

But, so far, not one thing of any consequence has happened to Professor Click.



It is worth keeping her in mind as one considers the curious case of Hillary Rodham Clinton’s ongoing e-mail problem. It has been amusing to watch the evolution of her lies on the issue: She was going to turn over all the evidence, until she unilaterally destroyed (crime) and withheld (probably a crime) a great deal of it. She insisted that the communication that passed through her off-site toilet (her secret e-mail server was located in the bathroom of a loft apartment in Denver, because *that* does not seem sketchy at all) was not classified, until it was shown that some of it was; she then said that what she personally sent or received was not secret or sensitive, until it was shown that it was; she then said that none of it was marked as such, until . . .

Strike three.

If you are a Democrat, the safest place in the world to be is under the authority of other Democrats. Lois Lerner, the criminal who used the Internal Revenue Service as a political weapon on behalf of the Democratic party, was never going to be charged, or even disciplined, by her overseers in the IRS or at the Department of Justice. After pulling one of the worst

Gestapo stunts in modern American history, she's receiving a nice, comfortable pension, and those who enabled her crimes were given fat bonuses. There was no way that Eric Holder or Loretta Lynch was going to charge Lerner — what do you imagine the odds are that they'll discover their integrity in the matter of Hillary Rodham Clinton, presumptive Democratic presidential nominee? Unless President Barack Obama should decide to take this opportunity to rid his party of the Clintons forever (a slim but non-zero possibility), nothing is going to happen.

The Obama administration can traffic guns to Mexican drug cartels, poison rivers, assassinate American citizens, more or less make up health-care law as it goes, lie about critical foreign-policy questions, and criminally mishandle sensitive information, and all of that amounts to — *nothing*. For it to amount to anything, you'd need a Justice Department, an FBI, and federal judges with self-respect sufficient to outweigh their institutional political cowardice. And that we do not have.

A couple of militia nuts squat in a vacant visitor center at an obscure park in Oregon and the Left, with one voice, bays for blood. Black Lives Matter rioters torch Baltimore and Ferguson, assault police and innocent bystanders, and attempt to burn human beings alive with Molotov cocktails, and — nothing.

This is a recurring motif in U.S. history. Thousands of Americans over the course of a generation participated in a criminal conspiracy that resulted in, among other things, the murder of some 100 million people, and the bad guy in that story is . . . Senator Joe McCarthy, who tried to stop them. In the 1930s, as the Soviets were intentionally starving millions of people to death, our so-called progressives were busy denying that any such thing was taking place. In the 1960s, our so-called progressives were posing with murderous tyrants in Vietnam and making excuses for Pol Pot's genocide. The same people still celebrate Che Guevara, a murdering racist and Jew-hater. When the Sandinistas brought the Soviet murder campaign to the Americas, Bill de Blasio and his ilk cheered the Sandinistas. When Hugo Chávez installed himself as an autocrat in Venezuela, all the usual progressives cheered him, too, not just Hollywood jackasses like Sean Penn but elected Democrats such as Chaka Fattah. There never has been, and probably never will be, a reckoning for the American Left's role in the Communist massacres and repression of the 20th century.

Against all that, what's a few thousand sensitive e-mails from a Democratic presidential candidate who has accepted millions of dollars in "charitable" donations and speaking fees from Beijing and Moscow? What's one piddly assault on one piddly student journalist?

NY Times (February 26, 2001)

Cut Him Loose

by Bob Herbert

Some years ago, when Gennifer Flowers informed Bill Clinton that she had lied under oath before a grievance committee in Arkansas, the man already known as Slick Willie replied, "Good for you."

Mr. Clinton always had an easy, breezy relationship with wrongdoing. But the Democratic Party overlooked the ethical red flags and made a pact with Mr. Clinton that was the equivalent of a

pact with the devil. And he delivered. With Mr. Clinton at the controls, the party won the White House twice. But in the process it lost its bearings and maybe even its soul.

Now, with the stench of yet another scandal polluting the political atmosphere, some of Mr. Clinton's closest associates and supporters are acknowledging what his enemies have argued for years -- the man is so thoroughly corrupt it's frightening.

