

The Confederate flag flew in the capitol



Vander Ritchie
Co-Editor

The Confederate flag flew in the Capitol.

As I sat at home, several news stations playing in the background, I was overcome with disgust. Donald Trump must be impeached and immediately removed from office. The 25th Amendment is too good for him.

I hear people call these people protesters, rioters. Call them what they are. They are traitors. They are terrorists. They flew the Confederate flag in the Capitol.

I don't even know where to start. In recent years, ever since the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980, our country has been spiraling out of control. How did we go, in less than a hundred years, from fighting the Nazis to letting them into the Capitol? How did we go from destroying the Confederates, traitorous slave owners seceding from our country, just to let so-called "American Patriots" carry their battle flag into our nation's most sacred building? And to hear conser-

vatives compare this to Civil Rights protestors, who peacefully protested to expand our country's founding principles of equality for all, to these Judas', calling them undercover "Antifa super-soldiers". It just boils my blood.

Too many people are focusing, in my opinion, on the violent nature of this. And I agree, to an extent. This is an insurrection. This is terrorism. These vipers ransacked the offices of some of our best lawmakers. They should be tried. However, too few people are talking about what these traitors were fighting for. They were fighting for fascism. For authoritarian rule. For a coup, overthrowing a Democratically elected leader. They marched under the ideals of racial supremacy, ethnic cleansing, and hypernationalism. They are marching for Donald Trump. And to me, that's the problem.

This isn't even talking about the threats Trump has made against the international reputation of the United States. His exit from the Iran Deal, his continued escalation with Iran, the assassination of General Qasem Soleimani, his increase in Middle Eastern drone strikes, and his cozying up to dictators like Kim Jun-Un have brought the world and the United States closer to nuclear annihilation than it has ever been since the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

I've heard a lot of people separating the Republican Party and Trump, especially with old-school Republicans like George W. Bush and Dick Cheney openly opposing him. That's bull. They aren't off the hook either. As Noam Chomsky said, the Republican party is the most "dangerous organization in human history." The party is prioritizing profits and power and systematically destroying governmental institutions. And all of them are responsible for abetting an attempted coup by peddling conspiracy theories about the outcome of the election, stoking bigotry against minorities, and destroying the third world.

I'm usually very critical of liberals who blame all of the country's problems on Trump. Because Trump, the person isn't the problem. He's a symptom of a movement. America's slow decent into fascism. And the Republican Party has been fascism's instrument. Slowly digging into our soil and establishing itself as a new American institution.

I don't know what to say. I am scared. I am disgusted. I am embarrassed. I am disappointed. America has fully fallen to fascism, an ideology it once swore to destroy. And it's destroying itself from the inside out. The Confederate flag flew in the Capitol.

Questions vs. answers



Fern Clark
Staff Reporter

Us humans have potentially been put in one of the most interesting situations the universe has ever produced. More specifically, us humans that are living right now, are some of the luckiest yet. Allow me to explain.

For the most part, we know what makes up the fundamental parts of our existence due to modern science and technology. However, this leaves us all with more time to contemplate the underlying questions of "why are we here, and why do we know we are here?" Lucky us! Of course, humans have given explanations to these questions for a long time, spanning from religion all the way to nihilism. As difficult as it can be to have all these different theories and not know which one is the most plausible, I believe these differences are crucial to the human experience.

Living in a world where all

of our questions have been answered is a world I would not be happy to live in. In a world like that, humans would be much less distinguishable from our animal counterparts, except for our advanced technology. The special thing about humans is our awareness of the situation we are in. Perhaps people in the future world I've described would be happier and less tortured about their purpose, but the loss of curiosity that would come with this might not be worth the answers.

As much as I would love to know the answers of life and consciousness, having proof of a certain theory would limit diversity in thought, and humans wouldn't be quite as special. In a way, knowing the answers to all of life's greatest questions, or even just believing that life's questions have a definitive answer, is the exact same as knowing nothing. Both these scenarios would show people abandoning our ability to critically think about everything around us.

I am envious of those who have a solidified view of how we should be behaving in our lives, and what will happen when we die. However, I also can't imagine living without the curiosity that we are lucky enough to have.

Heard in the Halls

What are people saying at Salida High?

"I once ate eight pounds of cherries and thought I was gonna have to go to the hospital."

Teacher

"I got tied to a pole by a kindergardener."

Junior

"My computer is deader than disco."

Sophomore

Student 1: "What's up?"

Student 2: "Not my grades."

Seniors

"We are slowly losing people, it's like Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory."

Teacher

Puts on glasses

"You look like you have a failing liver."

Freshman

Tenderfoot Times

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