



張曼君和我談選舉

有人說美國文化一是球賽二是總統選舉，這還真的有點道理。

早在兩年前 NBA 球星 LeBron James 決定返回克里夫蘭，同時，共和黨決定 2016 年代表大會就在克里夫蘭召開，從那一刻起，希望就伴隨著克里夫蘭民眾，克里夫蘭的名字也越來越多地出現在各種媒體。終於克利夫蘭騎士隊以 93-89 擊敗金州勇士奪得隊史首冠，改寫了克利夫蘭賽史上 52 年沒有獲得過冠軍的尷尬紀錄，克里夫蘭為此而狂歡。

7 月 18-21 日，共和黨代表大會在克利夫蘭召開，我有幸參與了共和黨的年會，親眼目睹年會的盛況，也許在美國待的時間不長，才二十多年，也許沒有美國歷史文化的背景，我坐在大會場上，聽着每一位演講者演講，到最後聽川普的演講，沒有辦法和所有坐在我左右身邊的人那樣狂熱，做報紙這幾十年里，我也曾經現場聆聽布什，克林頓和奧巴馬演講，但這次讓我感覺截然不同的就是美國總統選舉，仿佛像一個宗教。

一件非常讓人興奮的事情就是：克里夫蘭因共和黨的年會讓全球矚目，因為全球來了 3000 位電視廣播雜誌的媒體人，幾乎新聞報章中的每一句話，都帶上了克里夫蘭這個城市名字，共和黨 2016 年的年會給克里夫蘭做了個地標，而這個城市就在這二個月里，就在同一個球場里，共和黨的年會，NBA 球賽的獲勝，讓克里夫蘭這座美麗的城市名揚世界。而我



也能成為 27 位城市各個族裔代表之一，我們的笑容做地標去迎接每一位來訪者，讓他們感到溫暖。

克里夫蘭成功舉辦了共和黨年會，克里夫蘭給人們留下了深刻美好的印象。7/17 日下午，我在克里夫蘭飛機場接了來自洛杉磯共和黨代表團負責人之一的張曼君女士，我與她在 2012 年認識，那年她也是幫共和黨總統候選人專程來克里夫蘭舉辦講座的，我接待了她，我們成了很好的朋友，事後，我還帶女兒去好萊塢見了她和她榮獲奧斯卡獎的先生。這次克里夫蘭是共和黨年會主場，洛杉磯來了 359 人，她是代表團的負責人之一，不過這次克里夫蘭共和黨組委會為她們安排了 Sandusky Kalahari Resort 就住，因為他們團隊人太多，所以只能把她們的團隊放在郊外。

接機後，我帶着她去中國城麗華餐廳吃飯，我們倆從政治經濟文化聊到中美關係，她讓我聽到了過去沒有聽到的事情，由於她先生與中國有許多電影的合作，這五年，他們夫婦中美來回跑，她告訴我，中國變了，尤其人變得很不誠實，她剛剛從上海電影節回來，因為她的先生是 VIP 演講者，我興奮地告訴她，在電視上我看了上海電影節的劇場，好漂亮，又壯觀，她對我說：不能與好萊塢奧斯卡獎舞臺比，好萊塢的舞臺 15 分鐘換一個台，中國做得到



嗎？我沒有放棄地說：您有沒有看到今天的中國，全球最美麗的建築都在中國，她表示：如果不誠實，做事不講規則，再美的東西也不美好了。

這次共和黨的年會，讓我每天都能和張曼君女士在一起，看到學到了許多東西：她告訴我：一個國家最重要的是外交、國防、農業和教育，我說教育怎麼放在最後呢？還有我問她：選舉總統要花一個億，這個錢都可以拯救一個城市的經濟，這麼多錢都可以改變許多東西了，她回答我說：選舉總統是政府花錢，百姓賺錢，她打了一個比方說：2016 年克里夫蘭接受主辦共和黨年會，那麼組委會給克里夫蘭一筆錢，選舉總統是美國最大的 party，這幾天克里夫蘭的飯店，旅店以及其他生意都上去了，（原來旅店每天收費 200 美元，因為這個活動，旅店增加到 750 美元，就這家旅店是不是增加不少財富了），更重要的是克里夫蘭這個城市，因為這個年會，未來會帶來許多生意，如旅遊投資等等。

