

AL GORE: AN AMERICAN ENIGMA

By Al Woodson

During the next two months, the American people are in for a display of duplicity and hypocrisy rarely seen in history. Presidential candidate Al Gore is making the same old promises that he and Clinton made in 1992 and 1996, but have failed to keep while in office. He continues to employ the classic "ends justify the means," say anything to elevate himself to the presidency. It's obvious that Gore and the Democrats will stop at nothing to win the White House. With the help of a partisan press that hides facts, distorts reality and favors the liberal view of representative democracy, Mr. Gore will be depicted as a "middle-of-the-roader;" a "New Democrat," not unlike a "moderate Republican."

Nothing could be further from the truth. Al Gore is not a "middle-aged Boy Scout," a champion of women or a rambling Don Quixote for the environment. He is a true American enigma of changing suits, phoney claims and one of the most hard-core "left wingers" ever to occupy the office of Vice President. Incredible as it seems, he cannot be trusted to tell the truth any better than Bill Clinton.

It's all a matter of character and credibility. Beginning with Gore saying his father lost his Senate seat because he voted in favor of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Actually, the senior Gore voted against the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Gore told the New York Times that he had backed a sweeping campaign reform bill sponsored by Senators John McCain, R-Ariz., and Russel D. Feingold, D-Wisc., "I was a co-sponsor of it," Gore said. The problem? Gore left the Senate in 1992 and Feingold did'nt come to the Senate until 1993 -- hello, is something amiss here? Same subject, in an appearance on "Meet The Press" with Dill Bradley, who complained that the Clinton/Gore White House had done nothing to back campaign finance reform in 1993, Gore said, "because all the Republicans voted against it, but we got every single Democratic Senator to vote for it." Wrong again; Republicans didn't gain control of the Senate until 1994. In 1993 the Democrats were a majority so if every Democrat had voted for campaign finance reform, it would have passed! Honest mistake? -- Yeah, right....Bradley's response, "If you can't tell the truth as a candidate Al, how can the American people expect you to tell the truth as president?"

Did Gore overstate his role in the military? The evidence indicates that he did. He told the Washington Post in 1988 that while he was in Vietnam, "I was shot at...I spent most of my time in the field." In 1999 he said, "I carried an M-16...I pulled my turn on the perimeter at night and walked through the elephant grass, and I was fired upon." Pure hogwash, according to his "bodyguard" Alan Leo, a veteran photographer of the press brigade assigned to protect him, accompanied the "sheltered" Gore on his six "walks" into the field. Leo described them as cakewalks during which we "could have worn tuxedos."

Gore's "truth deficit" continues. At an April 1996 Buddhist monastery event organized by John Huang and Maria Hsia, monks and nuns, who had taken vows of poverty, wrote personal checks amounting to \$140,000 to the Democratic National Committee, after which the monastery illegally reimbursed them. Gore called it a "community outreach event" and denied "any wrongdoing." Later, as evidence unfolded, Gore claimed the event was not a "fundraiser" but acknowledged it as a "finance-related event," or a "donor maintenance" event. Finally, under pressure of the facts, Gore admitted that the event was a "mistake," but still not a "fundraiser." Gore's responses reveals the classic Clintonian pattern in defense of wrongdoing. The outright lie - followed by the partial admission - followed by the semantic escape. Maria Hsia was convicted in federal court and hauled off to jail. Al Gore is still "at large."

Caught making illegal fundraising phone calls from the White House. Gore declared, "There is no controlling legal authority or case that says that there was any violation of law." Janet Reno, the administration's chief enabler, judged Gore was just raising "soft" money not "hard" cash for the DNC. Gore claimed he had used a DNC credit card while making the calls, but it was revealed that he used a card issued by the Clinton/Gore campaign committee. Strangely, some of the soft money he raised ended up in the Clinton/Gore "hard" bank account. Like Clinton, it seems, Al Gore is exempt from the rule of law.

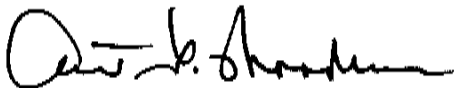
There's a lot more but, the above is proof enough that the Vice President's lying borders on the pathological. He has spent a lifetime preparing to be President of the United States, but as a slumlord is unable to fix a leaky toilet in Tennessee. How can he be expected to fix Social Security or reform Medicare? It's obvious he can't and he won't, as Al Gore is totally unfit for the job.

Al Gore's class warfare campaign calls upon groups of Americans to declare war on other Americans, the ones he promises to lead the fight to protect: old people from greedy drug companies, criminals from brutal cops, homosexuals from the Boy Scouts, the educational system from vouchers, pregnant teens from their parents, school children from God, blacks from equal treatment, a woman's choice from the pro-life extremists and Democrats from the Constitution and the Rule of Law. If Gore's war can't be won through legislation or court cases then, as President, there's always Executive Orders to rule the country with.

It should be clear to all thinking Americans that George W. Bush represents the best hope to restore truth and honor to the Presidency. Bush is a man of integrity and vision. He is a leader for all of us to rally around because he is dedicated to bedrock conservative principles of smaller government, tax relief for those Americans who pay the taxes and reform the educational system to the benefit of all children. After eight years of lies, deceit, scandals, negative attacks, the radical liberal proposals must be put behind us. Elect George W. Bush and all of America will rejoice at the return of honesty, integrity and respect to the White House.

Sources: Houston and Fava, The American Conservative Union; Bowles, the Conservative Chronicle

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