

NOTE: The names of the moderator and participants have all been changed to protect their privacy. The opening discussion where participants introduce themselves has been removed.

All right. What about issues that you're paying attention to? What are the big issues that you find important right now?

Immigration. My wife's from Mexico. It's a personal-

Immigration. What else?

A lot of the tariffs going on right now.

Tariffs.

Trying to be implemented.

What else? Gary, what are you thinking about?

I don't know the illegal immigration stuff. They backed off on gun control, which is good. Just care enough for the elections in that you.

What do you think is going to be one of the biggest issues in the election?

One of the biggest issues?

For you? What do you think is going to be most important?

Just long as a Democrat doesn't get in because they're all these socialists and they're parading this new green deal and all that crap, which is just a masquerade to taking more money from us. Taxation without representation.

For you it's anybody but a democrat.

Pretty much you know.

Hank what are your issues?

Taxes, finances, economy, anything that impacts personally.

Other big issues? [inaudible 00:07:55] what would you say?

I would say education and healthcare.

Healthcare. All right. Edward?

Actually I agree on healthcare too.

Charles.

Healthcare, jobs and economy.

Let me ask you this question. If you could fill in the blank in a sentence. A word or phrase get a word or phrase in your head. I would fill in the blank in this sentence. I feel blank about the way things are going in the country these days. I feel what?

Sad.

Sad.

Shocked.

Shocked. David what's your word? I feel blank about the way things are going in the country these days.

Surprised, worried.

Worried. Fred?

Probably going nervous.

Probably go nervous.

Cautionably optimistic.

Cautiously optimistic. Gary how about you?

Remorse.

Remorse. Hank.

I think I'm the only one who's different. I would use normal. It's like life has always been this way. We're always debating issues.

Why are you cautiously optimistic Blake?

I'm happy with what I see with the economy on the one side of the fence. The politics driving crazy. You turn on the news and it's always negative. There is this huge divide in the country. It's either ... And it's fairly polarized as one side or the other. I don't think there's any in between. It's hard to get a grasp on what is really happening. Call it what you want. It depends on what news station you turn on or what internet site you go to. It's biased on either side.

David why surprised?

I don't know. It was the first word that popped into my head.

No particular reason or?

Mm-hmm (negative).

Right [inaudible 00:10:13] you said shocked. Why shocked.

Just shocked with everything that goes through the ... With the way the politics are it's the first time ever that half the cabinet either resigned or be taken out. Politics wise I feel also a little bit cheated with saying one thing and then completely ignoring what they said and did what they said they weren't going to do.

Can you give me an example of that?

One particular scene was our president has been caught in already almost over a hundred different lies that he mentioned and that he said he would never put our economy in a freeze and he did that anyway.

Fred why nervous?

Just nervous about what's to come for my future. Just things are getting really expensive and not sure if salaries are really staying with it. Life is just getting expensive, housing is getting expensive, school is getting more expensive.

This idea of wages keeping up with costs. Do you think wages are keeping up with costs? The rest of you, how do you feel?

No way.

No way.

No they do not commensurate with the cost of living. There's a divide. CEO to the just common employee wages.

Most of the economy is basically living paycheck to paycheck even then. You have to have at least three or four income house just a family just to you come and meet him, have something.

Do you feel like it's hard to make ends meet? Do you put yourself in that category? Hard to make ends meet or do you feel like, no I'm doing okay?

Sometimes.

Sometimes?

Now I'm doing ... I feel like it'd be hard to make ends meet if I had kids and stuff. I'm doing okay because it's just me.

Just you. Edward what do you think? Do you feel like-?

It's hard?

Hard. Hank.

I think it's easy to make ends meet if you're just trying to fill the necessities. It's the extras that you want to do in life or the things you want that ... It's where it starts to get a little more troublesome.

Is anything going well with the country right now? Anything that you can point to that you're like really, really good or at least somewhat good? Anything?

Unemployment's down.

Unemployment's down.

Building a strong military, building it back at least.

Anyone else have anything good or-

No. I'm pretty happy with Trump. I thoroughly understand being an excellent machine is that how it NAFTA pretty much killed the manufacturing. We used to be a producing nation and then we turned into a consuming nation. There's been a de-industrialization agenda played against this country so these tariffs even the playing field. I'm happy to see-

Do you like the tariffs?

Yes definitely. I'm happy that Trump got elected and that he is doing his best with the plate that he's been given to work with that he is doing what it is that he can because he honestly does care about us people.

What tells you that he cares about you?

The sincerity like where he's removing regulations and stuff like that. I see a lot of this stuff that they don't present him stuff because they know he'll veto it.

Let me ask the rest of you about tariffs because a couple of you have mentioned tariffs now. How do you feel about the tariffs? Hank what do you think?

I said I was feeling normal by the country. The reason I say that is because every year I don't care who it is that's in control of who is. There's things I agree with. There's things I disagree with, there's things I understand. There's things I don't understand and it's always in balance. There's always things that will go the way I don't want to and things that will go with the way I want them to. Tariffs are one of those things that I understand why he's doing it and there's parts of it I agree with. Then are there better ways to accomplish those goals or other things that should be focused on possibly.

Just a gut feeling. Tariffs, where we are now with tariffs. Good thing or bad thing?

I would say a good thing.

Good thing. Charles what do you think?

I'm mixed. I feel like a lot of this stuff that Trump's doing is ... One thing that I think is going good with our economy and what's going good in the world is the stock market. He's doing half the stuff to play the stock market.

Edward what do you think?

I think we're the ones that are going to end up paying for them in the end.

When you think about your kids or if you don't have kids the next generation do you feel mainly hopeful or doubtful about the way things are going in the country?

Hopeful.

How come?

Just from the fact that being in with a family of educated ... A family of educators his chairwoman who headed the Department of Education barely knows anything about the education system of what really needs to be done. I believe that ever since no child left behind our department of education has gone downwards so dramatically that we had to have a strike in California and more school districts, district wide are starting to do the strikes.

Doubtful because of education when you think about the next generation. Fred how about you? Next Generation? Doubtful or hopeful?

Hopeful. I hope that it's going to be good. I hope that it's going better but there's a lot of doubt and it's because of like what I was saying about how everything is just going ... All the expenses are just really rising. School is rising.

All right David how hopeful or doubtful when you think about your kids the next generation?

I don't know I'm on the middle on that. Like I want to be hopeful about it because as parents it's our job to make sure that they go the right way and we teach them the proper things. There's a lot of people lately that aren't parenting that the Internet is their parent or social media is their influence and everything else. It's a little different. Kids nowadays are different than when I was younger and my siblings and my ... I don't know it's a lot ... Or my parents were young and it's a lot different.

Blake hopeful or doubtful the people in the next generation.

I'm in the middle of the road as well. It really depends on a lot of factors. My kids are 25, 27 but I'm hopeful for them because they're so motivated. They unfortunately beat the millennial. Neither of them have that category. They both work hard. They know what it takes to make a living and they take responsibility for themselves. I'm hopeful for them. At the same time you see social media. I think it can be a bad thing and it could also be a good thing. I think our country is driven emotionally by social media and it can be a negative force.

Edward, hopeful or doubtful when you think about the next generation?

I'm pretty hopeful. I see a lot of people standing up and trying to make a difference.

When you think about the economy right now who are the winners? Who's doing really well in our economy?

The rich the 1%.

The 1%.

I think the rich but not necessarily the 1%.

What's the difference there? Tell me.

Well the 1% is just has so much accumulation of money. It seems like if you're making over 250 a year or so you can do pretty well. You don't have to be super rich to be doing okay or doing well.

What about the 1%? What do you think about that? Who are they? What's your feeling about the 1%? Hank what do you think?

I feel like most of them have earned it. You look at a lot of those stories of how they got there and where they started from. I've always believed if you work for

it, you earn it it's yours. People who don't have it and wish well I think we should take it, separate it out amongst all of us. You can go out and work for it and not everybody is going to make it but you can do well for yourself.

The 1% they worked hard. It's there's-

Not all of them. Most of them are born into it. You know what I mean? Those are the ones that seem to be pushing agendas upon others who weren't gifted such opportunities in life. They really [inaudible 00:20:07] story overall.

What agenda are you talking about? What are the 1% pushing?

