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## The Left's Supreme Court Dependency Will Drive 2020 Race

By Matt A. Mayer

With the dust settled on the 2018 midterm elections, one thing is now crystal clear: the increased Republican majority in the U.S. Senate will ensure President Donald Trump continues to transform the federal courts for a generation or more. With just four senators likely at risk in 2020 — Democrats Doug Jones of Alabama and Gary Peters of Michigan and Republicans Cory Gardner of Colorado and Susan Collins of Maine, the left knows the only way to stop the court's conservative transformation and a possible 6-3 or 7-2 conservative Supreme Court is to win the White House in 2020.

For the left, control of the Supreme Court is everything.

To understand why, you must go back 100 years or so to the rise of the progressive era. Led by President Woodrow Wilson and Planned Parenthood Founder Margaret Sanger, the progressive movement believed in the superiority of the elite, the inferiority of the masses and the barrier the Constitution was to their objectives. Today's liberal-progressives like to ignore this history to their movement, but it is no less part of U.S. history than the institution of slavery.

Specifically, the movement's chief aim was to centralize power by eliminating those pesky little concepts of separation of powers and checks and balances and escape the confines of a fixed constitution so that America could progress (not that it hadn't up to that point as evidenced by the abolishment of slavery and its rise as a world power).

Wilson despised those constitutional mechanisms because they prevented government from "proceeding" in accordance with the will of "an outside master." Wilson believed that the Constitution should be a living document. As Wilson stated: "All that progressives ask or desire is permission to interpret the Constitution according to the Darwinian principle." The outside master, then, was the fittest among us whose societal beliefs could be inserted into the Constitution. Wilson thought certain men were able to "embody the projected consciousness of their time and people" and that these men whose "thought(s) run forward apace into regions whither the race is advancing" would master progress.

Not surprisingly, the progressive movement's adherence to Darwinism gave birth to eugenics. Sanger was a leader of the eugenics movement who advocated for a "stern and rigid policy of sterilization and segregation to that grade of population whose progeny is already tainted or whose inheritance is such that objectionable traits may be transmitted to offspring." Yesterday's progeny with "objectionable traits" is today's deplorables.

This belief in an "outside master" is why President Franklin Roosevelt threatened to pack the Supreme Court with justices who saw things the way he did, as too often the Supreme Court found that his New Deal legislation ran afoul of the Constitution. Once emasculated by his threat, the Supreme Court suddenly decided what was unconstitutional before the threat became constitutional.

Over the next eight decades, the left turned increasingly to the Supreme Court to do what it could not get done by way of the legislative process. Too often, the masses didn't agree with the left on a variety of key issues, so control of the Supreme Court became the only way for the left to win. The left's belief in the superiority of five men and women to decide for the unwashed masses became sacrosanct — so long as those five individuals were liberal-progressives. For the left, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan aren't just Supreme Court justices. They are exactly those "outside masters" Wilson spoke of 100 years ago whose thoughts "run forward apace," who can see America as it should be.

Unfortunately for the left, President Donald Trump's 2016 election combined with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's adoption of Harry Reid's 50-vote confirmation threshold meant that a conservative Supreme Court majority could thwart the left's ambitions for a generation, if achieved. That potential reality has the left in an absolute panic.

Now that it has lost the U.S. Senate for at least four more years due to the relative safety of most of the 2020 Senate incumbents, the left will do whatever it takes to get the presidency back to prevent another conservative Supreme Court nominee should Justices Ginsberg or Breyer retire. Don't be fooled, America is far better off ruled via the legislative process than by five smart lawyers who go beyond the Constitution's words to create an America they deem best.

With so much at stake, don't expect much of a break before the 2020 battle begins.

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