

tx citizen

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AND GRAND JURY
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ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

15

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If what happened to Aliah Hernandez had happened to a dog, the DA would have figured out a way to lock up its attacker.

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Blue vs Red

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1ST WORD

DA Jennifer Tharp: "Tough on Crime" - Weak on Criminals

We already knew that DA Jennifer Tharp and Chief Felony Prosecutor Sammy McCrary were prone to draconian punishment and/or legal harassment of minor suspects with weak cases against them and apt to let the big offenders off with little more than a scolding, but due to some reckless jabberin' to Texas Monthly, now know that they think conservatives are stupid, cruel, and lacking both a moral compass and everyday sense of justice. We're probably more surprised than we should be.

Backstory

In December of 2014, dude-bro Cameron Wright was drinking and smoking the reefer with Aliah Hernandez, and they was getting' BUSY. Before things got naked, Hernandez informed Wright that she was transgender - that is, not born female. So Wright got mad because he's no homo and stormed out of their hotel room to sulk.

Wait, that's not right.

Wright did eventually leave their hotel room, sure, but first he gave her a vicious head-butt, told her "You're going to die tonight", beat her within an inch of her life with whatever was handy furniture-wise, partially ripped her ear off, crushed her throat to the point she had trouble breathing and left her, unconscious, in a pool of blood on the floor of a destroyed hotel room, and chucked her cell-phone so she couldn't call for help.

Then he left the room.

Eventually Hernandez came to, and was able to drag herself to the lobby where, bloodied/bruised/swollen and with the cartilage of her left ear hanging from her head, she awaited police. She could barely get any words out of her mangled throat. She was airlifted to BAMC where doctors took two days to put her back together, at a cost of \$22,000.

When police finally figured out who



dude-bro was, they asked him to come in for a voluntary interview regarding the case, where he admitted to **everything** (except Hernandez's loss of consciousness), because hey, what guy wouldn't want to kill a tranny if he'd thought he was about

to get some natural-born ya-ya only to not get it? I mean, is there anything **worse** that could happen to a dude-bro?

Anyway, Wright was charged with felony assault, and Hernandez was told by police that he was headed for prison. Except not.

Grand Jury Shenanigans

In order for a DA to file felony charges for anything, they have to obtain an indictment from the local grand jury. Getting an indictment is the easiest thing in the world - prosecutors give only the state's side of the story - no defense arguments, no mitigating factors are presented. The standard of proof is as low as it gets - prosecutors don't have to prove anything, only provide evidence that a crime was committed; and in this case it was clear that Hernandez didn't beat herself up. The state's argument could have been as straightforward as "Wright beat up Hernandez so bad that Hernandez had to be airlifted because local hospitals couldn't handle the massive injuries. Here's a photo of the scene. Here's Wright's confession."

Slam dunk.

Actually, no. According to DA Tharp, she couldn't get an indictment after taking two shots at it (the first by an assistant prosecutor, the second by Tharp herself). Which is odd. Really odd. Almost every indictment sought in Comal County is granted.

(Note: Two weeks after Tharp told Texas Monthly about the two attempts to indict, she refused to confirm that she went to the grand jury at all.)

Continued on page 4.

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Continued from page 3.

So the question must be asked: WTF did she tell the grand jury that would cause them to refuse to indict? We'll never know, because nobody's allowed to talk about what goes on in the grand jury, but we can say this with absolute certainty – **if Mama didn't get no indictment, it's 'cause Mama didn't want no indictment.**

We can be sure of this because Tharp wasn't out of options after the grand jury. She could have charged Wright with Class A (or B, or C) misdemeanor assault without an indictment. But she didn't. She didn't charge him with assault at all.

The Upshot: Because you can beat up a "tranny" on Jennifer Tharp's watch, and I don't mean smack her up, I mean **really** beat up a tranny, leave her for dead, and get away without charges being pressed, the DA has just put a bright pink target on every single transgender person in Comal County. It's open #####ing season, folks. Take your pick.