Well they de industrialized our country, pulling all our manufacturing jobs overseas, south of the border. Their agenda was to put as machinist and what have you. You know what I mean? They're narrowing this thing against the middle class. They don't want a middle class in America. They want low class, slaves. They want people that work for below minim wage which is why they're pushing an agenda for this immigration, illegal immigration, not legal immigration.

Blake you had something on the 1%.

Not really.

Someone else said something.

Well I think that a lot of times like Walmart and these big companies are getting tax breaks but they're only paying minim wage. It's like it's just going right to the owners. It's not really fair.

When you're thinking about big corporations what do you think of? What's the first thing that pops in your head when you hear big corporations?

Monopoly.

Monopoly. Fred what do you think of?

Really, really overpaid CEOs.

Big corporations.

The deep state.

Deep state.

They're the ones who pay all the lobbyists that create bills and laws in their favor.

How about pharmaceutical companies? What comes to mind when you think of pharmaceutical companies?

Too greedy.

Greedy.

Absolutely. Thieves.

Thieves.

Annoying.

Annoying.

I feel like it's a scam because how it all started if you look back was you can put anything you wanted on it and say this will heal your elements. If they keep you sick and it doesn't really help you and it's how they make their money. It's just I feel like it's a big scam.

It's funny that you looked up a coke.

Well that's how I did start.

You could label anything you wanted here, you have a cough take [inaudible 00:22:04]. That's what they used to prescribe and stuff and used to say like non addictive. Right on the label. They could put whatever they want on it. It's changed but it's still the same idea of take this and come back and see me. Hopefully you get addicted and you just keep coming back and buying. You never get better.

There's more money in the treatment than there is in the cure.

There's really no money in the cure.

What about healthcare costs? What do you think when you think of healthcare costs? David?

Ridiculous.

Is it something you have to deal with? Do you feel-

Without throwing an exact number about the same amount in healthcare for a family of five then we ... For just healthcare than we do for our mortgage.

Others? Healthcare costs.

Once again I've been spending a lot of time in to the doctors in the last 10 years. I hurt myself surfing big waves and I feel like it's a scam. All they do is tell you go see my friend go. It might be this, might be that. They just send you round and round and round and round.

What about unions? When you think of unions what comes to mind?

Lazy.

Lazy.

I think they're good.

You think they're good.

Try to get the wages up to the worker and make sure they have insurance. Take care of the people.

Hank unions?

Not a whole lot to be honest. I think of him as old fashioned and I just don't deal with them much anymore from [inaudible 00:23:45].

[inaudible 00:23:44].

Same.

Same. Old fashioned.

Well I don't I don't associate with them. I've never joined the union. I've never needed it. I just don't know enough about it to really-

I like the concept pure. It's pure in its nature but that there's a lot of corruption at the upper echelon stuff like that.

Unions are in it to make their money. In USA they might represent getting better benefits for the employees. Most cases some of the employees that are part of those unions are some of the least motivated people that I've personally met, depending on what a union you're talking about.

How about climate change? Anything about climate change?

I'm I allowed to say bull crap?

Sure. Bull crap that's what you think about climate change. Not real?

It's just the masquerade to try and take tax money from us. That's all there is. All they want is to charge us for this, charge us for that and they're not going to use that money for anything except for to pat their pockets.

Let me get some reactions. Climate change is bull crap. Is it?

I agree with what you're saying about their patting their pockets with it but I don't think its bull crap. In my lifetime in 20 years 70% of the world's reefs in the ocean have died, 20 years. Almost all that is dire so there's something going on. Huge.

Where do the rest of you come down in climate change? Real? Not Real.

I think it's inevitable anyways. No matter if you're a tree hugger, if you throw crap in the ocean. Earth has been around for hundreds of billions of trillions of years or whatever the story goes. It goes through cycles.

Just natural cycles. Fred what do you think?

I think we're doing a really good job of using all the resources really, really fast. We're so many people in this role nowadays and luckily the birth rate is declining a little bit but I don't know. I didn't really have too much research into it. I don't really know about it.

[Astra 00:26:02], climate change.

I don't know really enough about it.

Edward, have an opinion.

I think it's a real problem.

It is real. Hank.

I think we as a species are having a little impact on it but overall I don't think it's as massive as what some people are predicting. The one thing I do appreciate about any discussion and this goes back to everything we've talked about is over the years I've seen more people standing up whether you agree with it or disagree with it. More people are being vocal of doing things bringing groups together. Regardless of what it is from immigration to environment change whatever, the fact that more people are getting involved as a good thing whether we're making a difference or not.

How about the affordable care act? Obamacare? Any thoughts on that or what comes to mind when you think about the affordable care act?

I think he was in the ... He had the right ideas to start working on it? Then again he was ... Like with every other president that was it took a while to fix whatever the previous president did to do that. People were expecting something to happen right away right then and there and they didn't give him the full opportunity that he could do to really fix it. He was on the right track. Now with I think as far as for the government and healthcare as far as for abortion and women's rights and everything, I think government needs to stay out of it.

It was a travesty against this country.

Affordable care?

When they handed that bill and in five minutes they had to vote on it and there were 1500 pages that were amended and added and edited and all that. Nobody had a chance to read the bill that they signed. It was a travesty against this country.

It's a bad thing.

Very much so. All a sudden insurance rates probably the lobbyist from the insurance company really pushed it because all of a sudden insurance companies started charging us common people to where we can't afford healthcare.

Blake, affordable care, what do you think?

Generally prefer that the government stays out of our choice for medical. I'm afraid if they go too far down the road with the affordable care act that it's going to force government to make decisions on behalf of our families and in our health situations. I can only imagine that if I personally ... I have a personal situation where one of our family members needs ... We need a choice. We have to go out of state for a specific medical care. I can only imagine if the government would deny that because they would be the ones looking at the cost and so forth. This whole concept of say Medicare for all is only going to reduce or if you look at other countries that are trying to do that. If you have ... Look at someone with a serious medical condition and they're over in Europe a lot more trying to get over to the United States to seek medical care because we have better medical out here. I'd hate to see that the medical quality of medical care would go down and that the government would have a choice in it.

Astra what you were going to say?

Because see what I learnt about the affordable care is that if I had ... This is also a personal issue as well too. A couple of my family members had to go with a certain doctor for treatment and because of the affordable care act it allowed them to be able to keep their doctor and keep the treatment and still be

covered under their program. Now that they're trying to get rid of that, my family had to suffer to lose that doctor because they had to pay out of pocket. It's either pay for their medication that they need to do or pay to see the doctor or they stopped taking it and now their new coverage won't even cover it. It's either that or perish.

David affordable care act. Then I want to move on.

I don't like it. That's why we pay so much. We went from paying to what we were paying to knocked all of our coverage off and quadrupled our payment.

How about-

The same coverage?

Medicaid. Thoughts on medicaid. Hank.

Don't know a whole lot about it.

Don't know much about it. Edward.

I think it's a good thing. My kids are on Nevada checkup it. It's part of Medicaid I believe. think it's a good thing.

That's part of the affordable care act? That's what it was supposed to do is help people with Medicaid to get coverage that they couldn't get before. I think it's a good thing. The problem I didn't like with it is why do I owe all this money per year if I don't want health insurance. I just want to go to a walk in clinic once every couple of years and pay 100 bucks. Why can't I do that? Why do I have to pay for something I'm not using? Because I don't use it, I have to pay for it. That's ridiculous to me.

How about the tax cuts that passed last year, any thoughts about those? Fred?

I haven't seen a difference really.

No difference for you?

Not really too much.

Do you know anybody who has seen the difference?

Not In my family. No.

Tax cuts from last year.

My parents got hit pretty hard because they're teachers. In California and they got hit hard by the taxes.

It actually hurt them?

It hurt them a lot.

Anybody thoughts on the tax cuts? Anybody see a tax savings?

In a rather [inaudible 00:31:58] that way, yes.

You did? Tell me.

Because I work for Costco they, and not well I mean many people know this. Immediately everybody in the company across the board raises. Doesn't matter who you were, where you were. Everybody got something. They credited it to the tax cuts. Stuff like that goes around and it does circle back around. Now it's like everything else. When we talked about healthcare, we've talked about taxes, we've talked about this. Everything is a good idea initially everybody's wanting to help, wanting to do something and you start with the basic plan. Then like taxes it's a simple plan. We take a portion of what everybody earns, give it to the government so the government can take care of us. Then along the way people start adding and modifying and changing it and the more complicated you make it, the more some people were going to take advantage of it. Others are going to get away with things that some people don't and it becomes a more and more complicated systems.