The president who hung a "For Rent" sign on the door to the Lincoln Bedroom also conducted a clearance sale on pardons in his last weird sleepless days in the White House.

The fallout from those pardons is threatening to destroy Mr. Clinton, and perhaps also his wife, the junior senator from New York. He may finally be getting his due.

The Clintons can spin this however they want. But the simple truth is that the way in which some of the pardons were granted seems to fit neatly with the standard definition of a bribe, which is the promise of money or gifts -- something of value -- to influence the action or behavior of an official.

Marc Rich was one of the U.S. government's 10 most wanted fugitives. He was accused, among other things, of wire fraud, racketeering, evading \$48 million in taxes in what prosecutors described as the largest tax avoidance scheme in U.S. history, and violating the trade embargo against Iran during the hostage crisis.

Do we think something of value was exchanged for Mr. Clinton's pardon of Mr. Rich? Or do we think Mr. Clinton went to bat for this billionaire fugitive because, darn it, it was the right thing to do?

Federal prosecutors have launched a criminal investigation of the Rich pardon as well as Mr. Clinton's decision to grant clemency to four Hasidic men who stole tens of millions of dollars from government agencies. The four men were from New Square, N.Y., a village in Rockland County that voted almost unanimously -- 1,400 to 12 -- for Hillary Clinton in last year's Senate race.

Mrs. Clinton met with New Square's religious leader, Rabbi David Twersky, during the Senate campaign. And in December, after winning the election, she and Mr. Clinton met at the White House with the rabbi.

Was there an understanding? Did the quids hook up with the quos in an illegal votes-for-clemency scheme? Mary Jo White, the U.S. attorney in Manhattan, is trying to find out.

The Clintons may or may not be led away in handcuffs someday. But whatever happens with the criminal investigations, it's time for the Democratic Party to wise up. Ostracism would be a good first step. Bill Clinton should be cut completely loose. Cold turkey. No more talk about his political genius, his fund-raising prowess, his ability to captivate audiences. He was president for eight years and the bottom line politically is this: For the first time in nearly half a century, the Republican Party controls the presidency and both houses of Congress.

Bill Clinton has been a disaster for the Democratic Party. Send him packing.

There's not much the Democrats can do about Mrs. Clinton. She's got a Senate seat for six years. But there is no need for the party to look to her for leadership. The Democrats need to

regroup, re-establish their strong links to middle-class and working-class Americans, and move on.

You can't lead a nation if you are ashamed of the leadership of your party. The Clintons are a terminally unethical and vulgar couple, and they've betrayed everyone who has ever believed in them.

As neither Clinton has the grace to retire from the scene, the Democrats have no choice but to turn their backs on them. It won't be easy, but the Democrats need to try. If they succeed they'll deserve the compliment Bill Clinton offered Gennifer Flowers after she lied under oath: "Good for you."

Contentions

Clinton Cash and the 9/11 Excuse

by Jonathan Tobin

When Peter Schweizer's book *Clinton Cash* came out earlier this year, most Democrats spent months dismissing its charges of cronyism and conflict of interest as partisan hackery. But on Saturday night during their party's second presidential debate, they got a taste of exactly what the former First Family's critics have been talking about. When asked about the millions she has raised from Wall Street firms over the years and what she has been giving in return for those donations, [Clinton invoked the 9/11 attacks as the justification for her actions.](#) That was a bit much even for a complacent Democratic base that understands that nothing will stop Clinton from being their nominee. It wasn't just that Bernie Sanders and Martin O'Malley made the most of a comment that was, at best, in bad taste and at worst, an egregious and inappropriate invocation of a national tragedy. It was that even her supporters knew that it was the kind of thing that would come back to haunt her in a general election campaign. Indeed, [even the New York Times editorial page weighed to register amazement](#) that she wasn't better prepared to answer such questions.