Should you avail yourself of this opportunity, your defense should go something like: "I asked this chick out and before we had sex she told me she was really a dude so I tried to kill her because dude-bro." We have it on the record that that will work. We have it on the record from Sammy McCrary, who, in his time machine from 1955, said that the office would have prosecuted had Hernandez told Wright that she was trans before they got to the hotel room. See? Makes all the difference. She didn't do everything just so. Didn't check every box. She had it coming.

Neither Tharp nor McCrary wanted to prosecute. But why TF not? Well, according to what McCrary told Texas Monthly, it was because Hernandez was a "nontraditional victim", and "We typically get conservative jurors here. This county is known for that." (McCrary might have just set himself up for a federal civil rights case with those statements. Hard to say because "nontraditional" victims shouldn't have human rights, let alone civil rights. We'll keep you posted.)

As noted at the top of this piece, we now know what McCreary thinks of conservatives: Stupid. Cold. Unable to understand justice. Lacking basic human empathy. And dumb

enough to let somebody as dangerous as Wright clean off the hook.

Real nice, Sammy. I'm sure the locals appreciate your assessment. For the record, you have to go way past "conservative" to get to the MSNBC definition you're peddling. We'll make sure Republicans remember that come the next DA election. We bet there's more than a handful that would've voted otherwise in May had they known this was going down.

Say, if you're a conservative that's eligible to serve on a Comal County jury, this might be a good time to let Sammy know what you think of his opinion of your ethics. 830-221-1300.

Good lord, even if an afterthought, the most hateful, anti-trans comments left about this case on the KSAT and WOAI message boards included the words "he needs to be punished" somewhere in the text. No, wait. <sarcasm>That's Bexar County where the conservatives are way more sophisticated.</sarcasm>

Look, Sammy, we don't need you to win every case, but we sure AF need you to file charges of some kind to show where you stand on issues of ultra-violence. This is an epic moral fail. Whatever your qualifications, whatever the election results were, justice is a matter of ethics and you and DA Tharp have proven yourselves not morally fit for this gig. You took an oath to serve justice, not to rack up easy wins. You've betrayed one in favor of the other, to everyone's detriment.

Ok, ok. We're getting worked up, here. In all fairness, Tharp didn't just let Wright walk. It would be wrong for us to act like he got away with it.

Jennifer got him on throwing away Hernandez's phone. Got him GOOD. Fifteen days in jail and 18 months probation. TWO solid weeks behind bars. That'll teach him. And let that be a lesson to you as well – the next time you beat up a trans-woman in Comal County, let her keep her phone.

\m/

Mike Reynolds
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

For a deep dive into this case, see "Can a Transgender Woman Get Justice in Texas?" at texasmonthly.com.

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Stray Dawg & the Wolves
6pm

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Junior Nash
5pm
Blackbird Sing
9pm

POWERPLANT

Choo Cha Booch
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

The Jonathans
6pm
Big John Mills
9pm

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon & Daychill

Whiskey 2 Step
8pm

Gruene Hall

Billy Bacon & the Forbidden Pigs
12pm
Jack Ingram
8pm

River Road Ice House

Casey Donahew Band
8pm

Sat 7.7

Oma Gruene's
SECRET GARTEN

Vagabonds Trio
6pm

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Chris Duarte Group
9pm

POWERPLANT

Carol Cochran & Two Way Street
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Roadside Libby
9pm

THE WATERING HOLE
Saloon & Daychill

Meyer Anderson Band
9pm

Billy's Ice House

Clever Name Band
8pm

Gruene Hall

Murali Coryell, Ernie Durawa
1pm
Shinyribs
9pm

Old River City Café

Al Mesa
6:30pm

River Road Ice House

Parker McCollum
8pm

Sun 7.8

Oma Gruene's
SECRET GARTEN

Hot Attacks
7pm

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Nate Guthrie
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