You're asking about the affordable care act. It was a good idea. It was a good plan. It was just another way of trying to get health benefits to everybody. Ultimately though somebody's going to end up paying for it. Because you've now got to do all these new rules, regulations, everything it's going to benefit some, it's not going to benefit others. Same thing with tax cuts.

[inaudible 00:33:22] another word and just get your reactions to it outsourcing. Charles what do you think about that? What comes to mind?

Passing the buck off, being lazy. That's what it sounds like to me.

Outsourcing.

I think we need to stop helping foreign aid and start taking care of our country first. Sending stuff overseas.

How about student loan debt?

Big time, he needs to do something about that and fast.

It's stupid.

It's becoming a big hassle now where a lot of people are in debt and they have to stop doing school because they owe too much and then once they get out of school then they have to pay it. They either go in [inaudible 00:34:10] or they have to keep paying it and there's no type of forgiveness program or anything for that.

Fred your thoughts.

Undergrad, if you go to a four year college whatever you don't start paying interest on those loans until after you graduate which makes sense. In graduate school if you go and try and get your doctorate degree or whatever it is your MBA, you start paying interest on that loan as soon as you take it out. You're literally accruing interest when you can't even work to get ... It doesn't make sense. People are graduating with \$100,000 in debt to get an 80, \$90,000 job. Doesn't make sense.

Then they're still in debt.

Yeah.

Student loan debt, any other thoughts?

That's why I'm nervous about my future kids. It's like jeez.

[crosstalk 00:34:58] do something about it.

I think I need to reform it, I don't think they ... Obviously we take responsibility for raising our kids and putting money aside if we're able to ... For our children's education to some extent. They talk about just forgiving and washing all those students debt away. I've paid and my daughter is paying her way through school the hard way. You see others who if they're going to just all of a sudden say you know what you did the hard way but you did it ... We're going to just forgive your debt. I don't think that's fair.

What about all the people that didn't have any help from any parents or anything.

I'm not rich.

No, I know. Are you just saying you helped him? Are you saying what about the people that didn't and they've worked, they lived on their own say and they worked for \$10 an hour minimum wage and they then usually made their way through school and then it basically they just did four years and then afterwards it looked like they were going to make their payments and be in debt for student loans going to school for the next 20 years.

[crosstalk 00:36:10] those kids actually go to school for free.

Well I'm just saying [crosstalk 00:36:15] why should you be in debt for 20 years or 10 years or 20 years to go to school for what? I just I don't think that's fair to the new generation of kids.

That I would have to agree with you on that one. Big time.

What about retirement? What do you think about retirement?

It's nonexistent anymore.

Not existent.

I've seen people who are in their 50s and 60s having to go back to work because they're not making enough. I've seen people who are in disability and getting money from the government. They're barely getting ends meet and they can't do anything else.

They're giving us a lot of tools nowadays to do it, to use it. It's hard because I know so many, for example like my parents they had good retirement but they're using because they have four children. They're using it a lot on trying to pay for our schooling and help us out in a way they can. I know a lot of parents who are dipping into their retirement to help out their children or to live because health insurance and stuff it's getting so expensive.

David, retirement. What do you think of when you hear that?

Planning.

Planning. You've been able to?

Somewhat.

Edward.

It's a struggle.

Struggle. How about trade agreements with other countries, trade agreements with other countries? What do you think of?

Made in China?

Made in China.

Everything.

That and Mexico.

Mitt Romney I'm pissed off at him. I definitely voted against his butt. Just because of that. He took all of our America tool companies. He retained the name of those companies like Vise Grip, Channel Lock, all the file companies and all that and he's got a clam down there in Mexico. That's why he wants that NAFTA, their free trade agreement. When a country pays its industrial workers X amount and up here our standard of living requires us machinists or industrial personnel to make X amount for our cost of living. We can't compete with those lower wages therefore that should have to be pumped up with a tariff. Mitt Romney took all ... Mitt Romney, with his bank capital took a lot of our manufacturer south of the border and then he wants to bring it in with no tariffs and what have you. That's the stuff that really irks me.

What about China? What do you think?

Don't trust them.

Don't trust them.

We were always doing business with China. I don't think it's right all over. Or you can go over there and just set up a business and send everything back out. Outsource everything. I know people that do it in Hawaii. They make surfboards in China in a freaking jungle in the middle of nowhere. No ocean to be seen. Shipped over to Hawaii and sold for four grand made for 40 bucks in the middle of China. It's just not right. We need our economy. We need the tuff to be ... We need the jobs. Trump is saying and all this stuff the manufacturing jobs we need here in The United States not in China.

See a lot of those other countries like China and all that, they have lower work ethics, labor laws. There's no child labor laws over in China. They got people farming gold on online for that war to war crap and stuff. They also have children working in factories and crap that we don't allow in this country in. China, it's not their fault. They're aggressive. I understand their position but it's our politicians, our corrupt politicians that sold us out.

Before I asked you who was winning in this economy, who's losing out?

Middle class.

Middle class.

Lower and middle class.

Lower and middle class. Do you feel like you're winning or losing in this economy?

Losing.

Losing?

Losing.

Losing?

Fighting.

Fighting? How about the rest of you losing, winning, something else?

I'm alive. It motivates me.

In the middle. Surviving day to day.

Throw a challenge at me, I'm all for it.

All right so before I mentioned that I was going to pass out some papers, everybody have a pen in front of you or can you grab one? Each of you is going to get one of these packets, what I'd like you to do once you get it. Put your first name last initial up here at the top. I don't need your whole last name. We're just going to work on this first page so don't flip ahead. The first few lines are any good things that you can think about Donald Trump. The second set of lines is doubts or concerns about Donald Trump. You can write as much as you want. Again doesn't have to be full sentences, just bullet points or words and phrases are fine. Take one and pass it. It should be enough. First name last initial at the top and the first set of lines. Any good things that you think about Donald Trump seconds and lines any doubts or concerns doesn't have to be full sentences.

(silence).

That's all right. Keep writing if you need more time write as much as you want. For those of you who are done, I just want to start talking about these. Good things about Donald Trump. Tell me what you wrote Charles.

I wrote he talks a good game. Things he says he's going to do for the country sound great.

Anything else?

That was the only thing I could think of.

Blake.

Improve medical choices for veterans on his first day in office. Gave them the choice to go out of their network. You've signed an executive order allowing those with terminal illnesses the right to fight. That gives them their right to go out and seek a clinical trial in the event that they didn't qualify for that criteria. Stronger military, manufacturing back to USA, strengthening border security. Biggest doubts.

Just good things right now. We're just doing good things. Edward. Good things.

I feel like he's created a motivation for people to come out and try to make a change and do something that's about the only thing good I see in him.

Gary what'd you write?

He stands up for a nation against globalist. Very important there that he's not a politician in the snake pit of them and he's awesome in his fight for restoring this country.

David. Good things about Donald Trump.

Wants to restore health or reform healthcare.

Anything else? That's it. Fred?

I said intensively attempting to boost our economy stock market and job market. He is super intense about that. That he'll do a lot to make it happen.

[inaudible 00:46:25]. Good things.

The only really good thing I could have said about him is that he's almost done out of the office.

Hank.

Making people stand up and fight for what they believe whether you disagree with him or not. It's causing people to state where they think. Not a politician, straight out. Whether that's a good thing or a bad thing doesn't matter. We needed a change and we may go somewhere else from this point but just putting politicians and again and again and again wasn't working. I do believe he believes in the country and is trying to fight for it.

What tells you that? What tells you that he believes in it and trying to fight for it?

A strong military, border security. The things he's doing I believe is in favor of the country. He thinks he's trying to do the right things. I don't always agree

with him but he stands firm in his beliefs. He doesn't give in to others. He's just not pressured into changing what he thinks and that ends up going to the system to take care of him whether that goes through or not. Then in just refreshing change that goes back to not a politician.

All right. Any other good thing?

Yeah, I was so proud and happy for him when he pulled us out of that Paris accord and that TPP. He's a man of his word. He's standing up against that globalist takeover of our country.

Any other good things that I haven't heard? How about the doubts and concerns? Tell me what you wrote for that. Charles.

He doesn't really necessarily do what he says. He talks a good game but he doesn't really follow through.

Doesn't follow through. What are you thinking of specifically when you say that? What hasn't he followed through on?

