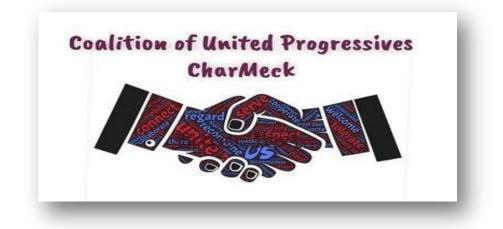
## THE COALITION OF UNITED PROGRESSIVES CHARMECK CHRONICLE



Greetings! We truly appreciate everyone's involvement. This War on Oppression will only be won as one mass movement.

### <u>Sections</u>

- Spotlight by DonnaMarie Woodson
- Editorial by Tarik Kiley
- Announcements
- Happenings Gallery!

#### **Our Mission Statement**

The continual unification of as many organizations as possible, starting at the local level and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation.

# **Spotlight**

# "What is Democracy's Worth?"



"A republic, if you can keep it" Benjamin Franklin

> By DonnaMarie Woodson



When I first heard that Ronna McDaniel was hired as a commentator on NBC, my head spun around. Are you serious? The same Ronna McDaniel, former Chair of the RNC, in the center of spreading "the big lie" that the 2020 Election was stolen?

Even though she has now been fired, I still need to know what the Chairman of NBCUniversal News Group <u>Cesar Conde</u> hoped to



accomplish? Sucking up to Trump because he believed that the "Orange Thing" was going to win and do away with other news outlets, but NBC would remain? Whatever the rationale, it felt and still feels like treason to

Democracy. I was so proud that MSNBC anchors slammed NBC all day when the new hire was announced.

I love Rachel Maddow because she's always presenting the history of the subject matter so you can approach the topic with perspective.

So, when I saw the following video, I wasn't surprised that once again, she hit the nail on the head!!



#### **Double Click on Rachel**



For the longer conversation with Rachel, here's the link: https://www.msnbc.com/rachelmaddow/watch/maddow-joins-colleagues-in-objecting-to-mcdaniel-for-legitimizing-trumpattacking-democracy-207664709959

Rachel is speaking the absolute truth, only WE can save ourselves from the end of a Democratic Society. Only WE, THE SUPERMAJORITY, can lift our heads out of the sand and VOTE!!

If you want to continue to live in a multi-cultural, Votes count country, make sure to shares this with everyone you know and tell them to get out of their malaise, take a van full of people to go –

## **#VOTE BLUE 2024**

"Every generation has a moment where they have to stand up for democracy. To stand up for their fundamental freedoms. I believe this is ours.



When I ran in 2020, I said we were in a battle for the soul of America. We still are. The question before us now is whether we'll have more freedoms or fewer in the years ahead. More rights, or fewer. I know what I want the answer to be.

They're telling women what health care choices they're allowed to make. They're telling you what books should be in your kids' schools. And if you don't like it, tough luck: They're going after your right to vote, too. But we can stop them. There is nothing beyond our capacity if we do it together."

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN



# **BIDEN** HARRIS

<u>Work Cited</u> <u>https://www.nbcuniversal.com/leadership/cesar-conde</u> <u>https://thehill.com/opinion/campaign/4559405-nbc-made-three-huge-mistakes-</u> <u>with-ronna-mcdaniel/</u>

#### **Editorial**

#### "Truth in the Era of the Big Lie"

#### By Tarik Kiley

#### Characteristics of Objective Truth

- **Objective:** truth exists and is <u>independent</u> of the knower and his consciousness
- Absolute: applies to all circumstances for all times
- · Universal: applies to all people
- Immutable: unchanging

What has happened to the idea of objective truth? We seem to live in an era where evidence and the scientific method, no longer have a place in our politics. We live in a

time when some people follow political leaders who lie outright, and these followers will dismiss any piece of evidence that contradicts their political viewpoint that their political leader of choice is good, and the opposition, in their reasoning, is evil. And some people will go as far as making contradictions in logic themselves, to paint their most revered political leaders in a positive light. How can we live in a society where certain people deny reality? If there is no objective reality, then there are no facts, and then evidence becomes meaningless.

As a long time proponent of the scientific method, I must speak against people who attempt to reason without evidence. And, let me clarify, I am not talking about people of faith who make religious arguments. I'm talking about people who attempt to pass their falsehoods off as truth, or who deny that anything can be true at all. I'm sure we all remember talk of *"alternative facts"* during the Trump administration. According to the politicaldictionary.com, "Alternative facts was a phrase coined by White House adviser Kellyanne Conway to defend a false statement by press secretary Sean Spicer about the attendance of President Trump's inauguration. When pressed during an interview to explain why Spicer would "utter a provable falsehood", Conway stated that Spicer was simply giving 'alternative facts." 'Now in actuality, when using logic and the scientific method, alternative facts are in fact *proven falsehoods*.

