

# What Donny said:

In a short Video posted September 28th as a 'pinned' Tweet in response to the impeachment inquiry, The POTUS emphatically addresses the camera and says:

**"What's going on now is the single greatest scam in the history of American politics.**

**The democrats wanna take away your guns, they wanna take away your healthcare, they wanna take away your vote, they wanna take away your freedom, they wanna take away your judges, they wanna take away everything. We can never let this happen.**

**We're fighting to drain the swamp and that's exactly what I'm doing, and you see why we have to do it-**

**Because our country is at stake like never before.**

**It's all very simple, they're trying to stop me, because I'm fighting for you. And I'll never let that happen."**

Aristotle described the three means of persuasion an orator relies on as:

**Ethos** - those statements grounded in the perception of credibility.

**Pathos** - those that play on the emotions and psychology of the audience.

**Logos** - those that use arguments that will be perceived as logical.

Imbalanced as ever, Trump displays a masterful use of one leg of that triad- the **pathetic**, rhetorically, leaving logic and credulity in the dust once again.

The House of Representatives has finally declared an intention to proceed with an impeachment inquiry that could lead to a trial of the president. The fast breaking story of the precipitating events is already cloaked in confusion for the casual observer- and though it seems unlikely, at this point, that the process will result in his removal from office, the process itself is important. It allows documents, and evidence to be gathered, and conclusions to be drawn.

The process underway makes The House of Representatives role that of a Grand Jury- empowered to investigate and draft articles that indict for cause, then the Senate conducts a trial to weigh the evidence. This is not a criminal proceeding, but the outcome is as unpredictable as any trial. And the result could sway the "court of public opinion."

In 1974, **three articles of impeachment** against Richard Nixon, for obstruction of justice, abuse of power, and contempt of Congress were enough for him to deem resignation the best option. While Nixon was a scoundrel in his own particular ways, he was also an accomplished statesman, while avoiding even more personal disgrace, he also did the right thing and left the office voluntarily, sparing the nation even more spectacle and distraction.

Julius Caesar's **crossing of the Rubicon** river in January 49 BC precipitated the Roman Civil War, which ultimately led to Caesar becoming dictator and the rise of the imperial era of Rome. The Roman Senate ordered Caesar to disband his army and return to Rome. He was explicitly ordered not to bring his army across the Rubicon river, a northern boundary of Italy. In an act that the Roman government considered insurrection, treason, and a declaration of war on the Roman Senate, Caesar brought his legion across the river, he is said to have uttered the phrase that **Nancy Pelosi**, in defense of her decision to pursue the impeachment process quoted: "**alea iacta est**" - **The Die is Cast**, as his army marched through the shallow river.

For ever after, the phrase **Crossing the Rubicon** has been used to indicate an action that is irreversible. What ever the outcome, everything changes with these proceedings.

The day before posting the above video Trump posted a low budget 30-second campaign ad - previewing how he hopes the impeachment fight will play out in the 2020 election if Biden becomes the Democratic nominee:

**"Biden promised Ukraine a billion dollars if they fired the prosecutor investigating his son's company,"** the narrator says, over ominous music. **"But when President Trump asks Ukraine to investigate corruption, the Democrats want to impeach him."**

Much of this is misleading. **Biden did threaten to withhold aid that had been promised to Ukraine if the prosecutor was not removed; he did not promise to give \$1 billion for doing so.** The Ukrainian prosecutor in question did not have an active investigation of the company where Biden's son worked at the time. And while leveraging change in the personnel of other governments can be questioned, the combined peer pressure of the Obama administration, American allies, the International Monetary Fund and Ukrainian anti-corruption activists, among others, had made it clear that they were displeased with the performance of Viktor Shokin, who became the Ukrainian prosecutor general in 2015.

