# Where Do We Go from Here?

Matt. A. Mayer

Why a Trump victory is actually a good thing

In just a few days, voters in the United States will decide who will be president for the next four years, which political party will control the U.S. Senate, and which political party will control the U.S. House of Representatives. Given what has occurred over the last four years, to say the consequences of the various elections will be monumental is a gross understatement.

At no point since the Civil War and the Civil Rights Era has America been more at war with itself, with the issue of race again driving the conflict. One would have thought the election and reelection of Barack Obama would have resulted in America reaching a post-racial era, but that belief was naïve. The Left simply has too much invested in keeping race at the forefront of American debate to let it fade away.

Without securing 90% or more of the black vote and driving high turnout among black Americans, Democrats mathematically simply can't win the presidency or a majority of U.S. Senate seats (see Hillary Clinton's loss in 2016 and the U.S. Senate gains by Republicans in the 2018 midterm elections). As a result, aided by the lies and misrepresentations from the Mainstream Media, which has become another arm of the Democratic Party, every event involving a minority has to have occurred because of racism.

Actor Jussie Smollett didn't set up his own victimhood to increase his value in Hollywood. Instead, two racist Donald Trump supporters wearing red MAGA hats decided to beat him up at 2:00am with temperatures well below zero in a heavily Democratic area of Chicago. NASCAR driver Bubba Wallace's garage at Talladega Speedway didn't just

have a garage pull cord that looked like a noose. Instead, a racist Trump supporter somehow evaded the heavily secured area covered with CCTV cameras to put a noose in his garage because, you know, Talladega is in the former Confederate state of Alabama.

Moreover, Trump's policy on housing kids illegally brought across the border "in cages" wasn't Obama's policy that Trump continued as evidenced by the pictures of said "cages" with kids inside taken during the Obama years. Instead, it was Trump's brutal, abusive way to treat minorities because he, of course, hates minorities, especially kids. Police shootings of unarmed blacks don't occur less often than police shootings of unarmed whites. Instead, police shoot unarmed blacks because the police are racist - even when the shooter is also black. Finally, Black Lives Matter isn't a Marxist group which remains utterly silent weekend after weekend when dozens of black people, including black children, are killed in black-on-black shootings in America's Democratically controlled cities. Instead, Black Lives Matters is a noble group just trying to make America a more just and fair place to live.

Does America still struggle with race? Of course, but not nearly as much as the Left wants black America to believe. Before China unleashed the COVID-19 virus on the

world leading to the pandemic and economic shutdown across the globe, under Trump's policies, black unemployment had reached an historic low and wages had reached a high. Trump secured passage of landmark criminal justice reform that immediately improved the lives of millions of blacks and their families. Finally, Trump increased the funding for America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to ensure those colleges had the funds to stay open and continue to educate black Americans.

Nonetheless, we stand on the cusp of an election with racial tensions higher than at any point in the last fifty years. One of the key questions that will be answered on Tuesday is whether blacks will again reward Democrats with 90% or more of their vote, or if enough blacks refuse to buy the Left's race-baiting and support Republicans. To be clear, by enough blacks, I mean 12-20% of blacks, which is all Trump would need to secure his reelection. Because of the actions noted above by Trump, I believe he will secure 12%-15% of the black vote in this election, with possible coattails for other Republican Senate and House candidates.

With a smaller hill to climb, Trump has more pathways to the presidency than Biden

With that in mind, the various permutations on what might happen on Tuesday present four key possibilities for America and the world.

#### **TOTAL REPUBLICAN CONTROL**

In spite of the non-stop attacks from the Left and the media over the last four years, should Trump shock the world and win reelection, it is possible he will bring the U.S. House and U.S. Senate with him. That result would ensure four more years of the kinds of policies Trump pushed in his first term. A Trump win will certainly lead to greater unrest and violence across America, largely perpetuated by left-wing groups such as Antifa and Black Lives Matter. Trump will combat that violence by pushing harder on governors and mayors to bring in the National Guard to restore calm.

Domestically, I'd expect additional tax, regulatory, and health care reforms. Trump also will try to push through a comprehensive immigration reform package that would finally get the funds he wants to secure the border, internally enforce our immigration laws, and cut a deal for the Dreamers and their parents. With pre-election Democratic claims pushed by Obama to eliminate the Senate filibuster on legislation, it will be interesting to see if a Republican

majority follows suit so legislation over the next two years can pass by simple majorities of both houses.

Finally, with control of the U.S. Senate, Trump would continue his total transformation of the federal judiciary with conservatives committed to sticking to the text of our Constitution and statutes. With four more years, I could foresee Justice Clarence Thomas stepping down to allow Trump to replace him with a like-minded originalist. With liberal Justice Stephen Breyer hitting his mid-80s in a Trump second term, it is possible Trump could replace him as well, which would secure a 7-2 conservative majority for another fifteen-to-twenty years. Believe it or not, that single development could do more to transform America than any other Trump action.

