

Republican 'cause' is evil

The Republican Party through Trump wants us to "stay true to our cause," but they fail to mention what their cause is. Let me help:

They've re-empowered and expanded a culture of rape and racism and pushed for walls so we can hide in fear from the rest of existence. They've actively and joyfully attacked our only source of food, water, air and shelter (the physical environment) for their own gluttonous, economic reward and turned up the heat for wars so they can profit even more. They're busy trying to destroy every last vestige of our democratic institutions and installing fascism in all its ugliness.

These are just a very few examples of their cause. The Trump-McConnell-Republican political party has, with exuberance, turned its back on our children's future and is merrily busy trying to return every last evil of the mid-1900s.

Trump's "cause" is definitely not my cause. Trump's "cause" is that of rapists and racists and gluttonous people. Trump's "cause" is the destruction of the very systems we depend on for life just so they can make a few bucks. Trump's "cause" is a militaristic, authoritarian government run by the filthy rich for the filthy rich.

If you're reading this and saying "yeah, but," then you are just as guilty of enabling as those that say "I'm a Trump-McConnell-Republican" in word or action.

I have a much better cause with a future for the kids.

*Rama Schneider
Williamstown*

Alternate president

The news was filling my frayed neural receptors with images of

the bullet-proof barrier being erected for Der Furher for his jubilee. Luckily, my consciousness rose to the occasion and presented me with an alternate reality:

A president removing the prison-like conditions of migrants seeking the liberty for which our nation stands.

A president standing strong while voicing his patriotic duty when it comes to eliminating foreign aggression into our democratic institutions.

A president who walks the land of farmers that is being destroyed by climate change, raises his voice in anger and says: "Never again."

A president who spends a night with the homeless, understanding, at best, the dream that has been lost and must be restored ...

But Der Furher marches on, regardless of my delusions. Let's just hope that Der Furher, with his love of militaristic patriotism, doesn't come stomping down your door.

*William Gay
Montpelier*

July 4th evolution

Quite a July 4th scenario: Trump had a parade featuring tanks and other military pomp and ceremony while refugees at the Rio Grande border crossings are largely being ignored by the American public and, in a mockery of humanitarian sensibility, being abused by the Trump administration and many of its border agents.

The current edition of *The Bridge* includes an Independence Day feature article by Stephen Perkins titled "When Lafayette Came To Montpelier." In his praise of liberty and the sacrifices of Vermonters in fighting for that liberty, Lafayette saw only hope and promise for the new republic. From the State House balcony, on June 28, 1785, he replied to U.S. Federal Judge Elijah Paine's

welcoming words: "Sir, I have now accomplished one of the greatest objects in my life; I have visited the twenty-four states of the Union; I have been the happy witness of the immense, rapid and ever-increasing results of Independence, Republican Institutions of self-government, and you, Sir, and all of you, I congratulate on the public and domestic happiness which is enjoyed by the citizens of Vermont and I beg you to accept my affectionate and respectful thanks."

What would he have said to Vermont and the other 49 states on this Independence Day anniversary?

*Joseph Whelan
Montpelier*

Prequel or sequel?

Now that I have the attention of all of Trump's supporters, any of you want to buy a bridge? I have a nice bridge in New York I am willing to sell you, cheap. You could contact Donald after you purchase it and see if he wants his name on it. I'm sure he wouldn't charge you much to show his name on your bridge.

Meanwhile, Hope Hicks, with five lawyers in tow all of whom were pushing absolute immunity, (whatever that is), refused to answer 155 questions and still couldn't help revealing new information about the "pee tape."

"Hicks said that she first heard 'rumors' of 'a tape involving Mr. Trump in Moscow' the day after the Access Hollywood tape. That tape was made public on Oct. 7, 2016, pinpointing the date that Hicks first heard about the tape of Trump in Moscow as Oct. 8."

So, that's three months before the alleged existence of the tape became public knowledge due to the BuzzFeed publication of the Christopher Steele dossier.

Anyway, I'm curious; does that make it the prequel or the sequel to the Hollywood tape?

*Alfred S. Blakey
Barre*