

Choose Life AND Doing for Those Most in Need

Humans are flawed and imperfect. The same is true for all groups and nations. We will always have those that are self-centered and don't care about others. We will always have flawed societies favoring the haves over the have nots. In a perfect world, i.e., governments would treat all people equally. Collectively, we are usually astray from doing that is Right and Righteous.

In a world of growing divisiveness, how has or can any group, nation or nations ever get anything worthy of substance done for the disenfranchised or the masses? The simple answer is compromise, which means if two or more groups or parties do not get their way, they find a new way. Of course, compromise is also needed one on one and even that isn't easy. How many loving relationships have ended because there was not an effort or means of compromise? Surely many and likely most.

In the U.S. and other countries, we have many groups with differing opinions or beliefs within those groups or political parties on so many topics. Some topics aren't even of interest or important to some groups like caring for seniors for non-seniors, while other topics like immigration or healthcare are of interest to almost all even as they disagree on potential resolutions. Needs are greater for people of color, our LGBT friends, or the underemployed no matter your color, and our opinions on how let alone way to address that vary substantially.

If all were taxed appropriately, including much higher taxes on the ultra-wealthy, everyone would have free or low-cost college education and healthcare. That is Right and Righteous, as is affordable housing and access to quality housing and food for all.

In a spirit of left and right compromise, couldn't we create a platform to improve access to education from free to low-cost education for the poor to the middle class on a sliding scale based in income, the number of dependents and Cost of Living (COL)? How about added layers of support for certain essential workers like healthcare workers, teachers, childcare providers, social workers, and mental health professionals? How about a tax plan provision where individuals and companies that endow colleges for full scholarships to those most in need receive a tax deduction for that endowment to the underserved getting college educations so this country can truly be a great country?

The acrimony over healthcare led to so much wasted time for both the left and right versus just doing the right thing...compromise. Was Obamacare right? Likely just a good start as we can and should do better, yet we can only do better if we come together and compromise. As big and polarizing as access to college education or healthcare are in the US, there is one issue that is more polarizing...abortion. "Thou shall not kill" is one of the Ten Commandments and an obvious uniting principle for all of us no matter one's faith. If you are pregnant, how many weeks shouldn't matter. It's a child.

I believe abortion should be limited to when there are life threatening health reasons for the mother and to a lesser degree if the fetus is very abnormal. While part of me sees merit for abortion in the very early stages of pregnancy for rape and incest victims, all life is God-given

and should be cherished. That said, I see a bigger picture need in a left/right political and righteous compromise to virtually eliminate abortion concurrently with a platform to provide living wages, childcare access, quality housing to education to healthcare and better food access to more to young mothers in need.

If those on the side of free choice compromised to limit abortion, why couldn't the evangelicals on the right also compromise on healthcare to college education to higher targeted taxes as mentioned in *Common Senior Q & A* even if imperfect, just far better? Possibly, with leaders that work with *Collaboration* and not divisiveness. Yes, "compromise" is a word that virtually doesn't exist in Washington, DC anymore, let alone almost everywhere else.

Again, I do not believe in abortion unless the mother's life is in danger, yet we cannot throw disproportionately poor and woman of color to the wolves of poverty. We must address extreme social-economic issues. An unjust government makes it a hardship to have and raise children for far too many, let alone more difficult for the middle class than it was for their parents.

There is room for compromise. First, abortions could be limited to pregnancies that place mother's life is at risk. Second, should a mother not want a child, she could agree to an advance to alternative adoption process and then be supported by a case worker, basic housing, healthcare, and food access and monitored through birth to assure that the mother and child in the womb are safeguarded and healthy. Adoption processes can be streamlined for what would surely be plenty of worthy parents. Plus, adoptive parents could support the pregnant mother starting early in the pregnancy through a process that matches prospective adoptive parents with birth mothers.

We never have lived in a perfect world, only a very flawed world. We can pray and dream of utopia and God's vision as such, but we must be proactively united to do what is Right and Righteous. Through collective effort, we can develop comprehensive policies to improve on so many important things to promote equality as the founding fathers intended, and more so as the Lord intends. We can and should take on all big and difficult topics, from housing to healthcare to education to abortion and more. Only then can we live in a much better and Godly world and country.

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