雖然張曼君告訴我這些道理，但我還是告訴了她，克里夫蘭 2003 年，舉辦了一個國際青少年運動會，那次活動我們整個城市虧了 4 million，我知道就在開年會一個月前，整個活動組委會好像還差 10 個 million。當然這輪不到我去擔心。

7/17 日的傍晚，晚燈照着美麗的伊利湖邊，在搖滾樂的博物館里外，舉辦了迎接全美共和黨黨員酒會晚宴，場面壯觀，黃昏的夕陽把克里夫蘭打扮得極其美麗，音樂和人們喜悅的笑容讓克里夫蘭更加燦爛，就在那一瞬間，我看到許多武裝警察我有一絲迷茫：人們由衷的快樂喜悅是需要保護的嗎？這個時候張曼君給我介紹了來自洛杉磯的華人共和國支持者，領隊人來自北京的王恬，看到帶着一群華人支持者，我被他們的热情感染，馬上感到今年華人參政熱情高，與往年不同啊！

最近，我看到有個網民他在選舉之前寫了他的想法：他呼籲美國華人要關心政治，要融入這個社會，他寫道：作為中國移民，我們必須付出高於別人十倍的努力，我們才能在這個國家生存，融入這個社會。讀書是大部分華人實現美國夢想的唯一途徑。因為我們的努力，在學校里我們取得最優異的成績。然而我們僅有的這個機會也被駁奪了。今年 6 月 23 號，最高法院以 4 比 3 票數通過了平權法案(Affirmative Action)。平權法案其實是最不平等的法案，因為它要求學校在錄取學生的時候是以種族比例來錄取，而不再是以學習成績和考試分數錄取了。換句話說，你的小孩很可能永遠都不可能進自己喜歡的大學了，不管他們的學習成績再怎么好，僅僅是因為他們是華人！更糟糕的是在加州政客選試圖將華人從其他亞裔群體當中劃分出來。這如同當年納粹給猶太人貼標籤一樣！

在最高法院通過平權法案的時候，希拉里還含沙射影地說：“美國高等教育的大門是給大家開的，而不是只給某些人開的。”我聽到後，很想問她：“你說的那些某些人是誰？”她好像是在說我們華人將別人受教育的機會剝奪了。我們華人在美國本來就佔少數，我們又是最和平的群體。我們哪裏來的这么大的本事去剝奪別人的機會？我們都是付出艱辛的努力在和別人競爭。而現在看來我們唯一實現我們美國夢的門也被民主黨關閉了。

作為華人媒體，我們只想說：在美國已經入籍的華人，希望你珍重你的權利和選票，只有您開始關心這個社會，這個社會才會想到您。



一個總統就是大家庭里的好家長，一個國家就是無數的小家組合成一個大家庭。你要別人愛你首先你要愛別人。

2016 年選舉，我看到了華人對政治的激情，7 月 22 日，遇到來自不同城市要回家的共和黨支持者，我看到了他們用心付出。參加這個黨代會門票 900 美元，加上吃住住宿費，飛機

票和時間。華裔如果要在政治經濟文化藝術舞臺上有成就，那我們只有無條件地付出我們的誠意。

這次女兒參加了共和黨年會，她勉勵她的弟弟說：Frank as you are in the media especially Hollywood, you can change the future in how Asians are perceived!

RNC Convention In The Eyes Of A No Political Person

By Dianna Lu



One of the most fascinating statements during the convention came from Ivanka Trump, who said "Like many of my fellow millennials, I do not consider myself categorically Republican or Democrat. More than party affiliation, I vote on based on what I believe is right, for my family and for my country."

This statement was particularly striking as people are often stereotyped, but Ivanka bravely noted that she makes her decisions based upon what is best for her family and her country, and not partisan politics. While Ivanka was speaking for her generation, interestingly, I found a number of older convention goers who reflected her views on this topic.

There is an old saying that "all politics are local" and you can't get more local than the needs and interests of your own family. America is certainly a diverse family, and just like your own family, there are bound to be disagreements. The president as a leader has a formidable task: to soothe tensions, but ultimately to have the safety and security of the en-



Over 50,000 people attended the Republican National Convention in Cleveland last week. Whether you are in favor of Donald Trump or Hilary Clinton, we have to give credit to Cleveland as a city for hosting such a successful nationwide event. My experience at the RNC stems not from following politics, but rather attending an event hosted in the city where I grew up. I haven't been in Cleveland in months, so when I stepped in for the first time in half a year, I was very pleased to see many people out and about and how the city literally lit up with renovation and new shape.

