

Trump is troublesome; I will vote for U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz

January 28, 2016

By [Randy W. Bright](#)

I liked what I heard Donald Trump was saying in the initial months of his campaign, but I was never convinced that he was right person to carry out his campaign promise. Since then, I have never felt comfortable with the idea of a President Trump.

Despite his popularity – and his is a campaign based on populism – a close look at what he says he will do as president as opposed to what he has done in the past are two very different things.

If there were one issue – and there are others – that gives Donald Trump a failing grade, it would be his stance on eminent domain. It is not surprising that you hear so little from him on this subject, as his belief in the validity of *Kilo v. New London* tells you much about his belief in the Constitution and property rights.

Kilo was the Supreme Court case that redefined property rights by redefining the meaning of eminent domain. The original meaning allowed for the taking of property for certain infrastructure needs primarily having to do with transportation and vital government interests, but *Kilo* decided that eminent domain permitted any government agency to take property from one individual and give it to another individual, merely on the promise of producing economic benefits to its community.

However, one of the keystone principles of the Constitution is property rights, including the provision that what a person earns, he can keep. The government is supposed to protect us from robber barons, but that protection is now gone.

Several months ago I heard a reporter ask Mr. Trump about what he believed regarding eminent domain. I am paraphrasing, but his reply was that it was important to his business because he frequently encountered “hold-outs,” that is people who did not want to sell the property that Mr. Trump needed to complete his development deals. His contention was that his development was going to bring jobs and economic benefits to the community, and that he needed a way to get their property. The new eminent domain definition was it.

To quote a principle from scripture, if you can't be trusted with small things, how can you be trusted with large things? Believing in part of the Constitution but not all of it makes the entire Constitution meaningless.

Another thing I considered is how each of the two leading candidates – Trump and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz – presented themselves on their official websites. Trump's website touched only on a few issues – U.S.-China trade reform, Veterans Administration reform, tax reform, Second Amendment rights and immigration reform. A close examination of each of them reveals flaws. For example, his approach to U.S.-China trade imbalance hints at policies that have been attempted in the past (such as the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930 that triggered a world-wide depression). His tax reform measures don't appear to bring any relief to the middle class either.

But a review of Cruz's website reveals much more authenticity. The issues he presents not only describes the problems, but what he has been doing or will do to solve them. He actually has a track record of being a conservative, not just someone who promises to be.

The issues that Ted Cruz covers on his website include restoring the Constitution, Second Amendment rights, securing the border, national defense, standing with Israel, religious Liberty, "life, marriage and family," jobs and opportunities and reining in Washington.

He describes doing what conservatives have known needs to be done since Ronald Reagan left office. Ronald Reagan famously said that "Government is not the solution to our problems. Government is the problem." and: The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government, and I'm here to help."

We obviously need less government intrusion to help us rebuild our manufacturing base and to solve our economic problems. We need fewer entitlements, fewer government agencies, lower taxes, and a President who doesn't abuse his power. This country cannot survive the next term if the Oval Office is occupied by another Marxist (referring to Hillary Clinton or Bernie Sanders), or someone whose allegiance to the Constitution is ruled by expedience (Donald Trump). We have to have someone who is humble enough and strong enough to steer this country to its roots.

Recently Donald Trump was quoted saying, "I have the most loyal people. I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot someone and I wouldn't lose any voters, okay?"

Is that really what we want for a president? Haven't we had enough of that attitude this past seven years?

I'm getting behind Ted Cruz. He is the real deal.



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