The beginning, the biggest one? I'm going to build a wall and Mexico is going to pay for it. Just things like that.

Hank. Doubts, concerns?

Speaks before he thinks and I can go along with that because I do the same thing. Doesn't consider the impact of statements that he makes and then he really expresses everything.

Why is that a problem?

Sometimes you do need to keep comments to yourself.

David? Doubts. Concerns.

Building off of what he said about his social media presence, no filter on his mouth. Some of the things he says technically a president probably shouldn't say half the things that comes out of his mouth.

How come? What? Why does that worry you?

Because technically the president is supposed to be like the most prestigious office or person that represents our country. If you sound like a moron half the time. I'm not saying I like him. Don't like him. Love him, hate him. Sometimes he sounds really stupid and he's got a huge ego. I think there's no bigger fan of Trump than himself.

He's a bigot.

A bigot.

He made a whole big problem with Hillary's emails but when his own daughter has a problem with that you didn't go off to her. It only matters to him. One I think the president should not have a Twitter account. He should not have his personal Twitter account and social media. It should be run by his cabinet so that they can filter out what he can or cannot say. Some of my doubts that I have was a second government shutdown, holding America hostage if he doesn't get his way with the whole thing was I'm going to build the wall with Mexico and that they don't pay for it I'm going to shut down the government and ending up in a nuclear war and just to see who budges first.

Fred, doubts.

I said sticking to his word. I feel like he's making more enemies than friends lately.

What tells you that?

I just feel like he's just doing a lot of things just to like ... He just we'll do it and then he doesn't really care of the repercussions after it. I feel like he's just more at this point into it to try and make up and like a big name for himself than actually making a difference.

Doubts, concerns Blake.

The twitter. You should just concentrate avoiding the conflict with the media. [inaudible 00:50:54] media is not going to like him. Most of them don't. He's unfiltered I agree with you. Some of the things that says as a president he goes a little bit too far but then again he was elected on the fact that he was different and in the fact that he says things like ... He literally sees it as it is and that's how he says it. I think a lot of people were looking for a change from being politicians that are too politically correct so to speak and that way for a long time.

Doubts, concerns, any?

Him being assassinated or suffering. The John F. Kennedy clause. Trump is very proud of this nation. There's a lot of globalist corrupt tentacles inside our country that need to be removed and he's got to be careful how he walks that walk.

Hank. Doubts, concerns. Did I hear yours?

You did. Speaks before he thinks. Doesn't [crosstalk 00:51:51] the impact.

Did I get everybody? Was there anything I haven't heard? Doubts. Concerns. Regardless of how you feel about him what's been his greatest accomplishment so far as president? What would you point to as the greatest accomplishment?

Pulling us out of that Paris accord.

Paris accord. Greatest accomplishment.

Becoming president.

Since he's been president what was-

The economy.

The economy?

David what would you say?

Yeah. I think regardless of what you always read in the papers, see on the news. Seems to me that consumer confidence is higher than it's been in a long time.

Consumer confidence, economy.

He has been putting more jobs so there [inaudible 00:52:44] with the unemployment rate and everything.

More jobs.

I will give him credit for that one.

Give him credit. Edward.

Not too much.

Not too much? Charles.

I don't know either. Afterwards a whole bunch of people that told me too that the economy got better and there was more jobs and stuff but I honestly I'd never saw it. I still don't see it. I just don't see the other jobs out there. I think it's after the stuff anyways like the unemployment rate is just who goes down and applies for unemployment pretty much. They don't come to your door and knock on your door and say how many people live in this house? Who has a job and who doesn't? It's not really accurate at all of what the employment rate is. I feel like we can just make that go up and down and say they got jobs. If you look around at all these different states that I go, and you go to regular towns there's

not really any more ... There's no new jobs and there's not really anything different than there was.

Regardless of how you feel what's the greatest disappointment you feel about Trump?

He's an embarrassment.

Embarrassment.

He's the laughingstock of the nation.

He just lies too much.

Lies. Twitter.

He's already been voted the worst president in the history.

Fred. Your disappointment. You feel about Trump?

I just feel like he's just taking too much to what he's saying on Twitter. Just keeps fighting people back and forth about stupid stuff. The president shouldn't worry about what ... I don't know. That crap.

Stop worrying about the stupid stuff.

My biggest disappointment is that he hasn't declared martial law yet. Rounded up all the corrupt politicians who have destroyed this country through their careers.

You went to see him take even more stronger action than he has.

Oh yeah.

When he was running for office he said he wanted to be a voice for forgotten Americans. How is he doing on that, voice for forgotten Americans? What was he talking about first of all? What does that mean? Fred, what does it mean?

[inaudible 00:55:02] veterans.

Veterans, okay.

Homeless.

Homeless.

Which has actually increased.

Blake, what does it mean, voice for forgotten Americans?

I think the veteran, that's a big one. I think he really has done everything he could. He certainly backs them up.

You think he's doing well on that front?

I think so yeah, absolutely.

Hank, what do you think of? Voice for forgotten Americans, what was he talking?

Same thing, vets, homeless, anybody who's just left behind. Is he doing a good job. I think anybody that wound up in that presidency is going to be so overwhelmed by everything, and be hard to just say stay focused on this. Take care of this, and because then they're going to point at you that you failed in other areas.

That's what they did with Obama.

He also-

I think it has to do with, is the attacking of the middle class. He is the voice for the middle class that's been attacked. A lot of other issues get promoted, and there's others that get left behind. It's the middle class working Americans that have been left behind.

He also talked about draining the swamp, remember that? How's he doing on that front, draining the swamp?

He's added to it if anything.

How?

Because the people who've been indicted or plead guilty to crimes they're amongst the worst of them that was there.

Draining the swamp David? How would you score how well he's doing on that?

He picks and chooses.

He picks and chooses. What do you mean?

If he has such a great thing about immigration, look at his own family. If he follows his immigration rules, his wife should be deported as well.

David, what were you going to say, training as well?

I don't know. No matter to me if you drain the swamp, there's always going to be floaters coming back up.

It's the system, right or left.

Charles, any thoughts on draining the swamp, how they're doing on that?

Once again, I don't see any of it. There's more illegals ever day. There's tons of them. I see a lot of them, so talk to. They're all over the place, man, nobody is going anywhere.

One of the things he said when he was running and he still says a lot is putting America first. How's he doing on that, putting America first?

How does he do with putting America first, and just shutting down the government? Saying screw you America.

If he doesn't get his way, he has to shutdown the government or pay over like two or three billion dollars to foreign countries and not take care of his home here with the [inaudible 00:58:06] that's going on with the school districts, [inaudible 00:58:11] all that.

Hank, putting America first, how's he doing?

I think in his mind, mentally, he believes he's putting America first in everything, I think the long-term goals are just hard to succeed. I don't care who the president is. If you're all bringing up-

How is he putting America first? What are the ways he's doing that?

In trying to watch the borders, trying to build our military, [crosstalk 00:58:32] to bring up the economy.

Putting America first, Edward, what do you think?

I think he's trying. His idea with the tariffs is that's what he thinks is good for us, but I don't ... I disagree. I think it's actually unheard of. I do think he's trying to it.

He's trying but maybe-

Not effectively.

Fred, what do you think? Putting America first, how's he doing on that?

I think it's more about what he wants or what matters to him more than about the rest of America.

All right-

Putting America first, he's pulling us out of the globalist agenda to push policies and trade treaties, and treaties in general.

That's how he's doing it?

He's standing up for our country and he's pulling us out of these global treaties which is awesome.

I don't know why some ... What? Sorry.

He acts like a bully.

He acts like a bully.

He acts like an entrepreneur bully, which that's how he is. He's like, well, if he's not going to do this, I'm going to do it my way.

I want to show you some videos of Donald Trump speaking about some issues in the news. Also we're going to look at some of his tweets. I got to get the signal back. Let's just make sure we're doing this the right order. We don't do two first.

“Over the last two years, my administration has moved with urgency and historic speed to confront problems neglected by leaders of both parties over many decades. In just over two years since the election, we have launched an unprecedented economic boom. A boom that has rarely been seen before, there's been nothing like it. We have created 5.3 million new jobs, and importantly added 600,000 new manufacturing jobs. Something which almost everyone said was impossible to do, but the fact is we are just getting started. Wages are rising at the fastest pace in decades, and growing for blue collar workers who I promise to fight for that growing faster than anyone else thought possible.”

