

# **Please vote wisely!**

## **Counter Information Warfare**

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Fellow Americans,

As citizens of this great nation, each of us holds the responsibility to safeguard our shared values. Our Constitution, institutions, and freedoms are worth protecting—for ourselves, our neighbors, and future generations. We the people, are the only ones that can protect them. We are the last line of defense.

Our nation's freedom, democracy, and strength inspire pride in our American identity. Yet, these foundational values are under siege—not by military force, but by sophisticated **information warfare** designed to divide us. Both foreign and domestic adversaries seek to erode our trust in one another and in our democratic institutions. Their target is not a single political faction but our unity—the strength that fortifies us all. As a priority, I ask you to defend against this onslaught.

To seek these ends, I ask you to please vote wisely. Consider all the factors when deciding. First and foremost, protect our Constitution and the institutions that keep us free. To prevail as a people, each of us through reflection from within must make the right choice regardless of the landscape we are cast upon.

### **The Threat of Misinformation**

Today's **Information Warfare Campaigns (IWCs)** exploit social media and instant communication to manipulate democratic values, often distorting news stories and posts to influence our thoughts, emotions, and even actions. These campaigns spread false narratives that seem increasingly plausible over time, fracturing our nation from within. Most people have been impacted in some way, so we must all be cautious.

Not all **IWCs** aim to favor one side; many simply seek to divide Americans, pushing us toward polarized extremes. By sowing discord, they weaken our democratic processes, foster confusion, and erode our capacity to work together. In extreme cases, this division can spiral into chaos and violence, threatening our Constitution and the institutions that protect our freedoms. Strong, constitutional institutions empower us to resolve issues through open debate, but when weakened, they leave us vulnerable to division and manipulation. Once we become conditioned to stand divided, even slight manipulations can tip the balance, allowing a select few to govern the many under the harshest terms.

For decades, adversarial nations have waged cyberspace and economic warfare, yet **information warfare** may be the most insidious weapon they wield. This threat is real and ongoing. And as citizens, we are our nation's best—and possibly last—line of defense. Our government doesn't control our votes, so it is powerless to fight this war for us. Elections carry a finality, making it crucial to get it right the first time.

### **Recognizing the True Adversaries**

This threat transcends political boundaries; liberals, conservatives, and independents alike are all vulnerable. Adversaries craft divisive messages that resonate with our personal values to capture our attention, only to then push us toward extremes and deepen mistrust. These tactics—broad in scope and subtle in effect—can make neighbors, friends, and even family feel like adversaries, distracting us from the true forces behind these campaigns.

It's essential to recognize that these actors aren't only foreign; some domestic groups also exploit this chaos for profit or influence. Using fake accounts and fabricated stories to masquerade as genuine voices, they profit from division without regard for our values. Yet, we hold the power to resist.

Unlike traditional newspapers, internet content is dynamic and deeply personalized. Behind the scenes, powerful algorithms tailor what each person sees, often reinforcing our views on certain topics while quietly nudging us

toward extreme positions on others. This influence operates without bounds, subtly shifting perspectives and mental states in ways we may not even notice.

### **Taking Action Against Division**

We can protect our unity by critically assessing the information we consume. This doesn't mean abandoning our beliefs—it means safeguarding them from manipulation. Our democracy's strength as a republic depends on our ability to listen, engage in respectful dialogue, and unite against those who would exploit our differences. To prevail, we must defend our Constitution, uphold our institutions, and stay grounded in shared truths.

We must resist any attempt to divide us. Let's reject efforts to pit Americans against each other and instead strive for understanding and cooperation. While we may not agree on every issue, we must remember that fellow Americans are not the enemy. The real threat comes from those who seek America's decline by undermining our Constitution and democratic institutions.

Media literacy, critical thinking, and informed discussion are our strongest defenses. By seeking reliable sources and staying well-informed, each of us plays a role in countering misinformation. Any one of us can fall victim to it, sometimes unknowingly. When in doubt, let's return to our common values and regroup as a unified nation.

### **A Call to Unity**

We, the People, must establish these commitments:

**Protect our Constitutional Values:** Our Constitution is the foundation that protects our freedoms. If you find yourself supporting any position that risks undermining or replacing it, stand firm and support those who defend it. A prerequisite for any candidate should be their active commitment to upholding the Constitution. If a candidate shows a pattern of disregarding or failing to defend it, consider that a red flag. In other words, "Don't sell your soul!"