But liberals who are either openly expressing worry about her poorly thought-out response, or who still harbor hope that somehow a more left-wing alternative to the former secretary of state can be found, shouldn't have been surprised. Indeed, though the Democrat base thinks of her involvement with the financial industry as being an aberration that is solely linked to her campaign finance machine, their concerns are directly linked to the same issues that the rest of the country has about her integrity and trustworthiness.

It's not just that [the longstanding close relationship between the Clintons and major Wall Street firms](#) is no secret and had little to do with post-9/11 recovery efforts as she lamely claimed. It's that liberals are being reacquainted with the facts of life about the Clintons. They put their fingers in their ears when evidence of conflicts of interest between Clinton Family Foundation donors and State Department business were brought forward. But their concerns about the quid pro quos that are part of the massive influx of Wall Street money into the Clinton machine's coffers dovetail nicely with the same accusations that Democrats dutifully professed to be solely the product of the vast right-wing conspiracy that Hillary thinks is the source of all her troubles.

Of course, in principle, there is nothing illegal or intrinsically wrong about Wall Street political donations. Though liberals act as if Clinton ought to be ashamed of just taking their money, the problem isn't the mere fact of her fundraising prowess among the one percent that Democrats

think are so bad. It's that we already know that the Clinton approach to such efforts is strictly transactional.

Schweizer brought forward numerous examples in his book that illustrated how anyone who gave big bucks to the thinly disguised political slush fund that masquerades as the Clinton family charity always expected and got something in return. It's true that he produced no "smoking gun" that provided absolute proof of corruption that might place the Clinton clan in political jeopardy. But the sleaze factor went well beyond the fact that so many of the Foundation's doings passed the smell test.

But what the exchange on Saturday night also illustrated was that there is that Clinton understands all too well that her record with respect to fundraising doesn't stand up to scrutiny. She didn't have to resort to playing the 9/11 card to defend taking money from rich people since all candidates not named Bernie Sanders do the same thing. But her instinct is to shut down any discussion of her donors and what they get from her lest the conversation stray back into Clinton Cash territory.

The left is shaking its head over the latest example that shows there's virtually nothing the Clintons will not say or do in order to defend their questionable behavior. But the country shouldn't leave it at that. The cynicism and the casual corruption that is at the heart of the ambition that drives both Bill and Hillary to pursue power deserve more scrutiny and. Let's hope that over the course of the next year, even the Democrats' loyal cheerleaders in the mainstream media will be tempted by Hillary's gaffe to ask more questions about the once and perhaps future First Family's casual approach to ethics. If they do, we've no doubt they'll find that Peter Schweizer just skimmed the surface of what might be found out about them.

Roger L. Simon

Hillary's Watergate Looms

Of all the welter of predictions for 2016, by far the most dramatic seems to have been given short shrift or swept under the rug -- the possible indictment of Hillary Rodham Clinton while running for the presidency. Were such an event to occur, it would dominate our culture as nothing since Watergate. Yet most of us put it in the back of our minds, thinking it could never happen and focusing on the latest back and forth with Trump.

Nevertheless, as pointed out on PJM by Debra Heine, it very much *could* happen. Heine cited Laura Ingraham's Tuesday radio interview with former U. S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Joe DiGenova, some of which went as follows in verbatim transcription (you can listen to the full interview here):

DiGenova: Hillary Clinton's going to have problems because of what's in the emails, but also the classifications. Her biggest problem right now is the FBI. They're not going away. They have reached a critical mass in their investigation of the Secretary and all of her senior staff. And, it's going to come to a head, I would suggest, in the next sixty days. And, I predict Hillary will not make it to the finish line. She's not going to be able to complete her campaign. The criminal investigation must focus on her and all the people around her. And, if Jim Comey, the FBI director, is doing his job, which I expect him to do as an honorable man, she cannot be the nominee of the Democratic Party. She's going to have to be charged with the crime. It's going to be a very complex matter for the Department of Justice, but they're not going to be able to walk

away from it. She and her staff have committed numerous federal crimes involving the negligent and improper handling of classified information. They are now at over 1,200 classified emails. And, that's just for the ones we know about from the State Department. That does not include the ones that the FBI is, in fact, recovering from her hard drives. (1:08)

[snip]

Ingraham: Do you have confidence that Loretta Lynch, from what we saw with her handling of the Baltimore riots and all that, is going to okay, green light an indictment of Hillary Clinton in an election year? (3:21)

DiGenova: I believe that the evidence that the FBI is compiling will be so compelling that, unless she agrees to the charges, there will be a massive revolt inside the FBI, which she will not be able to survive as an Attorney General. It will be like Watergate. It will be unbelievable.