I'm just going to separate there. Reactions, thoughts, what stands out? David.

Once again, where are those jobs?

Where are those jobs?

I feel like it was we'll create a new company and we'll get 10 CEOs around them. There we go. We got 10 more new jobs, and that's all he did. I don't really ... Where is the-

You're not feeling it.

Yeah. Where is the new motor companies and stuff they were supposed to bring in. Where are these actual jobs?

David, reactions to-

Same, what did he say? 5.3 million jobs or something like, maybe be a little more specific on what they were.

I feel like all of them are construction jobs. All the construction going on in this city. I feel like, that's like a million right there. It's insane. Every street is under construction now.

Any other thoughts?

Is that what it was? It was government working jobs?

Maybe.

That's what he gave 5 million government employees got a new title.

Let's look at one of his tweets. Flip the page to hand out two in their packets. The public ... I'm sorry [inaudible 01:02:36]. Yes it is now two. Sorry. Republicans have created the best economy in the history of our country and the hardest jobs market on planet earth. The democrat agenda is a socialist nightmare. The republican agenda is the American dream of GOP, Blake, reaction to that?

If I look at the best economy, how do I evaluate how it relates to me personally usually in a 401(K) type of account? Of course, you can argue that stock market has gone up. Yes. It has some highs and peaks, but generally it's gone up quite a bit. In regards to the jobs market, I don't necessarily see it, but I know it's out there because I see generally that there's ... In some of the areas that I work with, I can see that the turnover rate is higher which means usually the turnover rates higher because people they were leaving on seeking other jobs. I know that jobs are out there. There's a lot of construction. Bread and Costco went up in Henderson. There are jobs out there. We might not see them. I don't think they're with additional government workers, but typically. I feel good about the economy or generally positive.

What about this Democrat agenda as a socialist nightmare. How do you feel when you read that from him?

It's a scare tactics.

Scare tactic. feelings, reactions?

I don't think it needed to be in there.

Doesn't need to be in there, what does it do?

He's just putting in one group that gets the other. You say this group is better than this one.

Pitting groups against each other.

Just attacking the other half and we're all living in the same world-

I think this was politics in general though. I think every president, every senator every congressman whatever, when they get up to make a speech, they were going to highlight what they consider their high points. They're going to try to focus on negatives from the other side. He just is not eloquent in the way he does it, he comes across as a bully, he comes across as a bigot. He says it in not the greatest of ways.

It's politics as usual.

To me it's politics in general.

I'm sorry. Whenever I hear what he has to say, it reminds me of another dictator from our history where he's a great speaker. He knows how to word phrases around. In a sense, whenever he speaks or when he's talking, it sounds like he is putting this group is this group and everything else is just total shit. It really scares me to the fact that he can be someone that I'm not going to bring up, but another part of our history that was very frightened.

All right, let's watch another video. This one is pretty short so just pay attention.

"To possibly changing it, but we've had 101 or 102 all time high stock markets. Record stock markets. We have just about the best unemployment in history including the absolute best for African American Asian as you know and Hispanic. We have all of these records that we've been setting our military strong, our second amendment is good. Everything's good. Do we make it, make America great again, and we're going to go with cheers one way or the other, or do we make it keep America great? Because you have something-"

Reactions and it was pretty short, but let's just-

It's funny that he said Ford is cutting 7,000 jobs right underneath him, is he talking about the strongest economy.

I always feel like, right. He always says that he's created this created that created this. To create a new job, we've always throughout our history were

making more buildings and they're just getting some jobs. Its created job means you have to make an all new building. Make a new job. If somebody left that job in turnover rate, it needs to create a whole new job.

Other thoughts from what you saw, heard? What stood out, anything?

I just want to smack [inaudible 01:07:26] he talks.

Because he makes statements that doesn't give clear answers, he just talks to hear. He talks to hear himself speak pretty much. It's very frustrating when, it's like you could him one thing and he'll go, yeah this is great or this was a ... It's like it's not a definitive answer. He does that a lot, and he gets caught in lies a lot.

All right, flip the page. I have another tweet from him. This is [inaudible 01:07:59] three now. Thanks to Republican leadership. American is winning again. America is being respected again all over the world, because we're finally putting America first.

Again I kept putting one party over the other.

I'm just thinking about a lot, I meet a lot of foreigners and pretty much, all of them laugh about Trump being president. They don't really respect the president. They think it's a joke. They think, what's going on over here?

You don't think that America's more respected?

No. Not from the tourists and all the people from all the countries that I talked to all the time.

Edward.

I agree. I don't think so either.

Hank, what do you think?

I got to make one for a second. I think it's interesting we're talking about, we don't want to ship our jobs overseas. We don't respect the Chinese. We don't respect this. Then when it comes to, well, how do they think about our president, and I'm not arguing with that. He does come across as a bully. He does come across as very ineloquent. It's still to me he is trying to build up America in his own way, which is a refreshing change from some of the past presidents. Do I think we ought to keep going down that same path, probably not. I'd like to see us keep trying different things and getting people in there, other than just straight politicians.

Any other thoughts of this tweet or what you saw?

Political speeches are just fluff. They're usually written by speechwriters. What happens at the end of the day is what gets signed what doesn't get signed, with lobbyists wins over the other lobbyist. As far as you know, the fluff. This country has been shining star upon the world a lot of times over, and it will in the future too. Right now he is standing up. He's doing all he can with what's on this plate before him, after surviving the coup that they tried to take him out.

What's the coup you're talking about?

The coup d'etat with the Department of Justice, or the heads of Department of Justice colluded with each other to try to use a false dossier against him and all of that. All of this is going to be unfolding. It currently is. There's investigations in progress, but they did a soft coup against him. Through all that turmoil, being falsely accused for doing stuff, he still maintained the office of presidency. He has done his best to stand up for our nation. That's what's before him.

Let's watch another video.

“As we defend our jobs. We're also defending our borders. It's tough, as I said. No betrayal of American workers has been worse than the Democrat party's pursuit of open borders. They want everybody to come in, and they're coming up by the thousands, and I'll tell you why. Our border patrol, our law enforcement [inaudible 01:11:13], they work here apprehending 30, 40, 50,000 people at a time. Just in short periods of times. The laws are so bad. If you don't release them they arrest you. They arrest people that are working in law enforcement. It's a disgrace. Democrat bad policies have left our borders overwhelmed, our detention facilities overwhelmed as fast. As fast as we build up, they fill up. Our hospitals schools and public resources over burden, our country is full. We don't want people coming up here. Our country is full.”

Reactions, thoughts? Blake, let me start with you.

As it relates to boarder security, it's obviously next year. That's going to drive the next presidential election in regards to if you look at it from a security standpoint, I do think that there is a potential that people with ill intent such as a potential terrorists could cross areas of weakness, that they could cross the southern border. One of the biggest issues is regardless of the wall or no wall. I think a wall or a boundary would slow the progress of immigration. The problem is I agree with what he's saying. If you look at the ... There's a hospital right down in San Diego that's completely overwhelmed because a lot of the folks are seeking medical, which you can't blame them. They're unable to pay their bills and they disappear. The problem I think with the immigration policy as it currently is, is right now we have ... If someone comes across the border and they seek asylum, they're given a court date two years later and then they don't appear.

There's no tracing or this and that. To say that there is an impact on hospitals, there's an impact on the welfare system, there's an impact on quite a few things. Granted, and if you look at it from a personal standpoint, if I saw opportunity. If it was to better my family situation, I'd come across as well. Arguably, I think the United States has-

Let me hear from other folks, reactions here? Go ahead.

With that whole thing, I thought that with ... Okay. When we have illegal immigration coming through, all they're trying to do is do what every kind of human being on this earth is trying to do. Better themselves, or better their families for a better fresh part. What Trump wants to do is say you know what, you are fine and dandy with that but just not here. Well, they don't have really a choice to go anywhere else. It's just like segregating other kinds of groups. Then when you have families who have been in here with the court dates trying to be a citizen, they ended up having families. These kids are now US citizens. He's not trying to get them to become citizens as well. He's wanting to send them back, and just have separation of the family. Instead of just saying, hey, get out of here. Why don't we try to work on getting better to try to get people into who want to be here legally, and to make a better life-

Giving people an option to be legal citizens.

A better opportunity to be that.