I am nota political person, so attending an event like the RNC was a completely new experience. I had read news articles and listened to most of the top speeches given at the convention, especially those of the Trump family. Combining good television with politics made the event even more intriguing. While some people can agree to disagree on Trump's political views, you can't help but to listen. The same can be said of Hillary; she's married to a past president who had a major scandal during his time in office!



tire family at heart. At the end of the day, like Ivanka, many voters will search their minds and hearts and vote based upon their view of what they believe is best for family and country.



The Thread that Binds Trump Supporters to the Philosophy of Gandhi

A Personal Perspective

Cynthia Marek Lundeen

In a world now fraught with daily horrors, The Republican National Convention has concluded without major incident, a wonderful testament to the coterie of services providing security in Cleveland, yet Mr. Trump's acceptance speech, giving voice to his supporters, has in some quarters been characterized as dark and angry.

Interestingly, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, Arun Gandhi, speaking at The City Club of Cleveland in 2015 stated that his grandfather had compared anger to electricity: both are powerful forces that if channeled appropriately can be used constructively for the good of humanity, but both can be destructive if not properly controlled.

That the American populace is rightfully angry with many of the elected public servants is now well recognized and much of the justifiable anger centers around the Iraq War.

It is sobering to reflect upon the fact that in another time, Winston Churchill, most strenuously believed that WWII could have been avoided and afterwards wrote in his own inimitable style in the preface to his work The Gathering Storm as follows:

'One day President Roosevelt told me that he was asking publicly for suggestions about what the war should be called. I said at once "The Unnecessary War." There never was a war more easy to stop than that which has just wrecked what was left of the world from the previous struggle.'

Mr. Trump's supporters have harnessed their anger by voting for a candidate in the Republican primary outside of the political system, yet the U.S., with a form of government which provides for the orderly transition of leadership, has left his supporters with a full nineteen months between the announce-



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Both Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders (who has not received his party's nomination) have called attention to the urgent need to rebuild U.S. infrastructure, therefore, I urge Mr. Trump to do the following:

Mr. Trump, please call upon all Americans, whether or not they support you, to consider educating themselves to some degree in matters of construction, even if at a level of basic home repair. We will need capable individuals to fill jobs rebuilding roads, bridges, buildings and up-grading utilities et cetera, all of which are jobs which must be performed on sight. People can begin to educate themselves at little or no expense, by volunteering for Habitat for Humanity, by reading or watching tutorials via the internet, through library facilities or through classes given in local communities. In my community, a not-for-profit, the Home Repair Resource Center, offers workshops for general home maintenance.

Such self-education will allow the American people to productively and appropriately harness their anger for a positive purpose. Moreover, as Inauguration Day conveniently occurs

on Friday January 20, 2017, the American people can have the weekend to celebrate the election of the winner, whoever that may be, and on Monday, January 23, 2017 we can immediately commence (i.e., "hit the ground running") rebuilding our infrastructure which will also be symbolic of rebuilding our nation as a whole.

While not everyone may have the talent or inclination for building, maintenance and repair, I believe that working with one's own hands is sometimes looked upon rather dismissively, yet our virtual world is entirely supported by the real world. From satellites in the far flung reaches of outer space to cable buried beneath the sea, every magical element of our virtual world, every hologram, every voice carried around the world, does so through the physical objects created by real people in the real world.

Rebuilding relationships is crucial as well, and while many of Mr. Trump's supporters approve of his tone, saying that they are tired of polite politicians who don't keep their promises, I have encountered supporters who admire his policies, yet none-the-less find some of his rhetoric insulting.

Although many people may as children have learned the refrain "sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me," in fact the very etymology of the word "insult" reveals why words are perceived as painful. In the English language, both the word "insult" and "assault" are derived from the Latin word "salire" meaning to "jump," thus people who are insulted may feel jumped upon. While it can be helpful psychologically to those on the receiving end of an insult to grow a "thicker skin" those on the delivering end may wish to consider that people who feel jumped upon are less likely to be receptive to a message, no matter how beneficial that message may be.

Now that Mr. Trump has won his party's nomination, to win over skeptical voters in the general election, as the saying goes, Mr. Trump may need to "mend some fences" but Mr. Trump is after all a builder, so it is hoped that mending fences will come naturally to him.

