



Your Vote Matters

By Father John Catoir, JCD - Aug. 15, 2016

As a US citizen, and a veteran who served in the military during the Korean War, I feel the need to exercise my constitutional right to freedom of speech. With your permission here goes.

In 1776 many European social scholars predicted that the American experiment would fail. They assumed the people would only elect public officials who promised them most generous handouts, and this would inevitably lead to bankruptcy.

Were they wrong? Our national debt has been on the rise for decades; it's now over \$20 Trillion and climbing. Either we change our direction, or those early prophecies of gloom and doom will surely come true.

The American experiment is being strangled to death by secularism, and the drug subculture. There is a direct connection between our current drug epidemic, and the rejection of religious values. Richard Nixon, in the late sixties said, "America's number one enemy is drug abuse." Since then it has only gotten worse.

Think about it, secularism is a rebellion against the moral principles of faith-based religions. Unfortunately, this approach has led to widespread self-centered behavior. The drug sub-culture thrives on unbridled freedom. Religion on the other hand, promotes submission to God's will, self-control, and love of neighbor; virtues which require self-discipline.

Secularism leads to self-indulgence, and eventually death. Google reports that 200,000 Americans died of the illicit use of drugs last year. If you add in the deaths due to alcoholism, and the abuse of prescription drugs, that figure more than doubles.

Also, considering that the 23 year period between the Korean and Vietnam Wars produced about 87,000 combat-related deaths, today's figure of 500,000 drug related deaths a year, is staggering.

In a speech to the Woman's World Summit, on April 4, 2015, Hillary Clinton said, "Deep seated religious beliefs have to be changed." The secular press immediately took up her cause.

Our founding fathers coined the phrase: "One nation under God". They risked their lives to found the American dream on spiritual truths: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men (and women) are created equal." Like George Washington, they called on God's Providence to guide and protect them.

Sadly, we have become a nation steeped in addictions of all kinds. Lies and injustices abound in the highest realms of government. Do you have any doubts that the next election is about change? We are in a struggle between protectionism and globalism, between safe-borders and open borders; between pro-life and pro-abortion forces; between secularism and religious values.

We need a Congress that works for the people. Our Congress no longer responds faithfully to the will of the electorate. This is disheartening. They answer more quickly to lobbyists and special interests groups, and their votes seem to be bought and paid for. We need change.

Young people came out in droves to support an outsider, and learned the hard way that the system is rigged. Vote in November, but do not stay at home, that will be the same as giving your support to the status quo.

Next November the people will decide the fate of the American experiment. Don't leave it to others. Vote and pray for the future of America.

May the Lord be your strength and your guide. The stakes are high, but we are the land of the free and the home of the brave. With the help of God, we can turn this around.