

# Who Will Counter Donald Trump's Remarks?

There is one area in which Donald Trump is no celebrity apprentice – racism.

After being exposed as a publicity-loving idiot after he questioned the authenticity of President Obama's birth records, Trump quickly shifted away from the discredited birther attack and began raising wild and unsubstantiated charges about Obama's academic achievement, a record that includes the future president finishing in the top 10 percent of his class at Harvard Law School and being elected president of the prestigious Harvard Law Review.

Although journalistic lapdogs are willing to parrot Trump's ridiculous and increasingly outlandish charges about President Obama, few have chronicled his racist behavior and comments.

Trump may have escaped scrutiny partly because he donated free office space to Jesse Jackson once upon a time and frequently makes the rounds with Snoop Dogg and P. Diddy. In one of the few times he has been confronted about his racism, Trump told TMZ.com, "I am the last person that such a thing should be said about."

No, Donald, you should be one of the first. And, I will tell you why.

One would never know that Trump ever hung out with African-Americans, judging by his language.

In a radio interview with Fred Dicker on Talk 1300 in New York, Trump complained about the difficulty Hillary Clinton had winning

## THE CURRY REPORT

George E. Curry



over Black voters.

"You'll hear a political reporter go on and say it had nothing to do with race. But how come she had such a tiny piece of the vote? And you know, it's a very sad thing," Trump said. "I have a great relationship with the Blacks. I've always had a great relationship with the Blacks. But unfortunately, it seems that, you know, the numbers you cite are very, very frightening numbers."

The Blacks? Who uses that kind of language? And Trump didn't just say it once – he said it twice.

Well, let's see how Trump treated the Blacks that he claims to have such a great relationship with.

In 1973, the United States Justice Department sued Trump Management Corp. for violating the Fair Housing Act by refusing to rent to some potential tenants because of their "race or color." Trump, who had taken over as president of the family business by then, reacted in typical Donald Trump fashion – he sued the government for \$100 million, claiming the family business had been defamed. The judge dismissed the

suit, saying Trump and his lawyer, Roy Cohn, former chief counsel to Senator Joseph McCarthy, were "wasting time and paper."

Trump signed a settlement requiring that vacancies in the 15,000 apartment complex, which was approximately 95 percent White, must first be offered to people of color. He agreed not to engage in further racial discrimination. In a precursor of what was to come after Obama released his long-form birth certificate, Trump described his defeat as a victory and bragged that he was not required to "accept persons on welfare as tenants unless they qualified as any other tenant."

Three years later, the Justice Department hauled Trump back into court for violating the settlement by telling the Blacks they had no vacancies when, in fact, there were openings.

After a group of four African-Americans and one Latino, aged 14 to 16 years old, were arrested in 1989 for allegedly raping a White female jogger in Central Park, Trump took out a full-page ad in the New York Times calling for the death penalty. That would have been a terrible mistake – all five teenagers were later exonerated.

John R. O'Donnell, former president of Trump Plaza Hotel &

Casino, cited racist and anti-Semitic remarks made by his former boss. In his book, *Trumped*, the former company official said Trump disparaged a Black accountant at Trump Plaza by asserting "laziness is a trait in blacks." According to O'Donnell's book, Trump also said, "Black guys counting my money! I hate it. The only kind of people I want counting my money are short guys that wear yarmulkes every day."

In an interview with *Playboy* magazine in 1999, Trump tried to dismiss O'Donnell as a loser, but acknowledged, "The stuff O'Donnell wrote about me is probably true."

Evidently not content stereotyping of Blacks and Jews who worked for him, Trump was inclined to reduce the president to being a Black athlete.

"If you look at what he's doing in Libya, which is a total disaster, nobody even knows what's going on in Libya," Trump asserted. "If you look at what's happening with gasoline prices where he said he has no control over prices, which he does. If he gets on the phone or gets off his basketball court or whatever he is doing at the time."

It turns out that while Trump was attacking Obama on Libya, for playing basketball, and raising

false charges about Obama's birth certificate, the president was thoroughly engaged in planning a top-secret operation that would lead to the killing of Osama bin Laden. It was Trump who didn't know what was going on.

In view of Trump's record, it is difficult to believe him when he says if he could do it all over, he would come back as an African-American.

He told Bryant Gumble as part of a two-hour television special on race: "If I was starting off today, I would love to be a well-educated Black because I really do believe they have the actual advantage today."

Not as much of the advantage enjoyed by a run-of-the-mill White male who inherited his wealth from his father. By the way, Donald, there is a well-educated African-American in the White House. And, look how you and those of your ilk are treating him.

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## Self-Inflicted Damage

Since the announced killing of Emanuel Goldstein -- er, Osama Bin Laden -- I've seen much speculation

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on what kind of big terror attack we can expect in retaliation. But if Al Qaeda was capable of a large-scale, spectacular reprisal attack, I think they'd already have done it between 9-11 and now. Their actual pattern since then has been one of poorly organized, penny ante attacks, carried out by poorly trained people -- suggesting that they picked the low-hanging fruit on 9-11.

It's quite plausible that, given enough

the U.S. experienced a moral defeat by abandoning everything it stood for and becoming what it hated

incompetent attempts, somebody will eventually succeed in detonating a bomb and blowing up a plane in the air. Enough monkeys with enough typewriters and enough time, and all that. But even if it happens, the damage will be limited to the passengers on one plane out of millions of flights in any one year. With hardened cockpits and passengers who understand that the goal of hijacking has changed, it will never be possible to fly a plane into a high-value target again. And it's unlikely all the TSA security theater in the airports, aimed at preventing the previous attack, is good for anything except satisfying the "Well, we have to do SOMETHING!" idjuts.

The interesting thing, though, is that however poorly planned and executed the

attacks have been, they were conducted in accordance with a brilliant strategic vision of maximizing bang for the buck in terms of the U.S. government stupidity they provoke. An attempt to smuggle explosives on a plane doesn't have to be anything more than crude and ineffectual, because TSA's knee-jerk overreaction -- not blowing up the plane -- is the real goal. The goal is to make the passenger screening process, the x-raying of all cargo, etc., so onerous, humiliating, expensive and time-consuming that air traffic shrinks radically and the U.S. economy takes a hit. The goal is for the American people to see their government as intrusive, arbitrary, and callous.

The goal is also for the U.S. government, in response, to stay bogged down in endless wars in the Islamic world, radicalizing people there and causing them to see the U.S. as a crusader army -- in the meantime wearying and demoralizing the U.S. population and bankrupting the government. To paraphrase the late Mr. Bin Laden, it's only necessary for a couple of brothers with "Al Qaeda" written on a piece of cloth to show themselves in Antarctica, and the President will send Marines to fight the penguins there "so we won't have to fight them here."

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