Flip the page. Let's do another tweet on this issue. We have a state of emergency at our southern border. Border patrol, our military and local law enforcement are doing a great job. Without the wall which is now under a major construction, you cannot have border security. Drugs, gangs and human trafficking must be stopped. Edward reaction?

I think most of the drugs and human trafficking come through check points anyway. I don't think a wall will change that much.

Wall wouldn't change anything.

I agree. I feel the same thing.

I feel with the boarder security, I mean this. I can't just go to another country and say, hey, I'm here. I want to be part of you country. Give me some money and house. We need something. I don't think the wall is the answer.

Not the wall.

Because no matter, if you put a wall, it's just going to be another obstacle for them to try to find another way in, because they'll all come under anyway.

Fred what do you think? Do we need a wall. Would the wall work? Is that the right thing to do?

I don't think it's going to do much.

Won't do very much. David, what do you think?

I don't know. I'd just say it's a state of emergency when it's been something that's going on for years and years. I don't think that's a new [inaudible 01:16:16], bringing anything to the table. It's not a new issue. It's just the new thing to platform on.

Hank, what do you feel about the wall?

Believe it or not I agree with you completely. After our conversations, it may not seem that way. I wish he would read speeches prepared by other people, or have other people prepare what he's going to say. Listen to other people tailor what he says, because when a lot of people read this. What they think is he just wants to put up the wall and keep everybody out. I believe, and I could be completely wrong. I believe he does want to help people come in legally. When he's stating it this strongly and stating it as emergency and using this kind of language, it comes across that. I hate what he said about we're full. No, we're not full. When you're trying to stop the illegals and help the legals, and it's coming across that all you're doing is focusing on keeping the illegals out. That trying to help the legals doesn't come across any.

What about if they have their families who have started their families who are now US citizens, and he's separating families to push that out because they're not-

That's the same thing-

He's not trying to help them.

That's the same thing I was trying to say earlier. Is that we start off with a basic simple concept, and then over the years, because this has been happening for years and years and years. We have to try to modify and adjust and adapt and handle different situations. I know some border patrol agents who have told me stories of things that goes on at the border. It's not all the people who just want to try to improve their family unfortunately.

Yeah, of course.

There are people who makes in. Unfortunately, regardless of how you try to handle that, some of the good people are going to get affected, and some of the bad people are still going to make [crosstalk 01:18:16]. I do think he's trying to do the right thing, but in the way he presents things, the message is totally off.

Let's watch one more video.

"We're having a little problem with China because we've been treated very unfairly for many, many decades or actually a long time. It should have been held a long time ago. It wasn't and we'll handle it now. I think it's going to be ... I think it's going to turn out extremely well we're in a very strong position. We are the piggy banks and everybody likes to take advantage of or take from and we can't let that happen anymore. We've been losing for many years anywhere from 300 billion to \$500 billion a year with China and trade with China. We can't let that happen. The relationship I have with president Xi is extraordinary. It's really very good. He's for China and I'm from the USA and it's very simple. We are again in a very, very strong position. If they want to make a deal, it could absolutely happen.

"In the mean time, a lot of money is being made by the United States. A lot of strength is being shown. This has never happened in China before. Our economy is fantastic. There's just not so good. We've done up trillions and trillions of dollars since the election. They've gone way down since my election."

All right, reactions, thoughts that stood out there.

I want slap him, I'm sorry. The way he was answering. He states a generalized statement that can be factual over time, and then he makes it his own. It's like it's not a definitive way of here we answer. He goes, yes I like this thing. The way he stated it is just like he states facts that he's researched, and that makes it his own.

Some of the reactions.

I love it. That's a businessman, not a politician. He's talking about business optics right there. A whole lot of corrupt politicians before him were sellouts. Chinese always benefited on that. He's in there to clean up that mess with his business background.

Blake, your reaction?

I understand why he's doing it, because I realized that China is not ... The deal between China is not fair. Right now that it's not balanced. There has to be a change. There has to be changed to bring back fairness in the game. I understand. Does he present it well? That's his downfall, because I can't disagree with you. Sometimes you wish that, I think he would benefit if he had someone to possibly help him out with some of his speeches, and the way he presents it would be different.

All right, let's read one more tweet. [inaudible 01:21:30] five. Our great patriot farmers will be one of the biggest beneficiaries of what is happening now.

Hopefully, China will do us the honor to continue to buy our grain farm product the best. If not, your country will be making up the difference based on a very high China buy.

The farming situation has been a rough one from what I've looked into with farmers here in America.

Where have you heard, seen, read?

Just the way it works with them buying the seeds through Monsanto, and it just ... Then wants their product. They don't know what their product's going to be worth until it's grown. Then once it's grown, it can be changed. It just seems like the farmers aren't doing that well. It doesn't seem like. It seems there's a really risky business for how much money they put in. I don't know. It seems like almost all our food that's grown here is all freaking Monsanto poisoned GMO food anyway. Why not grow it somewhere else if they're going to grow all natural food?

Thoughts about this tweet, David.

You can come back to me in a second.

Anything stand out Fred?

It's interesting that he says a lot of this because when he starts smacking on a bunch of tariffs with everything, that really affects a lot of the farms. I listened to a podcast about, there's one about corn. How the price of it was just going to go way up for them. They were just ... There really are going to break even a lot of farmers, and that I think it's interesting that he's [inaudible 01:23:09].

Do you think he's done a good job for farmers, or is he hurting the farmers?

I haven't looked too much into it. No. I wouldn't know.

Anybody have a sense?

I don't really know either. I think he's been trying to do something to help them and do different stuff, but just like everything else he's been trying to do, he hasn't really followed through or completed any of them yet. They're just ideas thrown in the air that sound good.

All right, I want to ask you about some other names and people in the news. Don't click yet because we'll do that next one in a second. When you think about Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell, what do you think of?

Talking head.

Talking head. Any other impressions of him.

Don't know enough about it.

Don't know enough about it.

I don't know much.

Any sense Hank. Don't really know him very well.

He looked like he was going to stand up to Trump, but then he backed him so he's a sell out.

Look like he's going to stand up to him. Mitch McConnell, thoughts?

Whoever, the highest paying lobbyist is behind, but as far as it goes, he's on the other side, the Republican side. He's going to help Donald somewhat, unless he gets threatened.

Blake, any thoughts on Mitch McConnell?

Just that traditional typical politician that happens to fall on the Republican side of the fence in regards to ... It seems like he distances himself from Trump at some points, and he gets closer at some points. I don't think he's really polarized the Republican Party all that well. Then I think he also has to be cautious because Trump is so different than any other ... He's not a politician, he's different than any other person ever elected.

When you think about the House of Representatives now, over a hundred newly elected women and it's now controlled by Democrats. What do you think about the House of Representatives now?

I like it.

You like it? Edward?

Optimistic about it.

Optimistic, how come?

American subpoena information, try to get some more Robert Mueller's documents and some of the other stuff. Actually turn it over to the public to see it.

Charles.

I'm optimistic too, because over history a lot of women, presidents and governors wives and stuff like that have actually done a lot of great things in the world.

Hank, what about you, House of Representatives?

I go back to this. This is all normal. We change every two years. We rotate people in. We rotate people at one time one side is ahead and the other side. It's all a matter of checks and balances. In the same way that I think a change to Trump was refreshing because he's different. I think it changed to the house, to the senate, to anything. When you've got different types of people, different cultures whatever. It's all good as a refreshing change.

What about speaker of the house, Nancy Pelosi? Blake?

I think she's getting out, I don't know. I'll hold for now.

Don't hold back. Just tell me what you're thinking.

I don't know. I-

Just say it. It's okay.

I think she's lost it.

Lost it.

I think she's trying. I think she's not ... Possibly not the sharpest tool in the shed for the Democratic Party in the majority.

Poster child, for term limits. How's that?

Yes, that pretty much sum it up? If anybody to have in that position, I think they certainly could probably get someone else. Maybe speak-

Fred, any thoughts on Nancy Pelosi?

I do not.

David, anything?

Nothing nice.

What do you think?

I just think she's poisonous.

Poisonous.

Too cautious.

Too cautious.

I like her, but I think we should be stronger on some certain issues.

She definitely could use a mental checkup.

What makes you say that?

I'll put it that way. If you've ever heard some of her speeches in that, she can't even talk. She can't even get the words out. She didn't even know who the current president was. She's boarder line dementia and stuff like that. She could use a mental health checkup, but she is-

Were those real videos you saw, or fake videos?