TBA
4pm

Geronimo VFW #8456

The Countrymen (And Ice Cream
Social)
3pm

Gruene Hall

Bret Graham
12pm
Beat Root Revival
5pm

Old River City Café

Ryan Waguespack
6:30pm

Tues 7.10

Billy's Ice House
Clever Name Band
8pm

Geronimo VFW #8456

Jam Session
3pm

Gruene Hall

Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

Wed 7.11

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Open Mic w/ Billy Roy
8:30pm

Riley's
TAVERN

TBA
8pm

Gruene Hall

The Georges
7pm

Old River City Café

Monte Good
6:30pm

Thu 7.12

THE PHOENIX
SALOON

Frank Painter
5pm

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POWERPLANT

TBA

6pm



River City Kings
8pm

Gruene Hall
Hot Texas Swing Band
8pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline
8pm

Fri 7.13



3 Man Front
6pm



Larry Dial
6pm
Uptown
9pm

POWERPLANT

April Hall
7pm



Mark Jungers
6pm
Jake Hooker
9pm



Keen Country Band
8pm

Gruene Hall
Reckless Kelly
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Lisa Crawford
6:30pm

River Road Ice House
Flatland Cavalry
8pm

Sat 7.14



Blues of the Night
6pm



Donovan Keith & the Funky Feat
9pm

POWERPLANT

Broken Arrowz
7pm



Miss Lavelle White
9pm



Fools of the Trade
9pm

Gruene Hall
Dallas Moore Band
1pm
Reckless Kelly
8pm

Happy Cow
Silvercloud
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Tyler Cannon
6:30pm

River Road Ice House
The Great Divide
8pm

Sun 7.15



Michael Waid
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Jeffrey Ryan Vaughn
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm



Jason Allen
4pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
Most Wanted
3pm

Gruene Hall
Danny Brooks
12pm
South Austin Moonlighters
5pm

Old River City Café
Ryan Waguespack
6:30pm

River Road Ice House
Shenandoah
8pm

Mon 7.16

Gruene Hall
Brian Pounds
6pm

Tue 7.17



Troy Stone Band
8pm

Billy's Ice House
Austin Gilliam
8pm

Comal Country Music Show
KC Hall
Ken Brothers, Britt Ballenger,
Maddie Abrameit
7:30pm

Gruene Hall
Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

Wed 7.18



Open Mic w/ Billy Roy
8:30pm



Mike Ethan Messick
8pm

Gruene Hall
Roger Creager
7pm

Old River City Café
Monte Good
6:30pm

Thu 7.19



Shawn hart
5pm

POWERPLANT

Buddy Vargas
6pm



Broken Arrow
8pm

Gruene Hall
Roger Creager
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Live Band Karaoke
8pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline
8pm

Fri 7.20



Ruben V
7pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Junior Nash
5pm
Rochelle & the Sidewinders
9pm

POWERPLANT

TBA
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Pepper's Blues
6pm
Joel Hofmann Band
9pm



The Craze
8pm

Gruene Hall
Roger Creager
8pm

Happy Cow
JJ Garrett Band
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Nick Garcia
6:30pm

Sat 7.21



The Mighty Orq
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Caleb & the Homegrown Tomatoes
9pm

POWERPLANT

Cherry Street Hookers
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

The Powell Brothers
9pm



Rick Reyna Band
9pm

Gruene Hall
Sol Patch
1pm
Roger Creager
9pm

Happy Cow
Midnight River Choir
w/ The Lawless
9pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Alli Mattice Band
6:30pm

Sun 7.22



The Homebodies
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Jorge Gallegos
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
Jimmie Bolado & Country
Sounds
3pm

Gruene Hall
Billy Bacon & the Forbidden Pigs
12pm
Aaron Stephens
5pm

Old River City Café
Ryan Waguespack
6:30pm

Mon 7.23

Gruene Hall
Grouchy Like Riley
7pm

Tue 7.24

Gruene Hall
Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

Wed 7.25

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Open Mic w/ Billy Roy
8:30pm

