New **Haven** Register

http://www.nhregister.com/opinion/20161229/forum-trump-can-we-support-him#disqus_thread

Forum: Trump: Can we support him?



President-elect Donald Trump speaks to reporters at Mar-a-Lago, Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016, in Palm Beach, Fla. Evan Vucci — AP Photo

By Edward L. Marcus

DECEMBER 30, 2016

23 COMMENTS

There is so much talk about how we all, for the good of the country, should not only give Donald Trump a chance, but provide him with support as our new president. Given Trump's actions as president-elect, is it possible for a reasonable person to say, OK he is about to be our president, the election is over, I will be supportive.

The answer after sober reflection is: no way.

Here are my reasons:

A. Trump won the Electoral College by a relatively small margin, but lost the popular vote by almost 3 million votes. FBI Director Comey's letters right before Election Day, without any question, cost Hillary at least several million votes as well as votes to win at the Electoral College. This election clearly was stolen from Hillary. It is truly difficult to support Trump knowing he had help that no other candidate has ever received.

B. The Russian hacking. Seventeen intelligence agencies, including the CIA, agreed the hacks of Democratic National Committee files and "Clinton Emails" and emails of her

close associates were done and released by agents of the Russian government. Trump does not agree, he says it might be a 400 pound person sitting on a bed in New Jersey.

The hacks cost Hillary at least another several million votes. Once again, we have never previously seen an election where a foreign government clearly influenced the outcome. The media, instead of being outraged and indignant that this had occurred, focused on the red meat provided by some of the very personal email exchanges. Yet even given the public viewing of highly personal emails, when you think about it, there wasn't anything all that bad. The action by the Russian government is unforgivable and Trump's refusal to condemn it is equally as unforgivable.

C. Violations of the Constitution. Trump threatens judicial independence. Wait until you see his Supreme Court designee. He continually calls the media dishonest leading to question his commitment to freedom of the press. He has called for eliminating equal protection under the law for Muslims, is committed to the use of torture, even though his Defense Department Chief "Mad Dog" Mason has said he would rather work with beer and cigarettes as an intelligence seeking device. And he consistently attacks Americans based on their gender, race and religion.

Trump's Alt-Right, racist, misogynistic appointments are geared to enrage the sensibilities of any reasonable person. Trump, having been elected by a minority of the voters, should be attempting to unite the country. However, his victory tour indicated that the real Trump is still there, the one that shoots from the hip, uses Twitter at ungodly hours about vital issues and still sees himself as the greatest, smartest human that ever existed. His incredible narcissistic view of the world is almost hard to believe but yet it is there and true.

Yes, the election is over. But no, I will not support President Trump.

I and many others will insist that our Democratic congressman and senators join with at least a handful of Republicans to fight Trump tooth and nail when he submits plans and nominates people who are not in the best interest of the people of this Country. We can do no less.

Edward Marcus is former chairman of the Democrat State Central Committee in Connecticut.