So, what is the importance of utilizing the scientific method in political reasoning? Well, it helps to define objective reality, and

# The "scientific method"

- The first to use the scientific method were Hellenistic philosophers (most often cited is Aristotle, who we have already seen cited as one of the 'fathers' of comparative politics)
- The "scientific revolution" occurs in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, with developments in physics, astronomy, mathematics, and chemistry
- However, the "scientific method" as a means to thinking about societal progress was really brought to wider attention in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (The period that we call The Enlightenment)
- The core of the scientific method is provided by understanding different modes of reasoning (inductive versus deductive), hypothesis-testing, and identifying the *causal mechanism*.

has been utilized at least since Aristotle defined it for the western philosophical world. According to the Middlebury blog, "It was

Aristotle that first defined and conducted empirical studies, studies with concrete evidence, purpose, and logic, being one of the first to offer the idea that reasoning (logic) and science are not mutually exclusive and should be intertwined when conducting accurate and reliable studies." This is important because Aristotle created an intellectual precedent with his empiricism. He intertwined the power of observation into his philosophical reasoning. When observation is combined with logic, then we have the basis of the scientific method.



This goes back to the very nature of language itself. Language is a way for humans to communicate with one another about observable reality.

Words have definitions which the entire society agrees to the meaning(s) of, and which come to define our commonalities. If we cannot all agree that red is red, then we have a crisis of communication, and it hinders the ability of the society's members to work together towards common goals.

This is science. In addition to science, there are the arts. Art is inherently subjective. Here it gets a little tricky. Art is an expression of the self, which doesn't necessarily claim to be based completely in logic. So, painting, poetry, music, etc., doesn't pretend to be a measure of scientific truth. The tricky part here is that artful words can sometimes be mistaken for objective truth.

Let me give you a contemporary example. Currently, in the world of gangster rap, some rappers' lyrics are being used against them to bring them up on RICO [Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act] charges. The problem here is that rap music is an art, and rap artists talking about crimes in their songs, may not actually reflect the actual truth about their level of criminal activity. Sometimes, people knowingly speak fiction. But the burden of fiction is that fiction writers don't pretend to be telling real stories. So, people are free and should be free to express their art but should not necessarily be able to make up truth and to lie about reality—not as far as scientific truth is concerned.

The difference between scientific truth and artful language becomes important here because technological innovations such as social media and the Internet have made information ubiquitous. More information seems like a good thing, and it is good when considering the contribution to freedom of expression. But sometimes speech is used to incite violence, and to spread lies about certain out-groups. So, authenticity becomes important, as well as the ability to determine truth from fiction.

#### **Works Cited**

https://www.google.com/search?q=the+definition+of+truth&rlz=1C1CHBF\_enUS927US 927&oq=the+definition+of+truth&aqs=chrome.69i57j0i512l2j0i22i30j0i15i22i30l3j0i22i 30l3.6482j1j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8 https://www.google.com/search?q=the+definition+of+fact&rlz=1C1CHBF\_enUS927US9 27&oq=the+definition+of+fact&aqs=chrome..69i57j0i512l8j0i390.7198j1j7&sourceid=ch rome&ie=UTF-8 https://www.google.com/search?q=the+definition+of+evidence&rlz=1C1CHBF\_enUS927 US927&oq=the+definition+of+evidence&aqs=chrome..69i57j0i512l2j0i15i22i30l2j0i22i30 I5.5861j1j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8 https://sites.middlebury.edu/fyse1229pisapati/the-scientificmethod/#:~:text=It%20was%20Aristotle%20that%20first,conducting%20accurate%20 and%20reliable%20studies. https://politicaldictionary.com/words/alternative-facts/ https://sites.middlebury.edu/fyse1229pisapati/the-scientific-

method/#:~:text=It%20was%20Aristotle%20that%20first,conducting%20accurate%20 and%20reliable%20studies.

### **Announcements**



Democrats of North Mecklenburg: Monthly Meeting Thursday, April 4th, 6:30 pm North Regional Rec Center on Old Statesville Road, south of Bailey Road, in Cornelius.

**Democratic Women of North Mecklenburg County** 

Monthly Membership Meeting Wednesday, April 10, 2024 Caldwell Presbyterian Church Hope Community Center 1609 E. Fifth St. Charlotte 28204 Meet & Greet – 6:30 pm Program - 7:00 pm

### **Announcements**



N. Meck Progressives Monthly Meeting Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, 6:00pm Birkdale Clubhouse 8915 Devonshire Drive, Huntersville, NC

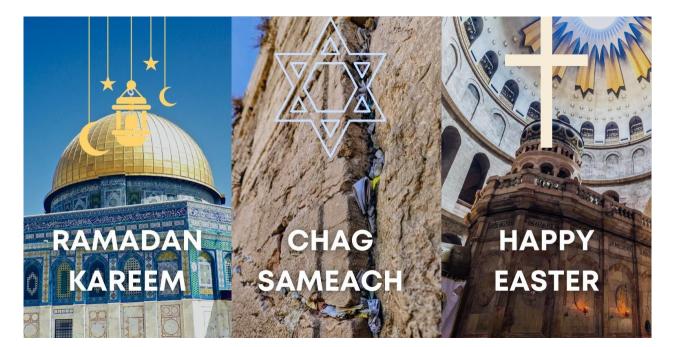
Speaker's portion via Zoom at 6:30pm. Link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4352796919?pwd=SUx</u> <u>iaHdhL1ZPV3ZXTFI...</u> Meeting ID: <u>435 279 6919</u> Passcode: NMP040924 (It's the date)

Alliance of Moral Progressives April 25th, 2024, at 6:30 pm "Learn How to Vote For Your Life in 15 Minutes or Less" "The Importance of State Elections"



Please submit your group events to <u>donnamarie93@gmail.com</u> by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the Announcements.







The Executive Corner:

**Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson Rev Glencie Rhedrick** 

<u>Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle</u> Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson Contributor: Tarik Kiley