Gruene Hall
The Georges
7pm

Old River City Café
Monte Good
6:30pm

Thu 7.26

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Frank Painter
5pm

POWERPLANT

Asa Keese, Jo Geavry
6pm



Meyer Anderson Band
8pm

Gruene Hall
Tom Gillam
7pm

Moonshine & Ale
Live Band Karaoke
8pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline
8pm

Fri 7.27



Hunter Road Trio
6pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

Larry Dial
5pm
R.A.G.E.
8:30pm

POWERPLANT

Colton's Kin
7pm

Riley's TAVERN

Shelley King
6pm
Kody West
8pm



3 Chord Rodeo
8pm

Gruene Hall
American Aquarium
8pm

Happy Cow
Wyzer
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

Old River City Café
Charlie Weyler
6:30pm

Sat 7.28



BareFax & Pete Denny
4pm
Pete Denny Band
6pm



PHOENIX SALOON JULY EVENTS

Friday 7/6

Junior Nash 5pm
Blackbird Sing 9pm

Saturday 7/7

Chris Duarte Group 9pm

Friday 7/13

Larry Dial 6pm
Uptown 9pm

Saturday 7/14

Donovan Keith &
The Funky Feat 9pm

Friday 7/20

Junior Nash 5pm
Rochelle & The Sidewinders
9pm

Saturday 7/21

Caleb & The
Homegrown Tomatoes 9pm

Friday 7/27

Larry Dial 5pm
R.A.G.E. 8:30pm

Saturday 7/28

Nic Armstrong & The Thieves
9pm

Friday 8/3

Junior Nash 5pm
Soul Sessions 9pm

THE PHOENIX SALOON

FRIDAY 7/6
BIG JOHN MILLS 9PM

SATURDAY 7/7
ROADSIDE LIBBY 9PM

FRIDAY 7/13
JAKE HOOKER 9PM

SATURDAY 7/14
MISS LAVELLE WHITE 9PM

FRIDAY 7/20
JOEL HOFMANN BAND 9PM

SATURDAY 7/21
THE POWELL BROTHERS 9PM

FRIDAY 7/27
KODY WEST 8PM

SATURDAY 7/28
JOHN EVANS BAND 9PM

FRIDAY 8/3
BRI BAGWELL 9PM

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9pm

POWERPLANT

Derek Vera
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

John Evans Band
9pm



Knotty Grove
9pm

Gruene Hall
Flat Top Jones
1pm
Chris Knight
8pm

Moonshine & Ale
Rock & Roll Piano Sing Along
8pm

River Road Ice House
River Jam
6pm

Sun 7.29



MC & the Mystyx
6pm

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

All Mixed Up
3pm
Lucas Taylor
7pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Ace Pepper
4pm

Geronimo VFW #8456
Good Ol' Boys
3pm

Gruene Hall
Slim Bawb
12pm
Jeff Plankenhorn
5pm

Old River City Café
Ryan Waguespack
6:30pm

Tue 7.31

Riley's
TAVERN

Troy Stone Band
8pm

Gruene Hall
Two Ton Tuesday
8pm

Wed 8.1

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Open Mic w/ Billy Roy
8:30pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Manzy Lowry
9pm

Gruene Hall
The Georges
6pm

Thu 8.2

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Shawn Hart
5pm

POWERPLANT

TBA
6pm



TBA
8pm

Gruene Hall
The Reed Brothers
8pm

Vino en Verde
Brett Cline
8pm

Fri 8.3



TBA
6pm

**THE PHOENIX
SALOON**

Junior Nash
5pm
Soul Sessions
9pm

Riley's
TAVERN

Big John Mills
6pm
Bri Bagwell
9pm



TBA
9pm

Gruene Hall
Jackie Venson
8pm



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FREEMAN ON SPORTS

WITH BRANT FREEMAN

Time for another Month In Review and thankfully the past month has given us a lot to watch and discuss, including the NBA Finals and the World Cup and who would've thought I would enjoy the latter more than the former? The NBA Finals, outside of J.R. Smith's hilarious late game screw-up in Game One was hot garbage while the World Cup has been wildly entertaining. I'm not a huge soccer-aficionado but I will absolutely ignore all distractions (including my family) to watch matches like Argentina vs France. I bet I could even name four players so I'm certain that makes me a qualified soccer expert.

