

I am a Baby Boomer who coined the phrase that the '60s will always be remembered as the time when America threw up. It sounds a bit gross and negative, but the truth is that America needed to throw up, so I'm thinking those of us who were teenagers during the '60s did a pretty good job. We are all seniors now and have pretty much retired from the wonderful world of rocking the boat.

So today, I'm going to give you Millennials a three step recipe for giving our government back to the People, as it was meant to be! It's really quite simple and I have a feeling that you Millennials can do it. You'll get plenty of resistance and it won't be easy, but remember, my generation got people of color out of the back of the bus and into the White House, so don't think for a minute that these old Baby Boomers are going to say it can't be done. Trust me - the WILL of the people is the most powerful ingredient of any democracy.

So let's get our elections back to what our forefathers were trying to create.

Step1: A bunch of years ago the Supreme Court said that corporations are just like us common citizens and have every right to donate to political campaigns as much as they wish. This created what we now know as PACs - Political Action Committees. These PACs come in many flavors - conservative, liberal, single issue PACs, etc. They all have really deep pockets and are happy to fill our TVs and all social media with advertising that says if you vote for our opponent, you are voting for Satan. They show a horrifying picture of the opponent, then a cute, caring picture of the candidate they want to see on Capital Hill. Every elected official on Capital Hill knows this is how you win an election in today's politics.

What's wrong with this is that if you take the top 500 corporations in America, you will find a common profile of Board of Directors composed more often than not of people with a citizenship in foreign countries and the same for it's stock holders. The CEOs of these corporations are beholden to their BODs and stock holders, which is composed mostly of people who are not United States citizens, which is fine for a global business platform company. We make a fuss about Russia interfering with our elections, but let's be real - there are foreign citizens from all over the world who have a lot more influence on our elections than Mr & Mrs

blue collar USA citizens. And they could care less about how we educate our children, the condition of our roads and bridges, or what we want our climate to be. They only care about their bottom line and the taxes that affect their bottom line and are happy to remind all the politicians on Capital Hill how they got into office every time those taxes are being looked at.

You need to get rid of that ruling, and give our elections back to the people who are actual citizens.

Step2: The FCC - Federal Communications Center - is responsible for regulating all advertising on media outlets so that consumers might have confidence that claims companies make in their commercials are basically true. It's a good thing, as we don't want our consumers to be brainwashed with false advertising all the time, really.

I know this because there was a big case in the '70s, I believe, where a cereal maker was fined what was then an impressive fine for false advertisement when they claimed their sugar cereal was 'part of this balanced, nutritional breakfast'. It ended up in the Supreme Court and the court ruled in favor of the FCC, stating in general that even though you don't claim your cereal to have any nutritional value, you are misleading consumers into thinking it does, when in fact it does not. Basically. Your cereal is a part of this balanced, nutritional breakfast that consumers should not eat.

That's what the FCC does for consumers.

When you consider this one issue of the cereal makers compared to what we see for three months leading up to an election, you know exactly where I'm going. It's up to you Millennials to stand up and insist that the FCC does it's job! When the Supreme Court agrees with the FCC about a cereal company misleading consumers about their sugar coated crap, you would think they would agree with the FCC that the blatant lies from PAC advertising during an election year must be stopped if we are to have elections built on truth.

If you don't stand up to the FCC, we will eventually (if we haven't already) fill Capital Hill with people who 'Approve of this message' built on lies. We will be saying that lying is accepted in our government, and that's not a good thing. We are already filling up Capital Hill with politicians who are saying that lying is perfectly acceptable in our government.

This is something you Millennials must stand up against.

Step3: There is a lot of talk about term limits. It all sounds good, but isn't because if a

person gets elected into office in their early 30s and does a good job representing their constituents, they should be able to continue and make a career out of doing so.

The better solution to term limitation would be a mandatory retirement age. If congress tells us that 68 is the retirement age, let's say the congress has a mandatory retirement age of 70. We give them two extra years but once you reach your 70th birthday, you may no longer run for any federally elected office. Pat them on the back, thank them for their service and let them go back home to play with their grandchildren and enjoy the fruits of their labor.

If you take a picture of all the elected people on Capital Hill and circle each one that is over 70, you'll understand the issue here. Too many old people who have been around for so long that have become experts at playing the game of politics. They're mostly interested in padding their legacy and playing the game of politics a lot more than they are in serving their constituents they represent.

Now take that picture with all the circled faces on Capital Hill and replace them with young, enthusiastic people who truly want to work on the issues of the day to move us into a future of hope. That's pretty exciting to think about.

Three pretty simple steps that you Millennials could easily get behind that would get our election process back on track for being a process for the people. I'm pretty sure there would only be a handful of USA citizens who would not support these steps.

But there is one obstacle:

The people who would be responsible for making these changes are the very people who benefit the most from leaving the system as is.

Good luck with that.

But remember- the people of color probably never thought the day would come when their President looked like them. I'm certain that women thought they'd never see the day when a Vice President looked like them. And this is one retired old Baby-Boomer that is tired of looking at Capital Hill and seeing so many that look like me.

Make America throw up again, Millennials! Some of us old folks will be behind you
100%