

Progressive?

I've never understood how the left has taken the word progressive and made it their own. They use catchy phrases that hide their agenda within words that make their plan seem like it is helpful and friendly to the American people. The sad thing is they have actually convinced people of this, causing people to vote against their own long-term interests and of their children. Let me share some examples.

When students complain about student debt, the left decides to ride into the conversation and author bills to simply forgive the collective debt on student loans. They conveniently forget that these debts were incurred by consenting adults who chose to study for the degree that often yields no prospect for employment. If the students didn't know what they were signing, as often stated, then either the students need to read and understand, or perhaps be better educated before they fill out their FAFSA. One thing I've heard from many students is that once their scholarships and financial aid is applied to their student accounts the balance is often available to the student, not for books or saving for the next semester, but for anything the student wants, but also trips to Fort Lauderdale or Cancun for Spring Break. As a nation, we really need to talk about financial literacy and responsibility because this debt didn't just magically fall into some student's account. The decision was made with purpose. While we're talking about this, perhaps we should discuss these useless degrees that colleges confer on students who seem to not have prospects for employment in mind? To close out this issue, how is it fair for people who either never got to go to college or those who have paid their own way to foot the bill for others?

The left marches on in their crusade to demand the rich pay their "fair share" of taxes. When closely examined, the top one percent of earners (over \$548,000) do earn 22% of all income, but they also carry the burden of paying 42% of all taxes. The top 2%-5% (over \$221,000-\$548,000) earn an additional 16% of income, while paying 20% of the taxes. The top 5%-10% (\$152,000 to \$221,000) earn 11% of income while paying an equal 11% of taxes. Finally, the folks from 11% up to the top 25% of earners (\$86,000 to \$152,000) earn 21% of the income and pay 15% of the taxes. This means that that collectively, the top 25% of earners pay 87% of the taxes. The bottom 10% of earners (less than \$42,000) pay 2% of all the taxes, with many paying nothing. Simply "paying their fair share" isn't numerically in the lowest earner's interest, but rather political hyperbole at its worst. Equally pairing percent of income with percent of taxes paid would be a dramatic shift of tax burden to those Americans earning under \$86,000 per year. Many of these earners are also currently eligible for additional tax benefits and programs that the higher earners are not. But this all doesn't fit on a bumper sticker.

Finally, the left enjoys talking about the certification of the 2020 Presidential election. You hear them yell about election deniers, fake electors, faithless electors, and other terms meant to be derogatory towards Conservatives. I would just like to point out that several Democrats in January of 2017 raised objection to the certification of the Presidential election of Donald J. Trump. If you read the Congressional Record from Friday, January 6, 2017, you will enjoy several paragraphs of the official record of these proceedings. Through the theatrics and anger over Secretary Clinton's loss, we see meltdown from Trump's win and his subsequent inauguration, with leftist heroes such as Representative John Lewis and others refusing to attend the inauguration. Kettle? Pot?

My point isn't that Republicans are perfect, because we aren't. But the left has gotten so good at spinning their lies into accepted truth that people just accept it. Instead, my point is that we must stop

STACEY for WISCONSIN

Paid for by Stacey for Wisconsin

accepting talking points from any news source as legitimate, and instead educate ourselves (and even one another when something is spoken that just isn't true). Do some reading and research and become critical thinkers. We should hold all of our leaders accountable, regardless of their party affiliation or political leanings. This doesn't include just elected leaders though. When candidates say something not quite truthful, call them out. And when they say something blatantly false, make sure that they know you won't accept half-truths. I commit to being truthful to you, and if I ever make a mistake, I welcome the correction and will make sure that everything I tell you is always true, can always be verified, and that you should throw a flag if ever there is a violation!

One last thing...can we stop calling the leftist politicians and their followers progressives? Their programs are as far from progressive as anything. I prefer the term regressive because that which they advocate for takes us backwards. You will soon find on my website (StaceyforWisconsin.com) resources to learn more about these issues, important American documents, links to evidence, documents, facts that provide sources for everything I will tell you. It will certainly take extra work, but I want you to know that when I ask for your vote and support, that I take that seriously, so much that I will always back it up with facts and resources for you!



Stacey Klein
US Senate Candidate