Shokin was widely faulted for declining to bring prosecutions of elites' corruption, and he was even accused of hindering corruption investigations. His deputy, Vitaliy Kasko, resigned in February 2016, alleging that Shokin's office was itself corrupt. The International Monetary Fund warned Ukraine in February 2016 that it risked losing financial support if it did not clean up its act. The Financial Times explained in its article on the warning that then-President Petro Poroshenko was facing pressure to replace Shokin, whom the newspaper described as a "long-time loyalist" of the president; the article continued, "Mr. Shokin has been criticized for failing to bring to justice any of the snipers who killed dozens of protesters in central Kiev in the final days of the revolution, and for dragging his feet over investigating senior officials and businesspeople." In a September 2015 speech, the US ambassador to Ukraine, Geoffrey Pyatt, used blunt language in criticizing Shokin, blasting "**corrupt actors within the Prosecutor General's Office**" who were "**making things worse by openly and aggressively undermining reform.**"

Well may we wonder what qualified Biden's son to be on the board of **Burisma Holdings**, but the investigation, as far as we know, which began in the **UK** before Biden joined the board, was looking into the business activities of Mykola Zlochevsky, who owned the natural gas company, **Hunter Biden was never a subject of the investigation.**

The current impeachment investigation focuses on Trump's specific request to the current Ukrainian president, Volodymyr Zelensky (an unlikely winner of his own election, formally a comedian, playing a character on television who decides to run for president!) for aid in an investigation of Biden, his perceived political rival. As things heat up, this sort of detail will continue to be lost in sound bite battles and advertising.

**"SHUT THE FUCK UP DONNY, YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR ELEMENT" - Walter Sobchak in the 'Big Lebowski' - Joshua Golden**

**Francisco Toledo**, aka El Maestro, tells a story: "*I did an engraving about Juarez (Benito Juarez, the 19th-century reformist Mexican President who was, like Toledo, a Zapotec Indian from the State of Oaxaca) depicting him as a postman delivering a letter and I pictured my own dog running alongside him. This image*

*is born from a legend from Chiapas that explains why dogs sniff each other's asses every time they meet.*

*It seems that the dogs were upset because men were hitting them, kicking them, weren't giving them enough to eat—generally mistreating them. So the dogs called a big meeting, where they said:*

**'We dogs can't go on this way, we're going to write a letter to God to complain. This is not life, this is a dog's life.'**

*For the letter to be delivered to God, a dog would have to cross rivers, traverse mountains, and sail the seas to reach Him; it was a very dangerous journey. Finally they chose a dog to act as messenger and told him, 'The only way to protect this letter is to roll it up and stick it up your ass. Because if you put it in your mouth, it will fall out when you bark.' So the dog courier left and the other dogs kept waiting for a response. Years passed and generations of dogs are still waiting for God's response and the return of that dog. So that is the reason dogs sniff each other's asses—because they believe one of the dogs has God's reply rolled up his ass."*



## Halloween Holiday Hell (part one)

Bushes strewn with gauze.  
Lawns decorated with bones.  
Trash is everywhere.

Parties mean garbage.  
Plastic blows in every breeze.  
Pretend not to see.

Candy for the kids!  
Money for the factories  
that make sweet poisons.

What to dress up as?  
A sexy witch? Sexy nurse?  
A sexy teacher?

Rappers for the boys.  
Pants hanging around their knees  
calling girls bitches.

It's a tradition!  
Excessive and meaningless  
Amerikkan fun.



## Holiday Hell (part two)

A new holiday!  
No dressing up Black Friday –  
It's about shopping.

Spend in a frenzy  
for more stuff nobody needs.  
A carnage of greed.

Who falls for this crap?  
It seems almost everyone.  
They can't get enough.

And once we're all broke  
it's time for Christmas shopping!  
The farce never ends.

We are hungry ghosts.  
We eat the world piece by piece  
and still we want more.

**Grace Wood**



**"Once in a while you can get shown the light in the strangest of places if you look at it right."**

— Robert Hunter  
6/23/41- 9/23/19



*"We add our voice ... to those who struggle for the recognition and protection for their rights and cultures, because to the extent that we respect our differences, we shall build a life with more justice."*

**Francisco Toledo ~ Artist & Activist  
7/17/40 – 9/5/19**



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