I know DiGenova slightly and he is an extremely smart guy, but he's also a dyed-in-the-wool Republican who would like nothing more than to see Hillary fall. On the other hand, he's a longtime Beltway player with a lot of friends at the top levels of law enforcement. I wouldn't for a minute dismiss what he is saying, nor, I'm sure are people at the upper echelons of the Democratic Party. It's not for no reason the *Daily Mail* is suddenly reporting "Candid Joe Biden says he 'regrets' his decision not to run for president 'every day' as he admits to having second thoughts." Maybe he knows something.

Washington Post

Worst Year in Washington

Congrats or Something

by Chris Cillizza

In Washington, we like to celebrate the best and the brightest. Even more than that, we like to celebrate when the best and the brightest screw up. So, every week I pick a “winner” who had the worst week in Washington. And each December, I gather a celebrity panel — okay, me and the Outlook editors — to choose who had the worst year. Here are the winners for 2015, along with those who had a pretty bad, neutral, pretty good and the best years.

The “winners”

Famous last names. Envious poll numbers. Establishment support. Lots and lots of money. The whiff of inevitability. That's where Jeb Bush and Hillary Clinton started 2015. Both were expected to cruise to their respective parties' presidential nominations.

That's not how things played out.

Bush ends the year in the far more hopeless position. He is mired in single digits in every national and key early-state poll, placing fifth among Republican candidates in the latest [Washington Post-ABC News survey](#). Clinton is way ahead of her closest Democratic rival — Vermont socialist Sen. Bernie Sanders — nationally.

But the similarities in the un-dynamic duo's year are striking: hot starts followed by the realization that their built-in advantages mattered a whole lot less than they thought. Name recognition and organization and all the money in the world can't sell a message that voters aren't all that interested in buying.

Jeb!

Here's Bush's campaign, and 2015, in one story. In September, he went on ["The Late Show With Stephen Colbert"](#) — to show his "fun" side, presumably. Colbert asked, somewhat mockingly, about the exclamation point on his campaign logo. "I've been using 'Jeb!' since 1994," the former Florida governor responded. "It connotes excitement." It. Connotes. Excitement.

When Bush was still the GOP front-runner and considered almost unstoppable, there were whispers here and there among the political class that he wasn't all that good a candidate. His people used words like "wonky" and "a real policy guy" to explain away his decided lack of charisma. A serious man for serious times and all that. Donors bought it. His Right to Rise super PAC raised a stunning [\\$103 million](#) in the first six months of 2015.

But after Bush officially entered the race in June, his weaknesses as a candidate became clear. He was out of step with the Republican base on issues — support for immigration reform and Common Core education standards — and tonally, his soft-spoken niceness didn't match voters' angry mood. He sank in the polls, and [major donors threatened defection](#). He [raised a little more than \\$13 million](#) in July, August and September and ended the third quarter with just \$10 million in the bank. That led to across-the-board [salary and staff cuts](#) and put an end to his campaign's "shock and awe" strategy.

By late October, Bush was losing the "electable establishment guy" mantle to Marco Rubio, the 44-year-old Senate wunderkind who had been his protege in Florida. Rubio has a natural ease and charisma that made Bush look especially stiff in the first two GOP presidential debates. In the third, Bush tried to reassert the master-student dynamic.

"When you signed up for this, this is a six-year term, and you should be showing up to work," [he ventured](#), trying to pick up on the frankly overrated issue of all the Senate votes Rubio has missed. "You can campaign, or just resign and let someone else take the job."