Foreign policy is where a Trump reelection will be interesting. It is clear the most leaders within the European Union, China, and Iran zealously hope for the end of Trump. Trump knows that is what they want all too much. As a result, he will be looking to take a few scalps with his focus on Germany's Angela Merkel, France's Emmanuel Macron, and the various EU heads. His expected payback will be their agreement to kill the flawed Iran Nuclear Deal and replace it with an agreement that truly keeps Iran from ever getting nuclear weapons.

With his reelection, I'd expect Saudi Arabia to join other Arab countries in normalizing relations with Israel to further isolate Iran, which should secure Trump's Nobel Peace Prize Award in 2021. The bulk of his foreign policy time, however, will be spent on getting China to follow trade rules once and for all. I believe he would do this with the backing of most European countries.

If Trump wins reelection, but secures only one chamber of Congress, it would be the U.S. Senate. In that scenario, expect legislative gridlock on most issues. As noted above, with the U.S. Senate, Trump would continue transforming the federal courts, but most of his time would be spent on foreign policy issues.

## DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT WITH CONTROL OF ONE CONGRESSIONAL CHAMBER

With a Joe Biden presidency, but not full control of Congress, the big changes would come in reversing actions Trump took without congressional approval and an effort to regain control of the federal judiciary if the Democrats also took the U.S. Senate. If Mitch McConnell still leads the U.S. Senate, then Biden judicial nominees will have to be more moderate than the progressives will like, which will cause turmoil within the Democratic Party's progressive wing.



Should Trump shock the world and win reelection, it is possible he will bring the U.S. House and U.S. Senate with him. That result would ensure four more years of the kinds of policies Trump pushed in his first term. Pictured is Trump during a rally in the North Charleston Coliseum in February of this year (photo: Positiveimages/Shutterstock.com)

The big actions for Biden will be in resetting foreign policy to the liking of the Davos crowd. That means power restored to supranational organizations like the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and other globalist entities. While I'd expect Biden to pull back a bit on Trump's NATO financial rebalancing efforts, his change might be one of tone rather than content. U.S. taxpayers really are tired of paying the freight for Europe, so Biden will have to demand NATO members pay their fair share of its costs.

Should Biden reverse Trump's actions vis-à-vis Iran, instability in the Middle East will increase, as the Arab countries will again fear a nuclear Iran powered by a fully financed Iran Revolutionary Guard, Hezbollah, and Hamas. Israel will increase its military and Mossad activities to ensure its safety, which will further destabilize the Middle East. So-called experts will come to appreciate what Trump accomplished in the Middle East by his unorthodox approach.

#### TOTAL DEMOCRATIC CONTROL

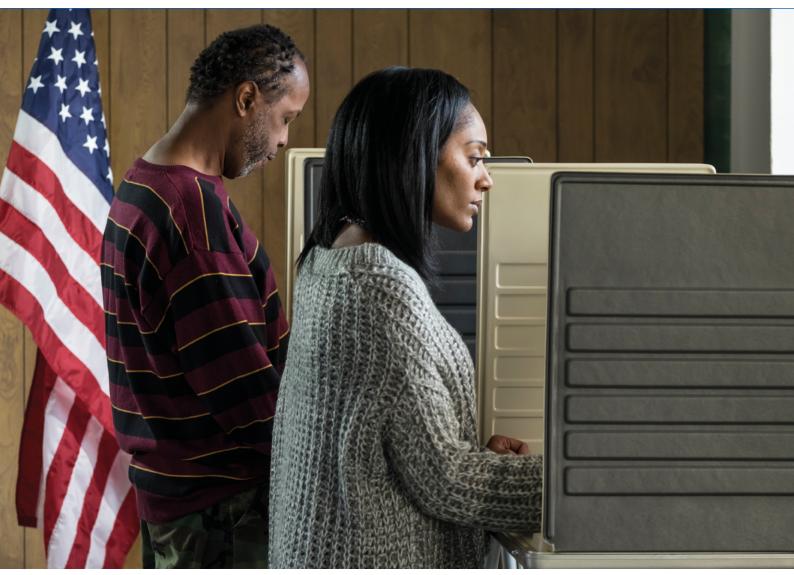
And the four horsemen of the Apocalypse will ride...okay that is a bit of an overstatement, but I do think total Democratic control of the federal government will cause enormous instability domestically and in the Middle East as noted above. While I don't think you will see the level of rioting and violence the Left has engaged in over the last

six months, I do think you will see a greater division between the Left and Right in America.

