



# The Hancock County Democrat

Hancock County Democratic Party

## Reply to Those Crazy Conservative Christians

A letter to the Editor of the Courier by Bruce Workman



Salon.com  
A whole laoota  
Ssinin' goin' on

I would like to thank Larry Richards for the civility of his response to my letter. I was fully expecting ad hominem attacks. Where I challenge Mr. Richards is on the assumption that the men who wrote the bible were God's stenographers. Neither the Old nor the New Testament is the literal word of God. There are just too many inconsistencies and clearly disprovable statements. The authors of the Old Testament are largely unknown. There is no historical evidence for the existence of Moses. You would think parting the Red Sea would earn a blip in some civilization's history.

The authors were not only men of different literary styles, but the decisions as to what was the true word of God, and what was apocryphal were also made by men (not at Nicaea). The debate on what to include in the bible continued into the 16th century when Martin Luther wrote his German translation. In later centuries, interpretations were the source of debates leading to 41,000 different denominations in five major "families."

The only author of the new testament who was even close to being a contemporary of Jesus was Paul and he never met Jesus while he was human. The rest was written hundreds of years later and very incomplete biographies. Personally, I believe Paul had his own ax to grind and was a bit of a curmudgeon.

In short, I believe using the bible to legislate morality or pass judgment on anyone is a dubious

undertaking. Throughout my teen and young adult years being labeled a homosexual was a constant source of angst. I am not a homosexual and I felt a need to make that apparent however I could. Being not as uncompassionate as some, I was faced with the question "Why would anyone choose to complicate their lives like that?" The answer I came up with is that they do not. No, Mr. Richards, homosexuality is not something one chooses.

I believe many Christians have become modern-day Pharisees and would not meet Christ's approval.

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## Findlay's Racist Past: Is It All Behind Us?

Bruce Workman



**The Harris Theater  
Findlay Bicentennial  
Photos**

**The Hancock  
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Democrat**

I was born in Findlay. My family moved away during the summer of my eighth birthday. I was the youngest of four children. My siblings remembered details of our time here that I do not. My sister was the eldest and remembers drinking fountains in downtown that were marked “White” and “Colored”. There were two movie theaters on Main Street. One was called the Harris Theater and I do not recall the name of the other. My sister remembers us asking if we could sit in the balcony. We were told that it was closed, but even in the darkness, we could see there were people up there. It was not until a recent family conversation about things Findlay that my sister jogged my memory and told me that my mother later told her that negroes were made to sit in the balcony. There must have been a special entrance and exit because I do not remember seeing any non-Caucasians either before or after the movie. As a matter of fact, I do not remember seeing any black people, during the seven-plus years I lived in Findlay. They were surely here because someone was in that balcony, but Findlay had effectively made them invisible. It was like Findlay was some “cracker” town hugging the old Mason-Dixon Line.

More recently, Findlay received a

dishonorable mention in a Racism Review article from July 1, 2008 about ‘about an Ohio town where misinformation about Barack Obama is running rampant.’ “So far, those who have pushed the truth in Findlay have been rewarded with little that resembles progress. Gerri Kish, a 66-year-old born in Hawaii, read both of Obama’s autobiographies. She has close friends, she said, who still refuse to believe her when she swears Obama is Christian. Then she hands them the books, and they refuse to read them. ‘They just want believe what they believe,’ she said. ‘Nothing gets through to them.’” The article goes on to cite quotes from residents concerning the ‘true’ place of his birth and his ‘true’ religion.

Upon reading some of the comments in the letters to the editor, I began to wonder how much has profoundly changed in Findlay. The racism is a little less overt, but it still appears to be thriving. Findlay has become a small city filled with white-privileged, mostly protestant, and largely intolerant Caucasians. If we do not change and change fast, we will be viewed in the same light as places like Fort Laramie. There is a bar in Fort Laramie that celebrates James Earl Ray’s birthday. We can do much better than that.



Image by WikiImages from Pixabay

## Trump's deflating Tulsa turnout reveals a deeper problem for him

Jonathon Allen NBC News

Analysis: Rather than a silent majority, the president demonstrated the limits of his base's support.

