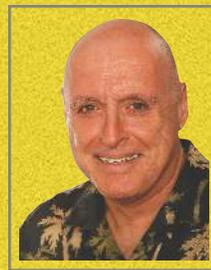


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



690 Words to Think About on Election Day

It's an exciting day in Guam, the polls open in about a half-hour, and in less than 24 hours we'll know the will of Guam's people. I'm Jerry Roberts and today, some words about elections, from folks we know and some we don't. Words that may make us think a little. That's coming next, on The Extra Point.

It's been a noisy and contentious election campaign, both here in Guam, and across the mainland. Misinformation, disinformation, outright lies, media bias and flat-out dishonesty, with some people being highly snarky and arguing day and night with friends as well as strangers, lighting up social media. Everybody has strong opinions.

Emotions run high and there are going to be some very disappointed people as election results become clear. In some ways, 2020 has been the most unique election for residents of Guam, and indeed all of America.

Yet, there are certainly similarities, and familiarities. I've found some statements made that display a variety of opinion about elections, politicians, and those who elect them.

1. *"The most important office, and the one which all of us can and should fill, is that of private citizen."*

— Louis Brandeis, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court

2. *"The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all."*

— John F. Kennedy, 35th U.S. President

You can make up your own punchline on that one.

3. *"I offer my opponents a bargain: if they will stop telling lies about us, I will stop telling the truth about them."*

— Adlai Stevenson, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations

4. *"The people who cast the votes decide nothing. The people who count the votes decide everything."*

— Joseph Stalin, Russian leader from 1922-1953

Why does that quote from Stalin seem to fit well with the 2020 election? Should it include the people who can best manipulate the mail-in ballots?

5. *"George Washington is the only president who didn't blame the previous administration for his troubles."* — Unknown

6. *"There are always too many Democratic congressmen, too many Republican congressmen, and never enough US congressmen."*

— Unknown

Wow, is that ever true.

7. *"Be Americans. Let there be no sectionalism, no North, South, East or West. You are all dependent on one another and should be one in union. In one word, be a nation. Be Americans, and be true to yourselves."*

— George Washington 1st U.S. President

Here comes a sobering thought...

8. *"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."*

— Abraham Lincoln, 16th U.S. President

9. *"Keep your eyes on the stars, but remember to keep your feet on the ground."*

— Theodore Roosevelt

Tell the truth, you thought that was going to be Casey Kasem, didn't you?

(Con't.)

10. *"Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."*

— Abraham Lincoln

11. *"Bipartisan usually means that a larger-than-usual deception is being carried out."*

—George Carlin

Just a little cynical, but probably accurate.

12. "Perhaps instead of voter ID laws, the USA might want to try voter IQ laws."

— Unknown

Oh yeah. Aren't you like me, worried about the intelligence of voters, both in Guam and back in the mainland? We should be. And you know what? All those folks are worried about you and me.

13. "If voting made any difference, they wouldn't let us do it."

— Mark Twain, author

That's The Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

###

For information on training and consulting services with Jerry Roberts, please click this link: guamtraining.com

