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Servant or Tyrant?

For **ALL AMERICAN VOTERS**, there are three important character traits in politics, ***Transparency, truthfulness, and consistency.*** If you believe the previous statement, you are by definition “Conservative” in nature. These three things are not mutually exclusive. In other words, all three have to happen at the same time on every issue. Many politicians see this as a juggling act. For them it is hard to keep all the balls up in the air at the same time. **At Rise Up Wisconsin, it doesn’t matter what politician or what issue we are talking about, the issue is more important than the elected person demagoguing it.** Let’s unpack that.

On the element of ***truthfulness*** let’s start with the important issue of election integrity. **It remains an important issue with base voters going into the November election. We still don’t have complete faith in our elections in Wisconsin, nor should we.** A few bills have been passed but they are technical in nature and will not dismantle the Democrats vote cheating infrastructure. **So, we go into the November midterms in the same state we were going into November of 2020.** One of the reasons is that the Wisconsin state legislature Assembly Speaker, Republican Robin Vos, moved slowly out of the gate, not only just during the November election challenge but also in the months that followed. Before the topic of decertification became the rally cry of many at the grass roots level, the issue was to have a Maricopa Arizona County style cyber forensic audit of the ballots cast in November and then an investigation into all the irregularities that have surfaced. That *still* has not happened. In part it is because Speaker Vos opposed a cyber forensic audit from the beginning. In fact, he said in an Associated Press story dated July 27th, 2021, when asked that, ***“I don’t know what it would prove.”*** He fought colleagues Janel Brandjten’s and Timothy Ramthun’s call for such an audit. (Brandjten chairs the Assembly Committee on Elections.)

Vos, feeling the heat from the grass root base voters, finally started to at least begin using the “full cyber forensic audit” reference in his messaging even though he was against it. He continued to slow walk it, however, trying to run out the clock. **President Donald Trump chimed in** calling out Vos and two other GOP leaders saying they were, ***“working hard to cover up election corruption.”*** Speaker Vos’s response to Trump’s charge was, ***“We are already doing a forensic audit” (which was a lie). “So just like perhaps President Trump was misinformed about what we are actually doing in Wisconsin, I feel like my colleague Rep. Brandjten is misinformed about what we are doing in Wisconsin.”*** Folks, to call Vos untruthful here would be kind. To say he was lying, would be the truth.

Next, is the matter of ***transparency.*** After Speaker Vos realized that he was losing the narrative on a full Maricopa style forensic audit, he acquiesced and appointed a retired State Supreme Court Judge to do an investigation into the November 2020 election. By the time this investigation infrastructure was built, it was August. That’s nine months *after* the election. When time was of the essence, it appeared that Vos was trying to run out the clock hoping this would die down and go away. That was a huge miscalculation and political blunder by Vos who arrogantly believes that he’s the smartest guy in the room intellectually and politically. Vos unilaterally set this arrangement up in a contract between him and Mike Gableman, one that by-passed the legislative approval process for spending a reported \$650,000. The contract also called for Mike Gableman to report only to him, not the legislature, more specifically the Assembly Committee on Elections.

Gableman issued a scathing report in testimony about his findings to Rep. Janel Brandjten’s committee where he detailed numerous irregularities and outright widespread flaws in the November election. **This flew in the face of what**



Robin Vos expected to find. Ladies and gentlemen, to keep up with the timeline, Gableman's report came in March 2022. The election occurred in November of 2020.

Speaker Vos then had several open records requests for emails and text messages made during this investigation. He refused the requested public information. A Judge ordered him to turn over the information to the entity requesting it and Vos arrogantly ignored the order. The Judge then found him in contempt of court ordering him to pay \$1000 a day for violating the order. Now the taxpayers were on the hook for Vos's obstinance. After some time passed, Vos complied with the court order. There is a reason for Wisconsin's open records law. It's called transparency in government. **And Robin Vos is Not Transparent to the Voters of Wisconsin.**

***We The People* have a right to know what our elected representatives are doing.** Anybody who has ever made an open records request knows that getting what they are looking for is like pulling teeth. If you do get the records, they are heavily redacted which is often done to frustrate the requester or to keep them from finding what they want. Again, the arrogance of Speaker Vos was on display. **This elitist believes the laws don't apply to him.**

That brings me to the final political element of **consistency**. Yes, it again involves Speaker Robin Vos. He recently appeared on a Milwaukee area talk radio show where he was asked by a caller if he would be willing to meet with people to discuss the issue of the November 2020 election. Vos agreed, affirmatively saying on the air that, and I quote, *"I pride myself on trying to be accessible, open and listen to both sides to try to make the best judgement I can."*

We at Rise Up Wisconsin decided to test his integrity by extending a written invitation for a town hall style event where voters could ask him directly about his position on important issues like election integrity, expanding gun rights, opening choice up to every parent in Wisconsin, restricting abortion, term limits, reducing the size of state government and lowering taxes, eliminating the minimum markup law and the state income tax. We sent several requests in writing and left several voice mail messages. To date? *Crickets*. We have not received a response, not even a form letter acknowledging receipt of our request. That is standard operating procedure for Robin Vos. It's important to note that other people, who live in his district, tell me they get blown off and ignored in requests to his office too. At least Robin Vos IS CONSISTANT ABOUT NOT MEETING OPENLY with the People of Wisconsin.

Vos consistently says one thing but really means something else. He holds some public events that are staged and controlled to his liking. Questions must be submitted in writing beforehand to eliminate one's that might put him on the spot. *THAT* is not accessibility. Not by our definition.

This is who we are dealing with, ladies and gentlemen. An arrogant, aloof, detached from reality, my-way-or-else politician. Ask yourself this, 'Is this the behavior you expect from a public servant?'

In Service to the People of Wisconsin,
David A. Clarke Jr.
President Rise Up Wisconsin Inc