

PREFACE

Consider this book as a wake-up call to the American people and a warning shot across the bow of Capital Hill. Better yet, consider it a warning shot between the eyes of the Republican and Democratic Party politicians. As you will see, they have been an absolute disgrace to the American People. And, the time to do something about it is now.

That both of our major parties are an absolute disgrace begs a simple question; Why? To blame it on greed and a moral breakdown is much too simplistic and does not get at the root of the problem. The fact of the matter is that there are forces at play outside of our elected government that prey on We the People by preying on our elected officials. These forces are the true root cause of all the problems besetting our nation today: the economic woes, the divisiveness, the political stagnation, and more. Make no mistake about it folks; this hidden establishment owns both the known establishment and through it us, We the People.

This is why you cannot keep playing the establishment's game. You will see how the deck is stacked against you. You can't win! The only time the Government does anything for We the People is when they have to throw us a bone to keep us in line. It is like a line dance folks. With George W. Bush in the White House, you did the Texas two step for eight years until the economic crash woke you up a bit. You are now railing about Obama and Company. I repeat --- both parties are an absolute disgrace. They are unwilling to serve the real powers that be, We the People. They are unwilling to confront the external forces that are taking this country down. Playing the same game with different players will not accomplish what must be done.

The message of this book is clear: You need to take a long hard look in the mirror if you want your country, nay, your freedom, back.

It is clear to me that George W. Bush and Dick Cheney have committed acts of high treason and should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Vincent Bugliosi, the ace prosecutor who has never lost a case, claims in his book *The Prosecution of George W. Bush for Murder*, published in 2008, that he has all the evidence necessary to convict them in a court of law. However, with so much to be done to get this nation back on track, the last thing we need are distractions. We do need a return to civility. None of us likes what has been going on. And we all really want the same thing. Simply stated, we want peace, justice, security and a better life for our children and grandchildren.

When you are done reading this book, you will understand what really has been going on in this nation for far too many years and what has to be done to clean house.

This book is about the new game in town. The ensuing introduction, entitled *Declaration of Discontent*, is the *raison d'être* for this book as well as an overview of the processes by which the American experience goes forward. Indeed, righting injustice in all its forms and guises and creating a level playing field so as to pursue the "Absolute Betterment of the Human Condition" is the dominant theme behind everything in this document. With apologies to Barack Obama, this book is my Audacity of Hope.

It must be noted that, after doing some number crunching, I took early retirement in order to write this book. As with all "best laid plans," my wife became seriously ill and almost passed. Four months later I became the 24/7 caregiver and the book was on hold. Five months later we moved from New York to

Texas to be near the grandkids. Five months after that, I became seriously ill and almost passed. Four months after that I returned home to recover. Some months later, having moved along, I awoke at four o'clock in the morning, sat down at my computer and the Declaration of Discontent poured out of me. From that point on, research, writing and structuring began in earnest. As I progressed, I realized that I was actually compelled to produce this document. The compulsion is essentially my passion about all forms of injustice and my personal guidepost: the Absolute Betterment of the Human Condition. Indeed, this book may well be the reason that I survived.

Many books about the ills that face this nation have been published or are in the works. And still, as yet, nobody has put it all together in the form of a completely comprehensive Manifesto that's intended to educate people and drive them to action. So I have prepared this Reclamation Manifesto for and on behalf of We the People who want to live in the kind of nation with the kind of government our founders envisioned and created; a government which has been terribly undermined.

As I worked on this Manifesto, my mantra for all of us was:

Here's what's wrong,
Here's why it's wrong,
Here's what we gotta do,
Here's what's in it for you.

Across the entire length, breadth, depth and beyond of all that this nation was, is and will be, please view *The Reclamation Manifesto* in this light: each part, each chapter, each proposed change.

It is my fervent hope that you and many millions like you, We the People en masse, will agree with the essence of the Manifesto; will embrace its ideas and its approaches and make it into a rallying point for We the People. Together, we can bring about the real and substantive changes necessary to reclaim our government, our lives, our freedom and the true promise of America.