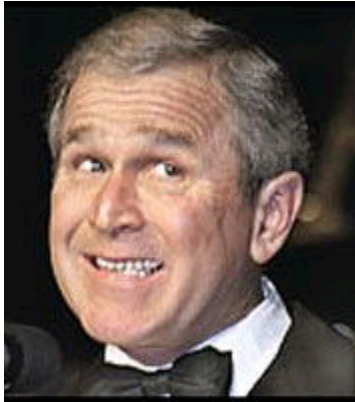




look at this idiot

Written by bubba



You know, despite working in politics – at a fairly high level – I never use my sites to get preachy about anything political. I’m going to try not to today either, but in so much as writing is supposed to reflect mood...I might as well say what I’m thinking: *Just look at this idiot.*

The last 6 years have been an interesting arc for me, seeing as I have worked against this jackass in some capacity for the entire time. In 2000 I didn’t think about him a whole lot. It was obvious (we all thought) that this was a person unfit for presidency. We spent our time doing what we thought we needed to be doing, talking about the contrast of privilege and nepotism to leadership and a proven record. Surprise, surprise, not everyone saw the light. Who knew the kids that used to coagulate under the log structure at recess to pat each other on the back for their broken families and straight D report cards would actually become a prime voting bloc in the future? Now 2000 stung a lot more than it should have; those of us who were actually involved in recounts and who don’t get our election information from CNN know the real deal – that the 2000 election was stolen. But In December 2000 when things were laid to rest I mostly felt like I did when I was a kid and lost a game, like I didn’t work hard enough. The important part is that I knew it was over.

Following 2000 and since 9/11, every opportunity to dumb down the American public has been taken by this ass clown. And I still didn’t think much of him until it became clear that he would use his presidency to systematically dismantle every single strength of this country while putting our people and economy at undue risk. Then I became a vehement opponent. No need to launch a diatribe about missing WMD’s and war...what could I say that hasn’t already been said? Besides, you don’t need to be a political scientist to take the pulse of what’s really going on in this country either. Hell, use the Saturday Night Live-O-Meter:

Clinton: General caricature – this guy likes to eat. Skits show him jogging, then stopping at McDonalds to shove fries and Big Macs in his mouth. The most heat he ever took was for lying about getting a blow job from some fat cow starfucker intern.



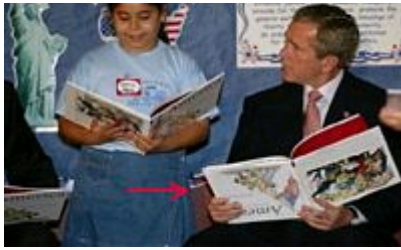
Bush: General caricature - Idiot. Skits show him fumbling at his words, not understanding his job, relying on others to do his work. What’s he taking the most heat for? Good question, there are so many: Lying, a failing economy, lowering our country’s leadership position – thousands of dead Americans.

Ok, ok...silly example. But generally a good reflector of current pop culture themes.

Anyway, after that it was 2004 and time to decide whether or not to re-elect Captain Underpants...and we did it, increasing his margin from 2000 by more than 3 million votes. (**Note:** *I’m keenly aware of my role in not delivering Ohio’s 20 electoral votes to the other side, thanks though*). Many will say the 2004 election was stolen too. Do I think that? No. I’ve read everything too, the Conyers Report, DNC Report, about 1,001 independent studies. There were problems for certain. But there was not a conspiracy – big difference. So even though in 2000 I didn’t even really think about this idiot and then I hated him until he was reelected, now I just seem to co-exist with the guy, recognizing him as part of my reality (not the other way around) and feeling mostly numb.