Rubio was ready and, unlike Bush, seemed up for the fight. "The only reason why you're [bringing this up] now is because we're running for the same position, and someone convinced you that attacking me is going to help you."

And scene. Rubio became the establishment guy. Bush, just another guy in the race. (He won his [fourth Worst Week in Washington](#) that week.)

Bush's campaign was premised on an early show of strength — big staff, big money, big poll numbers — to keep serious challengers from ever sniffing the top tier he occupied alone in the first days of the contest. His strongest message to donors and voters was: Be with me, because I'm going to win. Robbed of that conceit, he and his team have fumbled for something, anything, that might turn the campaign in a better direction. The year ends with Bush way outside the top tier. He would need Rubio and a few others to stumble to even have a chance at the nomination that once seemed such a sure thing.

Clinton and the server

Hillary Clinton, for her many gifts as a politician and a policymaker, has never been the best reader of the political landscape. She, like her husband, tends to mistake mountains for molehills and vice versa.

Which brings me to the revelation — first reported by the New York Times in early March — that Clinton corresponded exclusively over a private email server during her time as secretary of state. Clinton's response was characteristically dismissive. At a March 10 news conference, [she explained](#) that the setup was a mere matter of convenience. "I thought it would be easier to carry just one device for my work and for my personal emails instead of two," she said. And for the next several months, whenever she was asked about it, Clinton came across as angry, annoyed and overly legalistic. "What I did was legally permitted, number one, first and foremost, okay?" [she told](#) Fox News Channel's Ed Henry in August. ("What I did was legally permitted" is not exactly an inspiring campaign slogan.)

What neither Clinton nor her team seemed to grasp was that the private server reinforced and reminded people of things they didn't (and still don't) like about the former first family. Some of those perceptions: that the Clintons think they are above the rules, that they're paranoid and that they always have something to hide. An August Quinnipiac poll found that ["liar" comes to mind](#) more than any other word when people think of Clinton.

It wasn't until shortly after Labor Day that she addressed the email controversy head-on. She [apologized](#) fully for setting up the server, casting it as a dumb but innocent mistake.

Almost immediately, things began to turn around. The first Democratic debate, on Oct. 13, featured Clinton at her competent, student-every-teacher-loves best. Days later, Vice President Biden put an end to speculation and [announced](#) that he would not run for president — a candidacy that would have complicated Clinton's winning math. She capped off the month with [an 11-hour marathon appearance](#) before the House Select Committee on Benghazi, in which Republicans did everything they could to damage her reputation but, as is often the case in Clinton-vs.-GOP fights, wound up making themselves look small and petty and allowing her to come across as magnanimous and tough.

Clinton ends 2015 on a far better note than seemed possible in the doldrums of August. But, like Bush, she took home Worst Week in Washington four times this year. And problems remain. She's locked in competitive contests with Sanders in Iowa's caucuses and New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primary. Her trustworthiness remains questionable for some voters. In a December Quinnipiac University poll, 60 percent of people said they found Clinton neither honest nor trustworthy; 68 percent of independents felt that way. Meanwhile, the Justice Department continues its inquiry into whether she sent or received classified emails on her homebrew server. (She insists she did neither.)

How will she handle these hurdles? Her supporters have to hope she's learned her lessons from the Great Email Debacle of 2015.

Christian Science Monitor

You want a more 'progressive' America? Careful what you wish for.

Voters should remember what happened under Woodrow Wilson.

by Jonah Goldberg

Washington — I'm thinking of an American president who demonized ethnic groups as enemies of the state, censored the press, imprisoned dissidents, bullied political opponents, spewed propaganda, often expressed contempt for the Constitution, approved warrantless searches and eavesdropping, and pursued his policies with a blind, religious certainty.

Oh, and I'm not thinking of [George W. Bush](#), but another "W" — actually "WW": [Woodrow Wilson](#), the Democrat who served from 1913 to 1921.