While I'm sure you would enjoy reading my 5,000 word take on how badly Spain played against Russia in the Round of 16, this month I'm focusing on the NBA off-season and the (rare) drama circulating around the San Antonio Spurs.

One of the tricky things about writing a column for a monthly publication is the timing of it. I'm punching away at the keyboard on July 1, a mere 12 hours after the start of the NBA free agent frenzy so by the time you're reading this, a lot may have changed. Maybe LeBron James is a Laker or a Sixer or still a Cavalier. Maybe Kawhi Leonard is his teammate or perhaps he's still a Spur. I assume those possibilities will come to a conclusion within the first week of July so you'll have to pardon any speculation on my part because as of this writing, we don't have those answers. Also, if I'm completely off base, you have every right to mock me later. Those are the rules.

Let's focus on Leonard about whom I've written in this space many, many times, especially in the last six months. During the Spurs' season and even shortly after it ended with a first round loss to Golden State, I, naively, thought that everything would work out and whatever issues that arose between Leonard and the Spurs would simply get sorted out and that San Antonio would gladly offer him the coveted "super-max" contract which he would sign and everyone would live happily ever after. After all, Tim Duncan decided to stay despite being awfully tempted to join

Tracy McGrady and Grant Hill in Orlando in the summer of 2000 (so bizarre to think of this today, but the Magic used to be an attractive franchise to play for). David Robinson spent his entire career as a Spur. Manu Ginobili and Tony Parker (probably) will have done the same. Franchise cornerstones arrive in San Antonio and don't leave. That's just how it's always worked.

But those days appear to be over, at least in the case of Kawhi Leonard. A month ago, I was 90% sure he was coming back. Today I'm 99% sure he will be traded. Once that inevitably happens, I can't help but wonder how we got here. The marriage between the NBA's most ho-hum yet consistently successful franchise and "don't put the spotlight on me" superstar seemed perfect. San Antonio had that with Robinson who passed the torch to Duncan who then passed it to Leonard. Another generational talent who would keep finding ways to put banners in the rafters until it was time to pass the torch to next future Hall-of-Famer wearing nothing but silver and black.

And that's where we as fans were wrong. We all thought that because Leonard is quiet he MUST be the next Tim Duncan. He MUST love playing for a franchise which shies away from the headlines. He MUST love the way the Spurs operate as an organization.

Is this all because he doesn't talk? Maybe because he's so quiet, we simply don't know who Kawhi Leonard is. Once the news broke of Leonard's desire to be traded, Spurs fans turned on him instantly. The tired act of burning his jersey. Calling him a coward. A traitor.

Just like we were quick to pass judgement when Leonard was saying three words at a time after dropping 36 points in a playoff game (he's such a lovable robot!), I think fans are reacting far too hastily with Leonard propping one foot out the door.

Could this have been handled better by him or "his people"? Sure. If this once happy marriage does ultimately end in divorce, it will have been ugly. But ultimately, Leonard is just looking to get what we all attain for: happiness. Maybe, and as hard as this is to believe for

people who live in South Texas, including myself, he doesn't like it here (or at least not as much as Southern California). Maybe he didn't like the constant Duncan comparisons or the way the franchise operates. Your first response might be "how could he not?!" but you're not Kawhi Leonard.

Bottom line: yeah, this sucks. The Spurs have avoided a full-on rebuild for more than 30 years (!) and finally now might find themselves in that situation depending on what they get back in a Leonard trade. But you can't fault Leonard for ultimately wanting to "go back home" and find happiness although you can definitely find fault in the way he made that happen.