**Verify Before Sharing:** Take a moment to confirm the accuracy of information before sharing it. Reliable sources and fact-checking tools can help us separate truth from manipulation. Even unintentional sharing of misinformation can have real consequences. If you can't verify it, consider it a red flag.

**Question Extreme Content:** If a piece of content stirs intense emotions like anger, fear, or hatred, it may be crafted to manipulate. Approach such content with caution, regardless of your beliefs. Extreme narratives often distract us from shared values. This technique is frequently used in headlines or one-liners to grab attention and can easily distort perspectives.

**Engage in Civil Discourse:** Civil discussion strengthens democracy. Talk with people holding different views and engage respectfully. Constructive dialogue fosters understanding and weakens the adversaries' influence.

**Promote Unity:** Across political divides, work toward the shared goal of a stronger America. Emphasize our common values—freedom, democracy, and respect for the rule of law. Remind each other that unity is essential, especially in turbulent times.

### **Adversarial Tactic Mitigation**

Adversarial information campaigns are sophisticated, well-funded, and designed to fracture our unity. Their success relies on our participation in spreading misinformation. Use your freedom wisely—engage in ways that protect our rights and thwart these divisive tactics.

Together, we can protect America—not by surrendering our beliefs but by seeking common ground that strengthens us and reflects our nation's diversity. Our Constitution and institutions are as relevant now as at our founding, and it is our duty to safeguard them. We must protect our institutions. Sacrificing our democratic institutions, even for a single polarizing issue, may lead to our nation's downfall. Our vote remains our most powerful defense.

We have the freedom to embrace what makes us Americans and to keep working toward a more perfect union. Question those who seek to divide us while trusting our hearts and shared commitment to our country. The challenge before us doesn't come from fellow Americans but truly from those who would fracture our nation.

## **World Peace**

Our democratic ideals are on display for the world to see. For some nations, the success of democracy is perceived as a threat—not because we impose it on others, but because it ignites a desire for freedom among their citizens.

I believe that by casting our votes wisely, we can demonstrate to the world that unity and democracy are stronger than the divisive information warfare campaigns aimed at undermining us. In doing so, we can become a central catalyst for world peace. Let's foster personal freedoms by voting thoughtfully, strengthening our Constitution, and allowing peace to flourish.

## **Other issues**

While countless issues and proposed solutions exist, our core institutions—the Presidency, Congress, and the Supreme Court—are built to seek out the best solutions through orderly discourse. No single elected official can possibly have all the answers.

Electing people who protect our ability to debate ideas in search of the best solutions should be our highest priority. We can succeed by voting for leaders who engage in open dialogue to find the best solutions. A strong leader recognizes a good solution, even if someone else originated the idea.

**Information warfare** can polarize us, which is then reflected within our institutions incubating a cancer from within. Our adversaries win by enhancing such polarizations with hopes of killing our democracy. Voting wisely is a tactical move that will allow us to crush our adversaries. Protect our institutions first, then good solutions to the other issues will prevail over time.

## **Conclusion**

Fellow Americans, the responsibility to protect our democracy rests with us. When you cast your vote, do so with the future of our Constitution and the unity of our people in mind. Stand strong against those who seek to divide us; let your vote be a declaration of unity, democracy, and peace.

In each and every election, only consider candidates who respect our Constitution and are committed to fostering unity. Protect the future of our democracy with your vote. When our Constitution is under attack, we must all stand up and vote to protect it.

Reflecting on these challenges is our best defense. Understanding and mitigating these influences allows us to protect both ourselves and our nation. The government we created on July 4, 1776—the one we shape through our votes—cannot fully combat the **information warfare** aimed at individual Americans. This defense rests with us. That's right, We the people!. The buck stops with us.

Our government doesn't cast our votes; we do. Further, the government cannot limit our freedom of speech. But it is this freedom that is exploited as a tactic to target each of us. Safeguarding our nation requires that we use our vote to protect the Constitution and the integrity of our institutions above all else. Together, we can resolve the other issues from within our nation's framework. So, vote wisely.

Together, let's counter campaigns against our unity. Vote wisely—not for any one leader or ideology, but for the enduring strength and integrity of our nation.

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