

Archive of relevant Links:

Seminal sources of fact-based editorial analysis of current issues:

- 1) **Heather Cox Richardson** is an American historian, author, and educator. She is a professor of history at Boston College, where she teaches courses on the American Civil War, the Reconstruction Era, the American West, and the Plains Indians. She publishes a daily newsletter that is free of charge. To subscribe go here ([Substack Letters from an American](#)). Rather than proselytizing, she expounds on the historical background of current events, giving historical perspective that illuminates how we got here and where it could lead us. Here is a compelling ([post from June 25th](#)): *“Political power of the mythological image of the American cowboy”*.
- 2) **Joyce Vance** is an American lawyer who served as US attorney for the Northern District of Alabama from 2009 to 2017. She was one of the first five U.S. attorneys, and the first female U.S. attorney, nominated by President Barack Obama. She also writes a daily Newsletter entitled Civil Discourse. Her particular expertise is the judicial system and political events pertaining to it. Here a particularly significant letter from her Substack, June 26, 2024 entitled “Let’s Read Project 25 Together” ([Link](#)) Go here to ([sign up](#)) for her substack.
- 3) **Robert Reich** (1946) is a prominent American professor, author, lawyer, and political commentator. He worked in the administrations of presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter, and served as Secretary of Labor from 1993 to 1997 in the cabinet of President Bill Clinton. His daily Substack addresses, among other things, the economic side of current events. Here are two entries especially worth reading ([The Taxing Difference](#)) and ([Why I’m scared sh*tless about Thursday](#)). Here is the place to go for his ([Substack archive](#)).
- 4) **Rick Wilson** is an American political strategist, satirist, media consultant, and author based in Florida. A former member of the Republican Party, and presidential advisor to Bush, he has produced televised political commercials for governors, U.S. Senate candidates, Super PACs, and corporations. As co-founder of the Lincoln Project he has become an avid critic of Trump and the MAGA movement. You can find his ([Substack](#)) here. This was a particularly interesting and insightful ([post](#)) on the theme of *“Lost Bay Assassin and the Martyr Trump”* from Jul 15, 2024.

Individual Links to current topics:

The Heritage Foundation is a conservative “[think tank](#)” dedicated to countering liberal views on taxation and regulation, which they consider to be anti-business. For a look at the history of its funding, influence, and ideology, go here ([SourceWatch Center for Media and Democracy](#))

Reading list on Authoritarianism: [Causes and Consequences of Authoritarianism](#) / [Reading List from FOREIGN AFFAIRS online magazine](#) / [PEW Research on America's view on foreign policy 2019](#) / [Charting the Radical Right's Influence on EU Foreign Policy](#) / [Popular Books on Authoritarianism](#))

An in-depth portrait of the libertarian Federalist Society and the silent but enormously effective rise of Leonard Leo ([Link](#)) as a major influencer in the conservative restructuring of our courts.

Portrait of turncoat politician J.D. Vance and his ([Faustian](#)) pact with power. NOTE: to read this you may need a subscription to the NYTimes.

An interview with Secretary of State Antony Blinken & Heather Cox Richardson: *“Dehumanization is the most potent poison in the common well we all drink from”* ([Link to Substack](#)) Jul 14, 2024

Election Denialism ([Article in THE CONVERSATION](#)) millions still believe 2020 election was stolen, even when all investigations prove the opposite. If there was an election that was stolen, it was Bush vs. Gore.

46% of Americans trust Trump more than Biden on the economy ([THE HILL](#)) 21% said they trusted neither. Only 32% favored Biden. The facts tell a different story. Actually the economy has “*functioned significantly better under Democrats since WW II*” ([Article in THE BALANCE](#)).