President Wilson is mostly remembered today as the first modern liberal president, the first (and only) POTUS with a PhD, and the only political scientist to occupy the [Oval Office](#). He was the champion of "self determination" and the author of the idealistic but doomed "Fourteen Points" — his vision of peace for [Europe](#) and his hope for a [League of Nations](#). But the nature of his presidency has largely been forgotten.

That's a shame, because Wilson's two terms in office provide the clearest historical window into the soul of progressivism. Wilson's racism, his ideological rigidity, and his antipathy toward the Constitution were all products of the progressive worldview. And since "progressivism" is suddenly in vogue — today's leading [Democrats](#) proudly wear the label — it's worth actually reviewing what progressivism was and what actually happened under the last full-throated progressive president.

The record should give sober pause to anyone who's mesmerized by the progressive promise.

Wilson, like the bulk of progressive intellectuals in *fin-de-siècle* [America](#), was deeply influenced by three strands of thought: philosophical Pragmatism, Hegelianism, and Darwinism. This heady intellectual cocktail produced a drunken arrogance and the conviction that the old rules no longer applied.

The classical liberalism of the Founders — free markets, individualism, property rights, etc. — had been eclipsed by a new "experimental" age. [Horace Kallen](#), a protégé of Pragmatism exponent [William James](#), denounced fixed philosophical dogmas as mere rationalizations of the status quo. Sounding much like today's critical theorists, Mr. Kallen lamented that "Men have invented philosophy precisely because they find change, chance, and process too much for them, and desire infallible security and certainty."

The old conception of absolute truths and immutable laws had been replaced by a "Darwinian" vision of organic change.

Hence Wilson argued that the old "Newtonian" vision — fixed rules enshrined in the Constitution and laws — had to give way to the "Darwinian" view of "living constitutions" and the like.

"Government," Wilson wrote approvingly in his magnum opus, "The State," "does now whatever experience permits or the times demand." "No doubt," he wrote elsewhere, taking dead aim at the Declaration of Independence, "a lot of nonsense has been talked about the inalienable rights

of the individual, and a great deal that was mere vague sentiment and pleasing speculation has been put forward as fundamental principle."

In his 1890 essay, "Leaders of Men," Wilson explained that a "true leader" uses the masses like "tools." He must inflame their passions with little heed for the facts. "Men are as clay in the hands of the consummate leader."

Wilson once told a black delegation, that "segregation is not a humiliation but a benefit, and ought to be so regarded by you gentlemen." But his racism wasn't just a product of his Southern roots; it was often of a piece with the reigning progressive obsession with eugenics, the pseudoscience that strove to perfect society through better breeding.

Again, Wilson was merely one voice in the progressive chorus of the age. "[W]e must demand that the individual shall be willing to lose the sense of personal achievement, and shall be content to realize his activity only in connection to the activity of the many," declared the progressive social activist [Jane Addams](#).

"New forms of association must be created," explained [Walter Rauschenbusch](#), a leading progressive theologian of the Social Gospel movement, in 1896. "Our disorganized competitive life must pass into an organic cooperative life." Elsewhere, Rauschenbusch put it more simply: "Individualism means tyranny."

Not surprisingly, such intellectual kindling was easy to ignite when World War I broke out. The philosopher [John Dewey](#), [New Republic](#) founder [Herbert Croly](#), and countless other progressive intellectuals welcomed what Mr. Dewey dubbed "the social possibilities of war." The war provided an opportunity to force Americans to, as journalist [Frederick Lewis Allen](#) put it, "lay by our good-natured individualism and march in step." Or as another progressive put it, "Laissez faire is dead. Long live social control."

With the intellectuals on their side, Wilson recruited journalist [George Creel](#) to become a propaganda minister as head of the newly formed [Committee on Public Information](#) (CPI).

Mr. Creel declared that it was his mission to inflame the American public into "one white-hot mass" under the banner of "100 percent Americanism." Fear was a vital tool, he argued, "an important element to be bred in the civilian population."