No, the real ones.

She's a politician.

[crosstalk 01:28:08] and sometimes I agree with you. I'm in the same step. I almost think anybody who gets into politics needs their head examined. I don't care which side they're from.

Let me throw out some more names. Joe Biden. Joe Biden, any thoughts. Like him, don't like him.

I like him, he's solid but he's not, once again not as strong as I'd like to see him. I'd like to see more universal healthcare, more free education in college. I don't think he's quite there.

David, Joe Biden?

Past, he's past his time.

Just squeaking by.

Just squeaking by.

Just there.

Charles.

I don't know. I don't really have anything.

Blake, what do you think, Joe Biden?

I think he's too middle of the road for the Democratic Party.

Too middle of the road.

Yeah, I agree.

I think that he's going to lose his lead.

Do you think so?

Or he's going to change, or he's going to change his own policies that he's had for a long time too.

How about Bernie Sanders?

Solid.

Solid. You like him, or don't like him?

No.

How come?

All of his freebie this, freebie that, not in it, not feeling that.

Hank, thoughts-

I agree with David, 100%.

Fred, Bernie Sanders?

He just needs to retire.

Needs to retire, [inaudible 01:29:36]?

I've liked him, but he is too old for his [inaudible 01:29:43].

Too old, go ahead.

I was going to say, well, one other thing. I thought he was somewhat decent. I haven't liked all of his ideas before. What turned, like really soured me on him was last election when all that stuff came out, and he was getting slammed on. He was a little coward and backed away and got stepped all over and still backed Clinton anyways. Even though the worm and the weasel were together and then he got left behind. He's raised his hand for anything. He's a schmuck.

How about Elizabeth Warren?

I like her too.

Like her.

She's [inaudible 01:30:28] Bernie Sanders.

She seems okay.

Seems okay?

Yeah.

what do you know about her or what's your impression?

Don't know enough about her.

Don't know enough, Hank, any thoughts?

She seems to be looking at things in different ways, and coming up with unique ways of attacking people or trying to come up with new ideas. They're again very political.

Very political Blake, Elizabeth Warren?

I honestly don't know a lot about her, and the fact that she wants an universal welfare for all is that one of her stances?

The living wage I think.

I think that's what it ... I haven't really followed it. There's too many candidates on that side. Right now I want to wait till they narrow it down to about 10 then I'll start paying attention.

All right, fair enough. Just going to throw one more name and then we can explore openly, but Pete Buttigieg, you may know who he is.

He's all right too, but I don't think he's going to have a good shot at it.

One other shot.

He could, but I just don't see him really making an impression with the Democrats the way some of the others are.

Anybody else know him? Have any impressions?

I've heard the name, but I can't-

He's the mayor from-

Shit. Where was he from again?

He's the gay candidate. He's the only gay one running I believe.

Anybody know? Does that ring a bell?

I don't know.

I've heard he's intelligent, or he speaks intelligent. I've never [inaudible 01:31:58].

Who is standing out of that big field. There's so many running. I'm not going to pay attention for a while. Any names in that field standing out Democrats you paying any attention?

I like Bernie and Elizabeth.

Bernie and Elizabeth. Don't know enough yet. Hank, who do you think is going to come out of it?

Biden seems to be just barely ahead of the pack.

I think a lot of that is just name recognition from Obama. I think the debates play out. I think that will change. I think he'll lose.

In politics all of that plays a role.

It definitely does. A lot of people will just see the name and look for a name.

Gary, you said anybody, but a Democrat. Who do you think is going to come up in that big democratic field?

I don't know. I just don't pay attention to it because they're anti-America in the agenda, and they're immersed over with that. They talk a good emotional plea, but underneath what they have in store is not good for our country.

Fred. Any thoughts on who might come out of the Democratic field?

I have no idea.

No idea?

No idea.

All right, so the next thing I want you to do is flip the page for me to handout six, there's some short paragraphs here. These are some reasons why people are concerned about Donald Trump. Regardless of how you feel about him, I want you to start two of them that you find most concerning. Star two that you find most concerning on this list.

They're all very concerning for me.

Pick two you find most concerning. Everybody star two or you need more time. All right, once everybody gets their two, I'm going to go down the list and ask you to just raise your hand so we can do a little hand count and figure out which if any stand out. Anybody choose, A? Raise your hand one, two, three, three on A. How about B, any Bs? No one picked B. Cs, one, two Cs. Ds, one, two, three, four Ds. E, one, two, three Es. Four Es.

Four.

Okay and F, one, two, three F. It looks like D and E edge out. A and F. D, is he pledged to drain the swamp, but his cabinet is full million dollar campaign donors with a record number of Wall Street bankers. Why did four of you choose that one? That's ones worry or a concern about Donald Trump. Anyone, go ahead.

Just the same old business as usual, but that's politics so that's not the most shocking thing on earth.

He does not running it as politics. He's running it as a business. He wants people who will be in line with him to fill in those gaps. Look at all the other cabinet leaders who went against him, and look where they ended up. They either resigned or that he forced them out.

That's politics. Friends of friends get taken care of, the other ones get lumped out.nothing new.

If we're in a government that has to hear from both sides of the way, he's losing a lot of the people who were fighting against him to try to make it better. They would agree, but they still have their own believes so then he's not willing to listen to them.

How about B? He promised zero cuts to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, but he supported healthcare plans to drastically cut Medicaid. Four people chose that one too. Why did that one standout. Someone who chose E?

Where he said now, he and the Republicans are planning cuts to Medicare and Social Security to pay for the trillion dollar increase in deficit from their tax cut. That's concerning. Because this country ... There's something that was

involuntarily taken out of our paychecks. That is not up to government to pay the welfare of Medicare and Social Security. Government should have no say about that crap.

Thank you. I agree. I'm sorry, but when did he decided to do that government shutdown, I have a lot of my family friends who were hit dramatically against that. I had friends that were very close to me lose their homes. Lose their source of income because he did that shutdown. Now he's going to try to take out Medicaid and Social Security, there are people who depend on that, who live off of that.

Someone else who picked E? Who else picked E? Charles.

I find it difficult because he's always saying about how he's going to ... That Obamacare is such a travesty and so bad, and that he's going to make it better. Then he does stuff like this to make it ... Makes things even worse. Didn't even make it any better. How would that help anybody?

All right. Flip the page for me to handout seven if you would. This is a statement from one of the Democratic candidates whose running this year, or the 2020 for the 2020 nominations. Just read it. As you read it, underline anything that stands out to you. Any words or phrases that really pop out to you. Then we'll talk about it.

I just underline all of it?

It's obviously burning.

Edward, what stood out? You though it seemed like Bernie. How come?

Well, it his stance on pretty much all of it. To tax the ultra rich. I know people are always like, we shouldn't tax they're creators. If you go back to like Roosevelt, and Eisenhower they were getting taxed up to like 90%. He's not even talking about that much. Honestly, most of those people who are in business that use our roads, our employees that were educated in our systems, they shouldn't be paying back into that Social Security or in our social network for everyone.

David, what stood out for you?

One of the things I thought was funny that I underlined was corruption coming from a Democratic candidate. Not that it doesn't ... Not that it's not relative to both sides, but that's funny to me and then the whole extra taxes. I'm a firm believer in the flat tax. If you make a million bucks, if you make that one flat rate, everybody pays their fair share. Because if you make more you're going to pay more anyways. Why are you harming people that make more? Because it's not fair, well, then you need to work a little harder to get to that spot. If that's

what you think is a fair wage. Then I believe you just need to work harder to achieve that slot.

Fred, anything that stood out for you?

I could bring to take it from a higher down because it's not fair for you.

I don't [inaudible 01:41:30] the make it a historic investment in housing that would bring down rents by 10% across America, and create 1.5 million new jobs. I think that's pretty important. In fact, it's getting crazy.

Hank, anything stood out for you?

All of it does a little. It still comes across as politics, and talking about things that I'm sure they would try and they'd succeed in some other, not succeed at others.

What do you like best in here? What stands out the most to you?

Like best, or just what stands out? Because I agree with the whole millionaire thing of I'm a fan of flat tax and everybody paying an equal percentage. I know they didn't all, or that I didn't say earlier that they all earned their way, but it's the same thing. Some of them did. Some of them didn't. You end up punishing those that really did work for it, or gifting those that didn't work for it. Regardless of what system you use. Even if we go to a flat tax bill, the next year somebody's going to have a rule to modify it. Then somebody else is going to have a rule to modify that. It's going to go right back to where it was. Plans like this, they're just ... I don't think anything's really ever going to work, being honest.

