

The Delray Democrat

The Devil's Enterprise at Christmas¹

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The United States media are always at pains to tell us that Christmas is the time of year to think about the beauty of giving, of peace and good will, the joy of being with family, and our great good fortune to live in a land where decency and blessings prevail.

Now, however, the truth is that we find ourselves called upon to accept the outrageous depravity tenanting the White House and spewing animosity and violence on a daily basis. Racial virulence is one aspect of the president's demeanor as we heard when he described the "shithole" nations of Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean where dark-skinned populations reside.

Yet, race is not the only card he is playing in his plans to reduce the number of immigrants seeking entry to the US. The [Los Angeles Times](#) notes that Trump and his immigration advisers (such as Stephen Miller) have designed his policy to limit admissions to only those wealthy enough to buy their own health insurance within 30 days of arrival.

The fact is that lawful permanent residents cannot receive Medicaid [for their first five years](#) in the United States. And the Affordable Care Act makes its subsidies available only to [noncitizens lawfully present](#). "But the new policy would make someone ineligible to immigrate if they need such help, setting an unduly high financial hurdle."

This edict was effectively intercepted by an Oregon District Court Judge, Michael Simon, who issued an injunction that is awaiting a legal challenge. Judge Simon therefore concluded that Trump's policy would have "significantly altered the nature of immigration by effectively barring poor people." He added that the President's rule was surely in conflict with the Immigration and Naturalization Act. Moreover, the President offers no national security or foreign relations at all as justification for this sweeping change in immigration law."

The legal immigration system is further under attack by the White House, aiming at family unification – its desire being to hugely expand enforcement efforts and reduce protections for asylum seekers and unaccompanied child migrants. Such major changes are an unbalanced arrangement to enact hardline and wrongful regenerates schemes. It has been shocking and sadly observed that child migrants have been illegally removed from their parents, thus creating an "unaccompanied" status, and confined in detention centers that are little more than prisons.

So, here we are my fellow citizens – in a new year and facing another continuing blow to democracy and – to use a term in rare use these days, civic virtue. We need to remember that except for Native Americans, every one of us is/was an immigrant.

Many would have us believe that our human civilization is uniquely predetermined and invariant – that is, we have now achieved a state of grace; that where we are and how we live at this

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moment (particularly true of Americans), can be attributed to only two components – those who are natives and those who are migrants, with migrants being the outliers. But this is not true. As an article in the National Geographic explains, however, the reality is that all “Humans are a migratory species.” If we are fixed at this moment, be assured that the change in climate alone will bring about alien and distressing migrations.

Biased, narrow opinions are retrograde in their social postures and those who hold them look longingly at eras of white supremacy when accessibility to privilege and homogeneity ruled. These opinions are far more destructive and inapposite. “The idea that we can return to a simpler, better, and non-contentious past is an imaginary construct and an impossibility.” The future will prove this belief impermissible.