An educated guess tells me that Leonard has had a desire to go elsewhere for a while now but did in fact have a serious quad injury and didn't want to risk losing out on a sizeable contract with his next team (preferably one of the two teams in Los Angeles). Leonard then became overly cautious of the injury, to the point where it irritated the Spurs who had medically cleared him to play and they reacted like anyone else would: frustrated. Those frustrations were then vented both publicly and behind closed doors so here we are now, with a mess of a situation which only has one plausible solution: a parting of ways.

Again, I must stress that the last paragraph is purely speculation on my part, who knows what we'll learn once the Spurs officially pull the trigger on a trade.

It's funny, this time last year, Public Enemy Number One in San Antonio was Golden State's Zaza Pachulia whose careless play led to Leonard's injury midway through Game 1 of the Western Conference Finals, causing Leonard to miss the rest of the series.

Who would've of thought that a year later, the question concerning Leonard will have turned from "what if?" to "what now?"

Until next month...

Brant Freeman is a seasoned local sportscaster, delivering the goods as a reporter for major pro and collegiate sporting events in the greater San Antonio area for over a decade.

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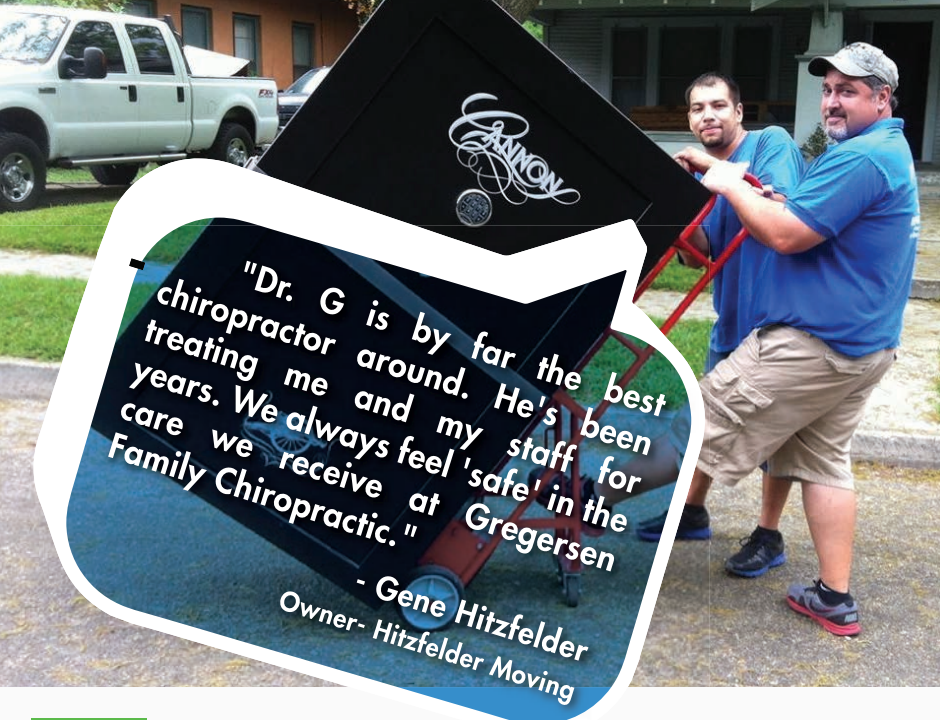
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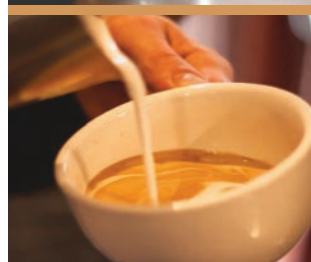
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Will Someone Just Secede Already?

