
CDTC letter, “Protect Our Democracy” published Jan 15, 2021

The Carlisle Democratic Town Committee (CDTC) condemns the violent takeover of the US Capitol on January 6, 2021. This is a clear attempt by Donald Trump, his radical supporters, and his facilitators to overthrow our democracy by blocking president-elect Biden from taking office. Furthermore, there have been signs on social media that more dangerous interference may be in planning. It is past time to draw the line on flouting the law and to implement consequences for those who do.

We urge townspeople to contact our Congressional representation – Lori Trahan, Elizabeth Warren, Ed Markey – to express our recommendations:

- Take expedient action to halt Donald Trump’s ability to act against the government.
- Explore with ethics committees proper action against Trump’s facilitators in Congress via the 14th amendment provision for expulsion from Congress or removal from positions of privilege in Congressional committees, or other remedies.
- Any action by VP Pence using the 25th amendment must come with a commitment not to pardon Donald Trump.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi deserves our thanks for her for her swift action and cool head. We trust her, incoming Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, and Joe Biden to work out the priorities between action to halt Trump and the pressing need for cabinet confirmations and new legislation.

Nancy Kronenberg
Bob Kearney

Response to Democratic Town Committee’s letter [published Feb 11, 2021]

To the Editor:

This is in response to the CDTC’s (Carlisle Democratic Town Committee) “Protect our democracy” letter.

Once again you have seen fit to attack former President Trump without knowing all the facts. It is now known that left-leaning (BLM/Antifa/Dems) are involved along with the FBI knowing, days before the President’s rally, that known agitators were going to be present at the rally in Washington. Why did not the FBI inform other law officials?

I am sure they felt it would benefit the Democrats who have long infiltrated the FBI. Why didn’t you decry the looting, burning of cities and police stations and destruction of federal property that was caused by the BLM and Antifa, both Democratic-controlled? What about Rep. Swalwell cavorting with a Chinese spy? The FBI informed him that she was a Chinese spy but Speaker Pelosi, knowing this, refused to remove him from his seat on the Intelligence Committee.

I could fill pages with similar instances but will end with you want us to believe in your fantasies because you cannot substantiate your versions of reality with the facts. You should realize that feelings are not

facts. Paraphrasing Rep. Brian Mast from Florida, we should all be held to a high standard but not a double standard. Name withheld upon request

CDTC Letter, Facts Can Be Verified [published Mar 26, p. 10, 2021]

We wish to respond to the unsigned letter published Feb 11 in response to the Jan 15 Carlisle DTC letter, Protect Our Democracy. In this letter the writer stated: "Once again you have seen fit to attack former President Trump without knowing all the facts. It is now known that left-leaning (BLM/Antifa/Democrats) are involved." The reliably available facts are different.

Our assertion of Donald Trump's responsibility was based on the facts we saw (many Trump and confederate flags, QAnon signs, etc.) and did not see (no signs of Democrats, Black Lives Matter or Antifa) in extensive live coverage by reputable news sources.

As early as Jan 6, reliable news sources began checking the Antifa claim and found it false: Associated Press, "Photos Show Trump Supporters Inside Capitol Rioting, Not Antifa."

More facts have emerged through FBI investigations: BBC News, March 5, "Capitol riots: Who Are the Key People Charged So Far?" With one possible exception all profiled are members of QAnon, far-right hate groups, militias, etc., i.e., just what the rioters' signs said. The possible exception is John Sullivan, who says he supports the Black community, but is neither BLM nor Antifa and has marched with gun advocates, militia types, and been arrested during some of these events.

Stories spread with lightning rapidity in social media which only recently began the barest fact checking. In a March 1 article The New York Times explained how this happened: "How Pro-Trump Forces Pushed a Lie About Antifa at the Capitol Riot." The Antifa story started as a speculation on Twitter, and overnight became an entrenched belief as it spread.

We encourage everyone, regardless of party, to get their news from reputable sources that require stories to be substantiated with more than one source and that give names, dates, and places, rather than "people say..." or the like. Our current mix of facts and contrary baseless assertions is dividing the country deeply. Only when people operate on essentially the same set of facts, can we debate our problems and solutions and make steady progress together.

The Carlisle Democratic Town Committee
Nancy Kronenberg, co-chair