But I’m not here to cry about numb nuts today. I’m passed that. He is



what he is, we all know that. And if you don't know that by all measures George Bush is the worst president to date, well, I don't know what to say. Perhaps you should have got your GED from an accredited night school instead of assuming the Sally Struthers mail order wax figurine carving business was going to get you out of that doublewide and pay for a new four-wheeler, the kind with the gun rack. That's right, you're stupid. But stupid as you may be, here's what you can count on from me that you won't get from most political people on my side of the fence – a staunch commitment to remind my activists and organizations of the 2000 and 2004 elections, yes, but then punctuate that with perhaps the most constructive piece of advice: **GET OVER IT.**

What's gotten into to me this morning? I guess it's that I have been writing 2006 campaign plans and thinking about what has been effective and what hasn't and how much work my collective side has to do to be successful this year. I think its ok for me to bitch whenever I feel like it too, because I am affected by it on a daily basis; it actually *is* my day job. Ok, ok...I was also a speaker at an event last weekend with Cindy Sheehan and found her to be utterly useless beyond being able to draw several hundred left-of-the-left activists into an auditorium. No practicality whatsoever. How in the world are we ever going to move forward and promote policies that most sane people support if the public face of our side is people crying about every god damn thing in the world and only promoting actions that have no chance in hell of accomplishing anything?



Pragmatics. Was there a conspiracy in 2000? Absolutely. But revealing it for what it was and rectifying the problem(s) was a failed effort. Now we move on. Were there problems again in 2004? Unquestionably. Was there a widespread conspiracy to change the election outcome? No. I've never seen any evidence of a widespread conspiracy. Have I seen institutional breakdowns? All over the place. But the bottom line is when an election is that close, results are subject to a cutting margin of error, something that usually goes undetected in races with clear outcomes. Here's a good example: One of the first things we did in the 2000 recount was compile a database of all the election results from the past ten years, directly from the canvass books (the book you sign when you go vote).

When that was finished we compared it to the official Secretary of State certified results and guess what? In many cases they didn't match. Here was the problem – the errors didn't consistently benefit one side or the other. They were just that – errors. Did they have the capacity to change past election outcomes? Yep. Had anyone dug them up previously? Nope. Why? No races were of the same magnitude as the 2000 presidential. Well, that and people trusted the system when the outcome wasn't exceptionally close. We lost the 2000 presidency in Florida because of disenfranchisement. But had there been a true auditing of all results people would have found that there are always problems even when there isn't an organized & underhanded effort to fix the outcome.

It's ok to say that the winner enjoys the spoils. That's what happened then and that's what is continuing now. Democrats are losing a multi-layered battle that is taking place in the field, media, courtroom & at the dinner table. What isn't ok is to acknowledge reality as something alternative to what it is. We need to get better, shore up the institutional inequities and work harder this year. We need to stop being whiney bitches that sit idly while bad things happen to us and instead start dishing out an aggressive one-two sucker punch followed by a swift kick in the nuts and a less than polite spit in the face while the other side folds to the ground holding their crotch and thinking they were the only ones that knew how to play ruthlessly. What we *don't* need to do is have two hundred trillion unfocused candlelight



vigils on every corner in America where we can engage in futile discussions about impeaching an unimpeachable president and knitting a 40 thousand mile magic carpet that we can unfold all the way to Bagdad and use to march our soldiers home.



So here's me today, watching this jack ball on TV and feeling numb, like I've been anesthetized yet am still keenly aware that there are some sharp emotions buried deep beneath six years of scar tissue. I'll check out now and discipline myself for violating my no-work talk rule, (though this was deliciously superficial.) For a closing thought, I'd just like to point out a few things: Here is what you don't hear right now – me using the president's shortcomings to bolster the Democratic Party, me doing a comparative between Hillary Clinton and George Bush, me talking about how much better things would be if Al Gore or John Kerry were our president. I compared some cosmetic scenarios involving Bill Clinton and George Bush because they have both been presidents and are therefore subject to any level of comparative analysis regarding their times in office - and I only used

Saturday Night Live to do it. I'm not talking about anyone else because you don't really have to have an agenda to not like the president. You just have to not be afraid of what your neighbors think of you when you go against the institutional (and elementary) belief that if you disagree with the government you are less of an American than they are. And I guess you need to be smart enough to know what's going on beyond what your co-workers spoon feed you at the factory. Or at the ho down.



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