

The Delray Democrat

Hoist With His Own Petard, or Who's Crazy Now?¹

Michael K. Cantwell

For years Donald Trump has been claiming that President Biden was senile. In light of Biden's accomplishments to date (including presiding over the most consequential legislative agenda since FDR), the charge is ludicrous.

Yet, like every Big Lie, there's a kernel of truth. The presidency takes a lot out of a person, Biden is the oldest to hold the office, and it is clear that the last four years have tired him. But Biden is no more senile than Trump is "a very stable genius."

Trump counted on a weakened Biden remaining in the race, but the lie has legs, the dog catches the car, and Biden stands down. Now there is only one "old guy" in the race and now perhaps *his* sanity (or lack thereof) will get the attention it deserves.

He's long gotten away with behavior that would cause someone to question his sanity. There are rambling disquisitions on wind; bizarre warnings about the dangers of electric boats; and the lunatic suggestions that injecting household bleach might be a way of treating Covid.

Moreover, there's his father's long descent into Alzheimer's, now coupled with his nephew's recent claim that Trump is not only starting to act similarly but that Alzheimer's runs in the Trump family.

Trump is not pleased by the sudden turn in the race. Like a petulant child (or someone entering a second childhood), Trump whines that it's unfair he has to run against Kamala Harris when his whole campaign was based on running against Biden. Poor baby.

He resorts to magical thinking, fantasizing Biden will storm the convention and seize back the nomination. It doesn't happen.

Angered by the size of the crowds Harris is attracting, he claims they are "AI created," a charge George Conway correctly labels "delusional." The same can be said about his suggestion that Harris became black only recently.

His narcissistic personality disorder rears its ugly head: "I'm much better looking than her," he says, responding to a suggestion that Harris's beauty will be an asset in the race.

Angered by the rapid memeification of Tim Walz's suggestion that Trump and J.D. Vance are

¹ [The Delray Democrat](#), August 2024, page 12.

“just plain weird,” he calls Walz a “whack job” at an event where he is supposed to be focusing on the economy. It’s the equivalent of a child stomping his feet and yelling, “No, you”!

He then assures the audience, “we’re extremely normal people.” When you have to tell people you’re extremely normal, you’ve already lost. Finally, he begins referring to himself in the third person: “Everyone was better off when you had a gentleman named President Donald J. Trump at the helm.” There is muted applause, as even his cultists wonder what the hell is happening.

He's losing it, folks, and it's being noticed.