

# THREE THINGS: HEY YOU, MR./MS./MX. PISSED-OFF

[NB: Check the byline, thanks. /~Rayne]

I get it. You're furious, *en fuego*, royally pissed off. You've traveled through shock and traversed anger, raging for days now since Attorney General Bill Barr issue that POS four-page letter chock full of holes big enough to drive a 40-foot dry van through again and again.

And now you've hit bottom, burned out and blue having reached another stage in the grieving process.

We all know this isn't the end of it, no matter how much gaslighting and abuse the White House, its proxies, the right-wing horde, and asshats like David fucking Brooks spew. You know what you saw in the speaking indictments, plea agreements, and sentencing memos produced over the last two years.

We all know who 'Individual 1' is no matter how much he and his myriad minions and handlers would like us to forget his role as an unindicted co-conspirator who denied the public the right to know the truth about his past during the 2016 election.

At least one conspiracy to defraud the American public is right there spelled in black and white under our noses, and again in congressional records as part of Michael Cohen's testimony before the House. Trump worked with Cohen to lie to the voting American public, violating campaign finance laws in doing so.

"If the people don't have the facts, democracy doesn't work," as Judge Amy Berman Jackson told former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort during his sentencing hearing, another liar Trump brought into his team, allowing Manafort to change the Republican's platform on Ukraine

without a wide and open discussion among conservatives about it.

Trust your eyes and ears. You're right to be angry and disappointed. Take a deep cleansing breath in and center yourself, feel that righteous burn of indignation, then let out the poison.

And then take another deep breath, roll up your sleeves, grab your phone, and let's kick some ass.

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**What:** Barr didn't confine himself to his four-page POS summary on Sunday. Oh no. He had to make it really fucking personal for a huge swath of Americans by refusing to allow the DOJ to defend the Affordable Care Act. From the ABA Journal:

The DOJ's new stance would strike down additional provisions that allow children to have coverage on their parents' policies until age 26 and that guarantee "essential health benefits" such as mental health, maternity and drug coverage. The stance also would eliminate an expansion of Medicaid and free preventive services for people on Medicare.

Quite literally Americans could die because of this move.

**Needed:**

- Call your representatives and tell them you support the current ACA legislation in the absence of a better, Medicare for All replacement.
- Ask your reps to do what's necessary to ensure the DOJ fulfills its mission to enforce the laws of this country, which at this time includes ACA.

You can see Barr is now setting a precedent for a unilateral executive branch which can pick and choose the laws it will enforce in spite of precedent backing existing laws. This can't go any further.

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~ 2 ~

**What:** Betsy 'Multi-Yacht' Devos decided disabled Americans do not merit an opportunity to achieve; she's proposed ending funding for Special Olympics.

That shallow, stupid wretch has no real idea what Special Olympics means to the disabled, especially children and their parents. One of my family members has worked for more than a decade at a Special Olympics camp, spending weeks with children who otherwise wouldn't be able to go to camp like abled children. The kids meet other kids like themselves, make new friends, learn new skills, hone their physical abilities, begin to see themselves as capable of so much more. And their parents get a much-needed respite from caring for children who may need around-the-clock monitoring.

But as the former director of the Office of Government Ethics says, the cruelty is the point. Devos is Cruella De Ville who will kill puppies for their coats given the chance. Pro-life, my foot; she cares not a whit what life is like for the disabled after birth.

She quite literally wants to axe Special Olympics and take the money to give to charter schools, which fail at around 25% rate. The money she will steal from the disabled will literally go down a rat hole and nobody except the charter school profiteers will benefit from this scam.

In fact the amount we spend as taxpayers providing additional support to Special Olympics could be offset easily if Trump spent four less weekends at his golf courses on our dime.

There are those who argue it's really Trump who insisted on this cut and DeVos is merely is grunt doing the scut work of hurting the disabled. Sure – but a person whose values are genuinely aligned with caring for fellow humans would have told Trump to stick this sidewise and quit their post instead.

The chances of this proposal passing the House are slim to none, especially after DeVos was grilled by Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI) on Tuesday, but it's a line in the sand we should draw.

**Needed:** Call your members of Congress in both houses and let them know this kind of cruelty to disabled Americans is unacceptable and it will not fix the inherent problem of making schools into privatized profit centers with an unacceptably high rate of failure.

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~ 1 ~

**What:** Acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt is appearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee as Trump's corrupt nominee for Interior Secretary.

If you have a moment or two, watch for the swamp monster – the one in the green mask sitting behind Bernhardt, not Bernhardt (because when you've seen one of the fleshy pink swamp monsters, you've seen many).

**Needed:** This guy is selling out our national resources. Call your senators and tell them hell no on this dirtbag, we don't need another swamp monster helming the Interior Department.

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**Don't forget to check your phone's battery charge. Get calling!**

This is an open thread, by the way.