Though this will sound counterintuitive, the worst thing for the Left would be total Democratic control. Why? Because Biden will not be able to restrain the progressives from pushing him and the party farther and farther to the extreme. As a result, after killing the filibuster, Democrats will pass their wish-list of programs:

- Medicare for All
- Green New Deal/End of fracking
- Free college
- Universal basic income
- Packing the Supreme Court
- Adding New States
- Moving to end the Electoral College
- Free health care for illegal immigrants
- Citizenship for all illegal immigrants
- · Open borders
- Reparations for blacks

With each piece of legislation passing, a backlash movement will grow bigger and stronger with an enormous wave hitting the midterm elections in 2022, which will sweep away Democrat control of both houses of Congress. Thus, Biden will spend the last two years of his presidency thwarted by a Republican Congress hell bent on investi-



Without securing 90% or more of the black vote and driving high turnout among black Americans, Democrats mathematically simply can't win the presidency or a majority of U.S. Senate seats (photo: Burlingham/Shutterstock.com)

gating him as the Democrats went after Trump relentlessly for four years.

As a result, in just four years, we will be right back where we started. A nation at war with itself fighting a bloody political battle over inches as our troops did during World War I.

#### WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON TUESDAY?

In 2016, I released my prediction on what would happen on Election Day. I predicted a Trump victory over Clinton by a 280-258 Electoral College win. My only misses in 2016 came from relying too much on history to keep Pennsylvania (Democratic since 1988) and Wisconsin (Democratic since 1984) in Clinton's column and in giving Trump the ever-flipping state of New Hampshire. I was off by 70,000 votes out of nearly 129,000,000 votes between Trump and Clinton. Otherwise, I accurately hit the other forty-seven states and District of Columbia.

Keep in mind I am making this prediction nearly a month

before the actual election due to the publication deadline, which, given the daily twists and turns of this election, is an exercise fraught with uncertainty. Here is what I think will happen on Election Day.

Trump will win these twenty-five states (plus one electoral vote in Maine) totaling 234 electoral votes: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine-2, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Biden will win these eighteen states totaling 212 electoral votes: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

That leaves eight states totaling 92 electoral votes up for grabs: Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New

Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

If this allocation is correct, Trump needs 36 electoral votes to secure reelection, while Biden would need 58 electoral votes to win back the White House. With a smaller hill to climb, Trump has more pathways to the presidency than Biden.

In terms of the eight toss-up states, given history and the demographics, I would put Minnesota and Nevada in Biden's column. Those 16 electoral votes put Biden at 228 electoral votes. I also would add Arizona to Biden's column due to its changing political makeup. That puts Biden at 239 electoral votes, with five states left to allocate.

With four more years, Justice Clarence Thomas might be stepping down to allow Trump to replace him with a like-minded originalist. With liberal Justice Stephen Breyer hitting his mid-80s in a Trump second term, it is possible Trump could replace him as well, which would secure a 7-2 conservative majority for another fifteen-to-twenty years. Depicted is the

**Supreme Court building (photo: Steven Frame/Shutterstock.com)** 

Because of the demographic similarities between Ohio and the three other midwestern states of Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, I think those states will stick with Trump in 2020. With those 46 electoral votes, Trump hits 280 electoral votes and wins reelection. Though it doesn't matter at this point, I also would award New Hampshire and North Carolina to Trump, which puts him at 299 electoral votes. Thus, I'm predicting a 299-239 Trump win.

### WHAT WOULD BE BEST FOR AMERICA

Despite my prediction, let me add that such a close election simply won't be good for America. With so much rancor and partisanship, I think the best outcome for America and its future would be a strong electoral victory for Trump or Biden. With a strong win, one side will be elated with victory while the other side will be dejected with defeat. Regardless of how each side might be feeling, neither side will be able to dismiss the victory and will have no choice but to recognize it as a clear statement of the will of the majority we all must accept.

Though our current situation is not anything close to the death and turmoil of the Civil War, we can look to the past for some guidance. Abraham Lincoln knew that victory truly could come only by total defeat of the Confederate states. That is why he allowed General Ulysses S. Grant and General William T. Sherman to execute their war strategy of total destruction in the Confederate states. The people

in those states had to personally feel the destruction in order to get them to stop aiding the war effort. Sherman's March to the Sea accelerated the end of the Civil War and the unconditional surrender at Appomattox Courthouse by General Robert E. Lee.

Another close presidential election will just ensure the fight between Blue America and Red America goes on for another four years. A strong win by one side or the other just might solidify the foundation of our house so, as Lincoln warned, our divided house does not fall. Though you might disagree, given how Europeans feel about Trump after being fed fake news by the New York Times and CNN for four years, a more united America led by Trump is far better for the world than an America rife with internal conflict for four more years.

You might not like Trump, but he has done more to earn a Nobel Peace Prize than Obama, Al Gore, and Jimmy Carter combined. Not that he'll actually win...as Ronald Reagan showed, Republican presidents are forbidden by global elites from winning such awards. C'est la vie.

Matt A. Mayer serves as President of Opportunity Ohio. He is a former senior official at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Would you like to react? Mail the editor: redactie@atlcom.nl.