Impressive achievements of the ([Biden-Harris](#)) administration, despite an adversary congress vs. ([Trump White House Tally](#)) with majorities in both house and senate, which can be summarized into three main issues: 1) tax reform favoring the richest 1% of Americans while causing a major increase of the national debt; 2) sweeping deregulation which gave the dirtiest industries carte blanche to challenge restrictions and avoid litigation while slashing budgets for consumer protection agencies ([New York Times](#)); 3) appointing a slew of federal judges, and most significantly, three to the supreme court, who have brought us recent reversals of long standing precedents: Roe v Wade (50+ years), Affirmative Action (46 years), Chevron (40 years), and most recently granted presidential immunity, the executive above and beyond the law, fundamentally reversing one of the most basic principles of our constitution.

Project 2025 – Mandate for Leadership (The Conservative Promise) ([Download](#))

The Heritage Foundation, sometimes referred to simply as Heritage, is an American conservative think tank based in Washington, D.C. with strong ties to the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies, as well as the Tea Party movement and Libertarianism. Project 2025 is their 920-page blueprint for dismantling American democracy and installing an autocracy that would essentially consolidate power in the hands of a cabal of ultra-conservative elitist. If there is a deep state, this is it. It has been their genius to strategically and hypocritically create myths that demonize liberals for being the ones doing the things that they themselves are all about. Their plan is sophisticated, their people very highly placed, and they are supported by major financial interests. Their roots stem from the most elite colleges of our nation. Their members hold prominent seats in our courts, legislatures and institutions of higher learning. And with the present ultra-conservative supreme court, that the Heritage Foundation essentially created, our judicial system has finally reached a tipping-point where long-standing civil rights dating back more than 50 years are being reversed. For the first time in history, the supreme court has begun taking rights back away from citizens, instead of granting and protecting them.

Age, experience & performance vs. Age, sociopathic behavior & chronic lying. A panel of scholars rate Presidencies. As of February 20, 2024, Biden 14th of 45 and Trump last ([Wikipedia](#)).

Should President Biden step down?

Here is a video clip of a CNN Abby Phillip interview with Allan Lichtman on 13 metrics that determine the outcome of a presidential election. Allan Jay Lichtman is a distinguished professor, historian and political scientist, known especially for having correctly forecasted the last 10 US presidential elections. In his opinion, booting out Biden would be disastrous. ([link](#))

Here is an interesting piece by Robert Reich on “How Old is Too Old” ([Link](#))

Robert Reich on why we still should be optimistic ([Link](#))

Heather Cox Richardson on the Biden-Trump debate ([Link](#))

Supreme Court’s Loper Bright ruling which overturned the Chevron Deference doctrine of judicial deference being given to administrative action. It was coined after a landmark case, Chevron U.S.A., Inc. v. Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., 468 U.S. 837 (1984). Read Joyce Vance on “Why You Should Be Concerned About Loper Bright” ([Link](#))

Heather Cox Richardson on the Loper Bright decision ([Link](#))

Supreme Court's ruling on Immunity:

Heather Cox Richardson on how fundamentally this decision changes the rule of law ([Link](#))

Heather Cox Richardson on the founding principles of our constitution ([Link](#))

Joyce Vance on presidents becoming kings ([Link](#))

Justice Sotomayor's dissenting opinion "We fear for our democracy" "making presidents king's" via

Links to articles from ([The Hill](#)) ([AP Press](#)) ([USA Today](#)) ([WaPo](#)) ([The Guardian](#)) ([ABC News](#)) ([AXIOS](#))

Here is a Robert Reich piece on Justice Robert's comment about "Fearmongering" ([Link](#))

Robert Reich on how the Supreme Court has guaranteed Trump will not be tried ([Link](#))

See also this New York Times editorial by David French ([link](#))

Another good article from the New York Times ([Times](#)) on what this immunity decision means and how unprecedented it is.

Project 25 (Blueprint for dismantling our government):

Joyce Vance Interview with Congressman Huffman about his task force on what is being done on the issue of Project 25, and what can we as citizens do about it. ([Link](#))

Thank you for your attention.
If it is helpful – please forward
to others who want to be informed.

p.s. this and former letters are available on my website
<http://www.paulkustermann.de/files/Share/Democracy>