The CPI printed millions of posters, buttons, pamphlets, that did just that. A typical poster for Liberty Bonds cautioned, "I am Public Opinion. All men fear me!... [I]f you have the money to buy and do not buy, I will make this No Man's Land for you!" One of Creel's greatest ideas – an instance of "viral marketing" before its time – was the creation of an army of about 75,000 "Four Minute Men." Each was equipped and trained by the CPI to deliver a four-minute speech at town meetings, in restaurants, in theaters – anyplace they could get an audience – to spread the word that the "very future of democracy" was at stake. In 1917-18 alone, some 7,555,190 speeches were delivered in 5,200 communities. These speeches celebrated Wilson as a larger-than-life leader and the Germans as less-than-human Huns.

Meanwhile, the CPI released a string of propaganda films with such titles as "The Kaiser," "The Beast of [Berlin](#)," and "The Prussian Cur." Remember when French fries became "freedom fries" in the run-up to the [Iraq](#) war? Thanks in part to the CPI, sauerkraut became "victory cabbage."

Under the [Espionage Act of 1917](#) and the [Sedition Act of 1918](#), Wilson's administration shut down newspapers and magazines at an astounding pace. Indeed, any criticism of the

government, even in your own home, could earn you a prison sentence. One man was brought to trial for explaining in his own home why he didn't want to buy Liberty Bonds.

The Wilson administration sanctioned what could be called an American *fascisti*, the [American Protective League](#). The APL – a quarter million strong at its height, with offices in 600 cities – carried government-issued badges while beating up dissidents and protesters and conducting warrantless searches and interrogations. Even after the war, Wilson refused to release the last of America's political prisoners, leaving it to subsequent Republican administrations to free the anti-war Socialist [Eugene V. Debs](#) and others.

Now, obviously, none of the current crop of self-described progressives are eager to replay this dark chapter. But we make a mistake when we assume that we can cherry pick only the good parts of our past to re-create.

Today's progressives still share many of the core assumptions of the progressives of yore. It may be gauche to talk about patriotism too much in liberal circles, but what is [Barack Obama](#)'s obsession with unity other than patriotism by another name? Indeed, he champions unity for its own sake, as a good in and of itself. But unity can be quite amoral. Mobs and gangs are dangerous because of their unblinking unity.

[Hillary Clinton](#), meanwhile, often insists that we must move "beyond" ideology, labels, partisanship, etc. The sentiment is a direct echo of the Pragmatists who felt that dogma needed to be jettisoned to give social planners a free hand. Of course, then as now, the "beyond ideology" refrain is itself an ideological position favoring whatever state intervention social planners prefer.

In Senator Clinton's case, the most vital intervention is intruding on the family. Mrs. Clinton proudly follows the "child saver" tradition of [Charlotte Perkins Gilman](#) and Jane Addams. In 1996, she proclaimed "as adults we have to start thinking and believing that there isn't really any such thing as someone else's child." In her book, "It Takes A Village," she insists that children are born in crisis, requiring progressive government intervention from infancy on. She seems to subscribe to Wilson's view, when president of [Princeton](#), that the chief job of an educator is to make children as unlike their parents as possible.

In a Democratic debate, Clinton famously rejected the word "liberal" in favor of "progressive." Shouldn't we at least ask what that means? If [Mike Huckabee](#) proclaimed that he prefers the label "confederate" over "conservative," pundits would rightly denounce his association with such a tainted legacy. But when it comes to progressivism, there's no such obligation to account for your ideological heritage. It seems progressivism is never wrong.

Judicial Watch

[Email Reveals Top Aide Huma Abedin Warning State Department Staffer That Hillary Clinton Is "Often Confused"](#)

(Washington, DC) – Judicial Watch today released more than [35 pages](#) of emails former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's top aide Huma Abedin revealing that Abedin advised Clinton aide and frequent companion Monica Hanley that it was "very important" to go over phone calls with Clinton because the former Secretary of State was "often confused." The emails, from Abedin's "[Huma@clintonemail.com](#)" address, also reveal repeated security breaches, with the

Secretary's schedule and movements being sent and received through Abedin's non-governmental and unsecured Clinton server account. The emails document requests for special State Department treatment for a Clinton Foundation associate and Abedin's mother, a controversial Islamist leader.

