



As expected, September has been curious. We discussed theories and analyses of the psychological profile of President Donald Trump, his brand of leadership, family background, who voted for him and why, and his economic report card. The aim was a balanced investigation, hence the two photos. The first was used for Trumps election promo.

Here is what we discussed. The numbers in brackets are references. Email me for the list which is too long for here.

- 1) And in the beginning the President was aptly named. "Donald" comes from the Proto-Celtic Dumno-ualos ("world-ruler" or "world-wielder"). Who knew what at his birth?

Psychological profile and leadership:

- 2) In part, Trump marketed himself as a "Republican that is not simply a vehicle for the already extraordinarily rich to increase their wealth and power". This destabilized the Republican Party and endeared poorer Americans to Donald. (1)
- 3) "The US has spun from facing a fake migrant invasion, to a blue-wave election, to an attack on that election by the president." "All of America is paddling." (2)
- 4) "Critics tend to fall along a spectrum ... an absurd figure ..." or a talented bully. (3) Both equally absurd.
- 5) Psychological descriptors include narcissism, disagreeableness, grandiosity, gaslighting, authoritarianism and fascism, lack of concern for other's wishes and/or opinions, and misogyny. (4)
- 6) Trumps uses "Shock Politics" to distract. There are ways to resist this. (5)

The Family Trump:



- 7) The President's father Fred was a first generation American. His mother Mary migrated from Scotland. His father has been variously described as a "high functioning sociopath", a fiercely bold man, encouraging his son to emerge as a "killer" or "king" in negotiations, and suffocating and destructive. Trumps frequently unwell mother was physically and/or emotionally absent, neglected her children and is said to have influenced his hairdo (true!). (6). The irony of this heritage in the context of the Mexican Wall diatribe cannot be ignored.

- 8) Trump was attuned to pleasing his father. His fathers' photo was displayed in the Oval Office many months before his mothers' photo emerged.
- 9) His relationship with his mother is said to be the genesis of Trump's contempt for women. But I suspect Fred made a rather good contribution as well. Sigmund Freud's theories are handy here.



So ... who voted for Trump and why:

- 10) Many voters were very unhappy with progressives/liberals/Clinton and did not expect Trump to get in. Voting for Trump was a protest vote and with wide-ranging rationales. Many voters came from the professions, from the military or from government service and are described as well-informed and patriotic Americans who were desperate for change. (7)



How does the report card look?

- 11) Trump's pre-covid economic achievements were not as singularly and historically phenomenal as he insisted. However, one analysis of economic growth, the stock market, and jobs and wages concluded "it's true the economy has been doing well - but there have been periods when it was even stronger." (8) An "average" for Donald. Fred would NOT be pleased.

It's a strange, strange world we live in Master Jack.

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