WRITING FOR THE RED STATES
KELLY COLBY

Please pardon me if I sound like a crisis actor. I never wanted to be a crisis actor. Actors don't get paid very well. But I think we've reached a point in this American Experiment when we ought to just call it quits.

We had a good run. We did some pretty cool things like space travel and pretty much everything Thomas Edison did and the *Back to the Future* trilogy. But at this point, it feels overwhelmingly obvious to me that We the People are done with democracy, done with civil discourse, done with each other. We're at least as divided as we were during Reconstruction and at best as divided as we were in the 1960s. The only way this can go from here is either all out civil war or an indefinite separation due to irreconcilable differences. I vote for the latter. It's less bloody.

Someone, a state, a county, a city—I don't care—needs to secede already. It's always tough to be the first, but despite the children's rhyme, in America, first is the best. See: first to land on the moon; first incandescent light bulb, first *Back to the Future*. The secession doesn't have to be geographical either. Because unlike the last time America dealt with secession, our differences today are not regional. They are cultural, and culture, though it has strong ties to regions, is pretty nomadic and can hang its hat anywhere. It's why Austin is a haven for hipsters and not ranchers.

It doesn't even matter to me where whomever or whatever secedes to, or if they form another country or state or borough. Criminy, I'm not even sure what a borough is other than they have them in New York City. What matters is that we need to break up, take some time to figure out what it is we want and what it is we can do on our own, all of us. Get a little *me time* for reflection. This country is too big, too unique, and way, way, too opinionated. Especially when you consider how uninformed much of its population is on things like facts and science, choosing instead to act on feelings and self-determined moral high ground.

In a perfect world—in a perfect America—I'd suggest that we ought to stay together (for the kids) but we've proven that we just can't get past our differences and have little interest in respectfully listening to each other and finding common ground. Plus, when you consider the state of healthcare and education in this country, it's pretty apparent that we don't give one huff about the kids.

And since we don't care about our future, let's call it quits now before someone else comes in and breaks us up at our weakest moment, like China or Russia or Canada. Best that we do it on our own terms.

So please, will someone just secede already?

Of course, my first response is "you first." If we're going to have another civil war, I think I'd like to be the Union this time. But, I'm not sure there's going to be a civil war. Or rather, that we've already had one, and the left lost.

Don't feel bad. My side lost too. But that's because neither of us represent the mainstream of America, and they won. They did so by electing Trump.

While there is far too much uncivil behavior and positions seem frozen at opposite sides of the political spectrum, the truth is that America agrees far more than it disagrees. Trump is a good example of that. He didn't win the popular vote, but he never needed to, and he won the electoral college quite handily. Trump is more unpopular than popular, but his views (or views close to them) represent not just nearly half of the country, but an overwhelming majority of it.

Trump calls various media outlets Fake News. A recent poll found 72 percent of the public agrees that the media often knowingly reports false stories or reports with bias. Of course, they and Trump are right. It's easy to see. We haven't had a responsible press in this country for decades. Trump's antics have brought out the worst in most of them, but he didn't start the problem.

On immigration, 53 percent of the public see illegal immigration as a serious problem. The same number as support DACA and want to see illegal immigrants already here given a chance to stay and apply for citizenship. But, 81 percent recognize illegal immigration as a problem, and there are similar majorities for securing the border and keeping families together when they are captured entering the country illegally. Not everyone agrees on methods, but Trump was elected, in part, for his fidelity to dealing with the problem. Not surprisingly, Trump wants all of the above things the 53 percent want, but what he wants and what he can get or what he's forced to do are different things.

A little research will show you that the story is the same for things like support of the police and the 2nd Amendment, dissatisfaction with government, and concern for protecting American jobs. Trump doesn't necessarily have the solution to any of these things, but he was viewed as part of the solution, or at least not part of the problem. That's why he was elected.

If there is a civil war in this country, the vast majority will try to avoid having anything to do with it. The fringe on left and right might be at each other's throats, but there's a vast middle that can and will get along.



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