I love that we can start by ending lobbying, nobody in [inaudible 01:43:01] without lobbying. They're not going to end the robbing. This is just a political fluff whoever said that. Down payments on a new green deal. How green is this deal to those that are pushing us? It's not good for us. It's funny how they say down payments on this new green deal. How scary is that?

Blake, anything stood out for you?

Just the Medicare for all or just wish ... I don't think that's a good thing.

How come?

Again, going back to a quality of healthcare, I don't want to be told what I would qualify for or whatnot.

All right, flip the page for me. I have another one for you to read, another candidate. Same thing. Underline anything that stands out for you.

(silence).

Charles, let me start with you on this one. Anything stand out? What's that saying to you?

I underlined that the middle class is hurting in America today. I don't totally agree with what this is saying here. I'm not necessarily for Trump, but I think based on how it's ending is saying that ... Being there is going to change the world or whatever. It doesn't matter who it is. No matter who's president, things are going to change. We can't see the future of who's going to do what and what's going to change for them.

[inaudible 01:45:56] what stood out for you there?

[inaudible 01:46:01] what he said that he will have, he will forever [inaudible 01:46:04] changing the nation. We don't know what he's going to do in the index term if he does. Maybe he will be able to make some changes like ... Because the first couple of years that he had is trying to fix whatever was done by the previous president. This sounds because now that he's tried to fix it, now he can implement what other things. Maybe he can [inaudible 01:46:28] change, who knows. All I know is that we don't know. It's going to change regardless. Whether it's with him or someone else. It's just going to be the same cycle, because then one has a different opinion.

Blake, what stood out for you?

The same as Charles regards to ... About the middle class is hurting in America today. It's a strong comment. I think middle class has always been hurting regardless of what party is in there.

All right, so what I want you to do now is between these two paragraphs that you just read. Candidate one, candidate two, handout seven, handout eight, pick one of them that comes closest to your view. I know maybe neither one of them speaks to you, but which one is closer to your view or which one do you like better of the two if you had to choose between these two? Put a star or circle one of them so you can tell me which one comes closer to your views.

I bet these are fun focus groups on political discussion.

How many people picked candidate one in handout seven? Raise your hand, one, two, three four. That means three ... Are we eight?

We're eight.

We're eight, so there should be four on eight. Raise your hand on eight. How interesting. It's totally divided. Tell me why. Let's talk about candidates one first. Who are the four who chose seven, one, two three. How come, Charles?

Because I feel that most of our problems in the world today have to do with money and this is trying to fix a lot of those problems. Even the problem with global warming or pollution or whatever you want to put it in, is once again, the rich companies they're wanting more money. That's why they're dumping the stuff there. It's not illegal to go dump in the ocean. Then a lot of the problems with the lower and middle class is because they don't have enough money. By fixing that problem, it would fix a lot of problems to do with the world I really think.

Edward, why candidate one here?

For a lot of reasons I think education is so important. A lot of the poor people don't have opportunities, never make it to college. If they have this, they have actually a chance of bettering themselves and moving on up.

Fred, why this one?

I just agreed with a lot more things with this than the other one.

Was there something about the other one you didn't like?

About number eight?

Yeah. Eight or candidate two.

I didn't like how he was saying the country was not built by Wall Street and bankers. That's I think, completely full. A lot of the country was.

I think what they are meaning to say is, when you read through it is, it was funded by them, but we the people that they paid us we built it. That's what I took it when I read it. It's like, but it was definitely somebody had to pay for it and fund it. We didn't fund it. The middle class didn't pay for it.

[Aster 00:49:37], why a candidate one for you?

Because it's not putting both sides against each other. That it's putting everyone together as one. Giving everyone the opportunity to better themselves however they want to be able to do this. The person that doesn't want to work as hard, they still get something, but it could always give them the chance to prove. Whereas the ones that are trying, but still not getting what they want to be able to push, it can help them out. A big thing that [inaudible 01:50:15] was that student loan cap relief. Because I know there are a lot of people out there who are suffering because they have that debt on their shoulders, so they can't get homes. They can't get different things for them to succeed better.

For those of you who picked candidate two, talk to me about why. Blake, why, why-

Can I ask him a question really quick. I'm not attacking, we're all buddies here whatever. Do you think there's a difference between student loan debt and credit card debt?

Yes, absolutely.

I don't. That's what I don't get is that why can't you file bankruptcy for student loan debt? But, you can for credit card debt.

Fred, if you agree to terms on something when the bill comes due, you're liable for it. To me it's like [inaudible 01:51:06], then don't do it.

You're saying don't take the loans basically.

Yeah. Do something else.

Because if all these people have these college degrees and they can't find a job, why go do it if you know you're going in spending \$80,000 [crosstalk 01:51:18] for a higher degree, and you know when you get out you're going to have \$80,000 in debt and you can only get \$10 an hour job or you decided McDonald's should pay 15, for getting the burger. Then why are you going down that path when you know this is going to be the job for you when you're coming out and you won't be able to afford it? To me that's not planning.

[crosstalk 01:51:39] debt is still an option.

Right.

My daughter is headed to college right now, and that's one of the things she's having to take into consideration is do I take out a student loan? It's like she can see the numbers herself and is already like this doesn't make sense to me.

These are people trying to better their life and go to school to better their life. They're in debt no matter what they have to pay it back. Credit cards you can just go in and say, let's just go fucking blow it. Then file bankruptcy and I don't have to pay it.

You're not bettering yourself and you don't have to pay for the mistake or just the money you took and you just went and blew it. The people that are trying to better themselves are now stuck in all of this.

[crosstalk 01:52:20] not even just, to answer your question David. It's not even just that, a lot of students nowadays with the way that their degrees that are going through don't mean jack shit in the economy.

100% agree with that.

They've now just paid for a nice shiny piece of paper. Now they have to go ahead and work even harder or work more just to try to get those off, and the degree means nothing.

Well, I think that's what David is saying is like, maybe they shouldn't go to college.

Common sense.

Yeah, but they are [crosstalk 01:52:55].

That's a little different than ... I know everybody has different backgrounds and everything, but my sister is probably about 70,000 bucks in debt in college, and she's happy because Obama is going to try and erase it or so and so was going to try and give it for free. I'm not going to have to pay it back. We don't see eye on this subject. At the same time she kept changing her general degree, changing this, changing that. She didn't have a clear plan to go from here to here. She just went to college, racked it all up.

All right, I need to just pull us in and get a sense from those of you who chose candidate two. What stood out for you? Why candidate two? Now I'm trying to remember. David, you were one who chose candidate two, correct.

Yeah.

Tell me why. What was the main thing that made this one more appealing than the other one?

[inaudible 01:53:43] was some decent talking points on it, but as a whole it was built by you. This is more of like a build up America thing. Not so much as, we want this for this. We want free universal healthcare. We want universal ... This is like, "Hey, let's get America on path and-

Blake, why [crosstalk 01:54:01]?

I think with a politician I consider myself lower middle class. I think when the politician addresses middle class it's just more personal to me.

Hank.

Basically the same thing, you said I didn't have to like either one of them and I'm going to hold by that statement. The first one was just more politically voiced, whereas the second one had a more general, even though it was political, had a more general personal tone to it.

Got it. Gary, how about you?

There's a little bit of truth in their where he's saying that the middle class is hurting in America today. Powerful forces or forces of the politicians as well as Donald Trump, there are forces above them.

Flip the page for me to hand out nine. You do not have to write full sentences, let me remind you, and we're not going to actually discuss this one, but I still want you to be thoughtful about it. This is a chance to write a note to president Trump, anything at all that you want to say to him. Again, it doesn't have to be full sentences, but take your time here.

(silence).

Keep writing if you need more time. If you're done, if you're done with the next and last handout. Just check one of those boxes after you read those instructions. You can pass those, packets into [inaudible 01:57:16]. Thank you all so much. Really appreciate it. It was great talking to you. Hope it was enjoyable for you too. Stop and get a token of my appreciation on the way out. Thank you very, very much. Good night.

Thank you. We just leave our name tags and stuff in there?

Yeah, you can just leave the name tags

Thank you, it's been my pleasure.

Good night.