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump was supposed to get a boost Saturday from his first campaign rally since late February. Instead, he got a bust.

After having bragged last week that more than 1 million people had signed up to see him, Trump found that he couldn't fill a 19,000-seat arena in a state he won by 36 percentage points on a night that his aides had promoted as a major show of his strength.

The sparse crowd in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was more than just a humiliation for Trump. It weakened a key argument of his re-election narrative. To explain how he might be able to win despite poor polling numbers — and amid national crises — he has posited that a "silent majority" of Americans backs him.

"The silent majority is stronger than ever before," Trump said Saturday night.

But the poor turnout suggests just the opposite — that enthusiasm for him is weaker than it appears. That isn't likely to sit well with Trump, who gambled that his backers were so loyal that they would brave the risk of spreading the coronavirus to see him in person.

His bet backfired. Rather than a jolt of energy, Trump got a dose of reality. Worse yet for the president, it was delivered at a time when he desperately needs to reset the frame of the election.

For most of the last four months, when Trump had expected to tour the country in service of his re-election, he has been

running a Rose Garden campaign. Most Americans don't approve of his handling of the coronavirus, his response to nationwide protests against systemic racism or both. And his rival, presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden, has seized a sizable polling lead.

To get him out of the West Wing doldrums and back into fighting mode, his political team had planned a rally that would re-energize him by demonstrating the commitment of the Trump faithful. It was so important that he went forward with it despite having to move the date so it wouldn't conflict with Juneteenth.

Charlie Kirk, founder of the pro-Trump student group Turning Point USA, said afterward on Fox News that it had been "too long" since the president had held one of his signature events.

"It's so refreshing to see the president back in front of his base," Kirk said, channeling the thinking of many Trump allies. "Finally, he's back on offense, putting the Democrats on defense."

But while Trump delivered a series of broadsides at adversaries real and imagined — he devoted more than 10 minutes to enumerating excuses for why he had difficulty descending a ramp at the U.S. Military Academy this month — it was difficult, at times, to tell exactly which side he was taking.

It was a boastful night for the president, who also praised himself for the federal response to the coronavirus.

(Continued on page 4)



Phot provided by the NY Post Only 91.00 less than projected

**"His bet backfired. Rather than a jolt of energy, Trump got a dose of reality. Worse yet for the president, it was delivered at a time when he desperately needs to reset the frame of the election."**



www..huffpost.com

Filling his diaper?

## Trump's Tulsa Turnout (continued)



[www.thestar.com](http://www.thestar.com)

**They seem like reasonable people.**

"I have done a phenomenal job with it," he said. "I saved hundreds of thousands of lives. We don't ever get a mention."

Epidemiologists say the U.S. death toll would have been much lower if the president and other government officials had pushed policies like social distancing earlier.

All in all, Trump's hour-plus speech sounded familiar in its mix of grievance, self-congratulation and invective. But what was notably different from typical Trump rallies was the muted reaction from the audience. The one thing Trump needed more than anything, he didn't get.

There were no deafening chants of "build the wall" or other crowd favorites. He wasn't often forced to pause for applause. And, with his upper lip and cheek shining for most of the night, Trump appeared to be working hard to sustain the modest energy in the room.

That should have served as a reality check for him: Right now, his supporters amount to less of a "silent majority" than an absent minority.

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Photo provided by KTTX. If we could burn this bullshit, we could power the nation.

## JUST FOR LAUGHS

- This is
- A. The Tulsa Oklahoma Mobile Home Owners Association
  - B. A Densa meeting
  - C. A newly discovered species of lemmings
  - D. White trash at Trump rally
  - E. All of the above



You can submit your answers to [contact@hancockcounty.dems.org](mailto:contact@hancockcounty.dems.org)  
results will be published in next weeks Just For Laughs

There was a video here but it made the file too big. More next issue.

## NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Saturday June 27, 2020

Sunday June 28, 2020

Monday June 29, 2020

Tuesday June 30, 2020

Wednesday July 1, 2020

Thursday July 2, 2020

First Thursday Event A Community Conversation on Police and Community Relations . 7:00 pm

Streaming on Face Book Live at: the

[Hancock County Democrats Facebook Page](#)

Friday July 3, 2020



## What's Facebook's Deal With Donald Trump?

Ben Smith *The New York Times* June 21, 2020

Mark Zuckerberg has forged an uneasy alliance with the Trump administration. He may have gotten too close.



Brandon Celi

Last Nov. 20, NBC News broke the news that Mark Zuckerberg, Donald Trump and a Facebook board member, Peter Thiel, had dined together at the White House the previous month. “It is unclear why the meeting was not made public or what Trump, Zuckerberg and Thiel discussed,” the report said.

That was it. Nothing else has emerged since. Not the date, not who arranged the menu, the venue, the seating, not the full guest list. And not whether some kind of deal got done between two of the most powerful men in the world. The news cycle moved on, and the dinner became one of

the unsolved mysteries of American power.

But I was able to pry some of those details loose last week from White House officials along with current and former senior Facebook employees and people they speak to. Most said they would only talk on the condition their names not be used, since the company is not eager to call attention to Mr. Zuckerberg’s relationship with the president.

Their accounts painted a picture of an unusual gathering — something in between a high-stakes state dinner between the leaders of uneasily allied superpowers (continued on page 8)

**“Their accounts painted a picture of an unusual gathering — something in between a high-stakes state dinner between the leaders of uneasily allied superpowers and the awkward rehearsal dinner before a marriage that has both families a little rattled.”**

## Trump and Facebook (continued)

and the awkward rehearsal dinner before a marriage that has both families a little rattled.

Jesse Lehrich, the co-founder of Accountable Tech, a new nonprofit group pushing Facebook to tighten controls on its platform, suggested that the two men have a tacit nonaggression pact. “Trump can rage at Big Tech and Mark can say he’s disgusted by Trump’s posts, but at the end of the day the status quo serves both of their interests,” Mr. Lehrich said.

Officials at Facebook and in the administration scoff at the notion that there is some kind of secret pact. And it’s hard to imagine that anyone — certainly not Mr. Zuckerberg — would be dumb enough to make a secret deal with a president known for keeping neither secrets nor deals.

Mr. Trump and Mr. Zuckerberg had met just once before the dinner, an Oval Office encounter last September. Afterward, the president boasted about his giant following on the platform. But October was a hot political month at Facebook: Mr. Zuckerberg was in an open battle with a leading Democratic presidential candidate, Senator Elizabeth Warren, who was threatening to break up Facebook and whom he called “an existential threat” to the company. The morning of their dinner, a top British official

demanded answers on why Facebook would tolerate false political advertising.

Mr. Zuckerberg, a Facebook executive said, seems to view Mr. Trump as a peer. By contrast, he told amused top aides at one of his regular Monday meetings in March that Mr. Kushner was calling him so often about help with the administration’s coronavirus response that he couldn’t keep up, two people familiar with the meeting said. (“Mark does not think of himself as a peer to this president or any president,” a Facebook spokesman, Tucker Bounds, said, adding that Mr. Zuckerberg had initiated the conversation with Mr. Kushner about the coronavirus response.)

Mr. Zuckerberg has played the high-stakes and unpredictable politics of the Trump years as well as any other corporate executive. And a week before the dinner last October, he made clear in a speech that his interests and the president’s aligned: Mr. Zuckerberg would reject a growing movement to limit the false or inflammatory statements of the American president.

“I don’t think it’s right for a private company to censor politicians or the news in a democracy,” he said in the address at Georgetown University on Oct. 17. “We don’t do this to help politicians, but because we think people should be able to see for themselves what politicians are saying.”



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*Our mission is to support, promote, build and perpetuate the Democratic Party in Hancock County, Ohio, by recruiting, screening, and training qualified Candidates, raising funds, registering voters, distributing literature, advertising, and doing other such appropriate activities.*

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<https://hancockcountydems.org>

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