The Abedin email material contains a January 26, 2013, email exchange with Clinton aide Monica Hanley regarding Clinton's schedule in which Abedin says Clinton is "[often confused](#):"

- Abedin: Have you been going over her calls with her? So she knows singh is at 8? [India Prime Minister Manmohan Singh]
- Hanley: She was in bed for a nap by the time I heard that she had an 8am call. Will go over with her
- Abedin: Very imp to do that. She's often confused.

"Huma Abedin's description of Hillary Clinton as 'easily confused' tells you all you need to know why it took a federal lawsuit to get these government emails from Clinton's illegal email server," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. "These emails also show that Hillary Clinton's and Huma Abedin's decision to use the Clinton email server to conduct government business was dangerous and risky."

The documents were obtained by Judicial Watch on October 30, 2015, in response to a June 5 [Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\) lawsuit](#) filed against the State Department, after it failed to respond to a March 18 FOIA request seeking:

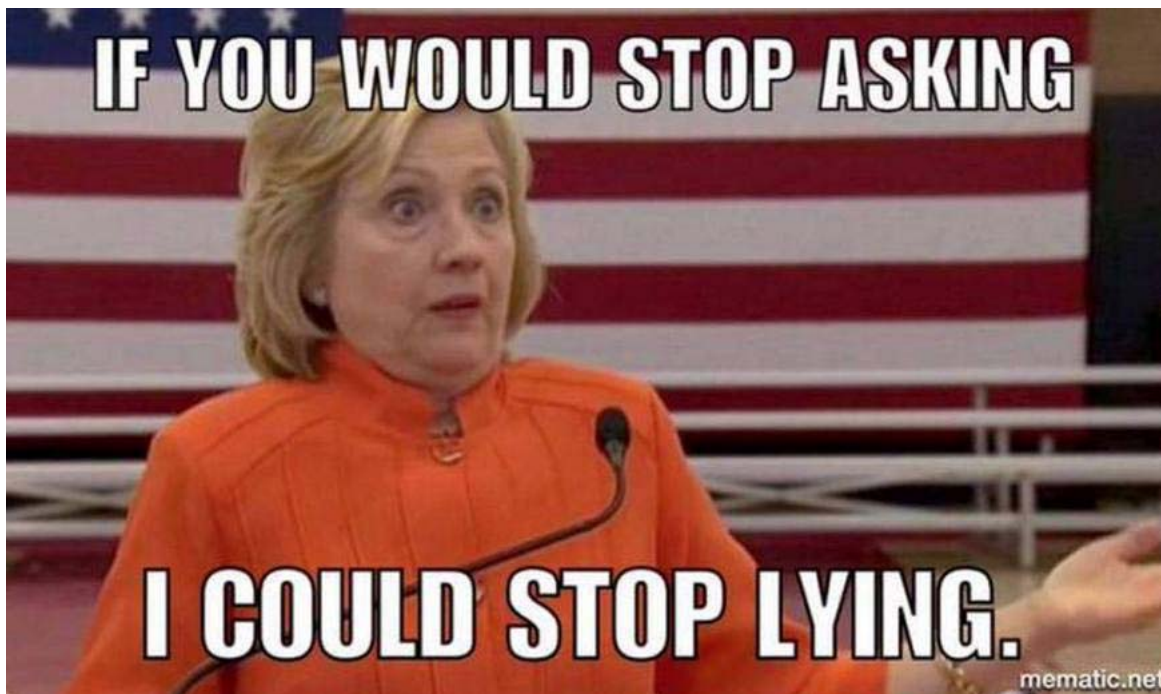
- Emails of official State Department business received or sent by former Deputy Chief of Staff Huma Abedin from January 1, 2009 through February 1, 2013 using a non-"state.gov" email address.



Steve Harvey Announcing the Winner of the Ugliest Dog in the World Contest

It's not the palor of her skin,
it's the content of her
character.





BETWEEN THESE TWO...



**TERRORISM IS CAUSED BY EITHER
A VIDEO OR CLIMATE CHANGE!**



