

*“Have you no sense of decency, sir, at long last? Have you left no sense of decency?”*

This extraordinary questioning from the Chief Counsel of the U. S. Army, Joseph Welch in 1954 to Republican Senator Joseph McCarthy during McCarthy’s notorious anti-communist hearings in Washington, clearly presages the activities of President Trump, his administration and his acolytes, and nearly all of the Republican Senators (and Republican Congresspersons). The quotation update however, should be somewhat expanded today as follows: “Have you no sense of decency or morality?”

Following the extraordinary sadness of the passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, the nearly immediate stated intent of one who must be amongst the very worst of soul-less human beings, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, to accept and move forward with a replacement Supreme Court nominee from Donald Trump prior to the November election/January inauguration is little more than bold-faced immorality. To further the pathetic elements of this intent, fully supported by most Republicans in the Senate, President Trump has now actually basely suggested that leading Democrats fabricated Justice Ginsberg’s dying wish “that I will not be replaced until a new president is installed.”

That there should be any question as to the non-electability of a President of the United States who has registered in excess of 10,000 lies during his 3 ½ years in office is depressing in its own right. That this reality of lies, untruths, half-baked assertions, and a complete lack of leadership has clearly been responsible for tens of thousands of deaths from Covid-19, that would have undoubtedly been saved if only this country had been reasonably led through this crisis would have seemed inconceivable; but that it has been promoted and fostered by indecent and immoral allied political leaders at all levels of government is simply too heinous to absorb.

The next few weeks and months will clearly establish whether we as a country are a democracy based on time-honored principles of decency and morality. If the lies, deceit, self-serving, dishonesty and treacherous inclinations to all that is right and just, that have been the hallmark of the Presidency, the Administration, and much of the Republican Party over the past nearly four years in this country, should prevail, we directly and perhaps unalterably become a craven autocracy ruled by the worst of human failings. To each and every one of those who will guide and participate in this decision, we must ask “Have you no sense of decency or morality?” If there was ever a time for the “better angels,” this certainly is that time.