

The Disenfranchisement of White America

By Bob Jensen

For years now, a small group of Americans have claimed that there has been a disenfranchisement of White America. Most people assumed that it was just rhetoric from a small fringe group in American society. Some folks still longing for the days of the 1950's and segregation. But in recent years, this group has grown especially since the 2016 Presidential Election. It is not only white supremacist or white nationalist as some call themselves, but regular far right conservative Americans calling for a simpler time when America was great. They call it a time when there were plenty of jobs, lower taxes, and America had values.

Most of the time claims like this could be ignored as outlandish, out of touch, and hateful rhetoric that sounded more like a conspiracy theory from the X-Files. These days it seems that they are becoming more real. It was finally time for me to investigate. It was time to see the cause of these claims and get to the heart of the matter. So I went on the road and interviewed the working-class conservative Americans who were making these claims. I wanted

to look at the history of where these arguments really came from. It's true that 99% of this group supported Donald Trump in the 2016 presidential election, but I feel that this is just a coincidence. It has no bearing on this article whatsoever.

The earliest claims for the disenfranchised of White America can go all the way back to the civil rights movement in the 1960s. However, it was really the start of affirmative action policies of the federal government that the claims became more widely used by far-right conservative Americans. But up until 2 years ago, it was just rhetoric that you found on the internet or social media. Except for a few lawsuits when it came to admission standards, no serious litigation has ever been brought on behalf of White America. The issue became more serious with the violent protests in Chancellorsville, Virginia when a white supremacist ran his car into a crowd of protesters linked to the Black Lives Matter movement. For the first time, the United States Justice Department took the issue seriously and under President Donald Trump's Administration has created initiatives to curtail the problem of the disenfranchisement of White America.

I recently sat down with a senior spokesperson for the US Justice Department who will remain nameless as this issue is sure to be controversial. However, this spokesperson did say that these initiatives came directly down from the former Attorney General Jeff Sessions under the strict instructions from President Donald Trump. The president was quoted as saying, "There is a serious issue with the disenfranchisement of White America and in order to make America great again, which is been my pledge ever since I was elected president, it starts by making all things equal. And unfortunately there are a lot of things that are not equal in America anymore, but we can fix that."

One of the biggest issues that have plagued America over the last decade is the rising numbers of white police officers shooting

unarmed black citizens. The numbers have been at staggering high and in a lot of cases higher than they were during the Civil Rights Movement. But one thing the senior spokesman for the US Justice Department pointed out was that it's not like there wasn't a lot of violence going on at the time anyway. There just wasn't as many shootings of unarmed black citizens compared to lynchings. However, after serious investigation, the Justice Department has come up with a solution as part of the president's new initiative on making all things equal. The Justice Department is now encouraging Black and Hispanic police officers to shoot unarmed White citizens during routine traffic stops. "It shouldn't be just unarmed black citizens getting shot, there should be an equal number of white citizens too, and it's only right if Black and Hispanic police officers do the shooting." This is a direct quote from the senior official at the US Justice Department.

Another major issue has been the disproportionate number of black men and women in prison for non-violent crimes such as drugs. This is mostly due to the mandatory minimum laws from the 1980s. Further reform has been a hot topic for more than two decades and even former President Bill Clinton has admitted that these mandatory minimum laws were wrong. But instead of getting rid of them, the US Justice Department has issued new guidelines when it comes to arresting suspects for non-violent crimes. Police officers should arrest more white citizens for these crimes and prosecutors across the country should ask for jail time instead of probation. A senior Justice Department Official told me that if affirmative action can work for admissions to colleges and employment, then why it can't work for prisons. We should have an equal ratio of white and black men and women in prison for non-violent crimes with lengthy prison sentences.

For the last four election cycles, Voter ID laws have been another hot topic. In most States, especially in the Deep South, Voter ID

laws were created to make sure, as lawmakers put it, that illegal immigrants and felons couldn't commit voter fraud. But the biggest complaint when it comes to Voter ID law is not the law itself, but it is the disproportionate ratio of elderly black men and women and some elderly white men and women who vote Democrat in the Deep South and may not have a photo ID because they were born before a time when birth certificates were easily created. For many years, Republican lawmakers have scoffed at the idea that Voter ID laws are unconstitutional and they disqualify many legal voters. Another new initiative by the US Justice Department is not to get rid of these Voter ID laws, but to require that there are an equal number of Republican and Democrats being purged from voter lists for not having proper identification. While there have been always more Democrats that fall victim to Voter ID laws in the Deep South, the US Justice Department would require more Republican voters being a victim of Voter ID laws in heavily Democratic states such as New York and California. The Attorney General was quoted as saying, "Voter ID laws will always remain controversial; we shouldn't just get rid of these laws since they do serve a purpose. It's more important to have an equal number of American citizens who are affected by these laws. White, Black, and Hispanic citizens should equally be affected by these laws.

The last major issue the US Justice Department is tackling when it comes to the disenfranchisement of White America is how it deals with illegal immigration. Immigration is always a controversial subject in America and it seems like solutions are far and few as quoted by this senior Justice Department Official. He also said, "There may not be any long-term solutions to immigration and the wall may never get built because of the same old bureaucracy that plagues Washington DC, one of the things that we can do is not make illegal immigration so disproportionate among one ethnicity as in the case of Hispanics." There needs to be

more white illegal immigrants in the United States. They need to come across the border in a different region of the United States such as Canada. The senior official also went on to say, "We may not be able to solve all the issues of immigration, but we can make it more equal among ethnicity and gender. The US Justice Department started a new initiative to get more illegal immigrants from Canada in order to equal the same amount of illegal immigrants coming from Hispanic countries." When I asked the senior official why this needed to happen, he quoted. "It may be a quick fix solution to immigration, but at least we will be equal in numbers which is more important when it comes to making America great again and stopping the disenfranchisement of White America. Plus, it would nice to use tear gas on illegal immigrants on both borders."

We all know there are many issues that plague American society, especially White America. The senior official for the US Justice Department told me that everything is being looked at, but this year we are tackling the four most important issues to help with this disenfranchisement of White America. If we can solve these issues, we should have no problem solving the other issues such as the equal number of employees working low paying jobs like Landscaping, picking fruits and vegetables in the fields of California and Florida, and fast food jobs. Why should these kind of jobs only be for minorities when there can be an equal number of Black, Hispanic, Asian, and white workers. I found this to be an interesting narrative by the US Justice Department to say the least. Perhaps our president is right...the first step in making America great again is making all things equal when it comes to criminals, the type of unarmed citizens who are being killed by police officers, and making sure that both Democrats and Republicans are equally affected by voter ID laws. Only time will tell if these new initiatives by the United States Justice Department will improve American

society and stop the disenfranchisement of White America. But more importantly, will they make America great again!

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