

POTTSTOWN CITIZENS FOR Enlightened LEADERSHIP

Penn rolls over in his grave

Back in the 1600s, William Penn was one of civilization's greatest humanists. Thanks to a grant of 45,000 square miles in the New World from King Charles II in 1681, which the King called "Pennsylvania," Penn had a chance to put his ideas into action. He conceived of a "Holy Experiment" of democracy, tolerance and religious freedom to be carried out in real life with real people.

Penn believed it was possible for people of all classes and religions to live in peace and harmony and govern themselves according to the Quaker ideals of virtue and love.

Pennsylvania would be the one place on the planet where people could pursue happiness in accordance with those ideals.

Penn encouraged Europeans of all religious beliefs, many of whom were persecuted at home, to emigrate to Pennsylvania.

He treated Native Americans as equals and earned their respect and trust.

Penn's 1682 Frame of Government, Pennsylvania's first constitution, was a major influence 100 years later when Jefferson and Madison and Hamilton came to Philadelphia, Penn's city of brotherly love, to create modern democracy.

But in the preface to his Frame, Penn issued a warning:



WILLIAM PENN



RUDY GIULIANI

Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them; and as governments are made and moved by men, so by them they are ruined too. Wherefore governments rather depend upon men, than men upon governments. Let men be good, and the government cannot be bad; if it be ill, they will cure it. But, if men be bad, let the government be never so good, they will endeavor to warp and spoil it to their turn.



Commentary by
Thomas Hylton

Penn's words were never more apt than now, three centuries later, when a shameless president and

his lackeys attempt to overturn the election of Joseph R. Biden as president.

Donald Trump has been claiming election fraud in Pennsylvania, with absolutely no evidence to back up his allegations.

As of yesterday, Biden held an 82,000 vote lead over Trump. The same election that Biden won saw two Republicans win statewide office, treasurer and auditor general. It would have taken an unbelievably sophisticated fraud to flip 82,000 votes for Biden and, on the same ballot, keep Republican majorities for treasurer and auditor general.

(In 2016, Hillary Clinton conceded the day after the election after losing Pennsylvania by 44,000 votes.)

Last week, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, now representing Trump, had the chutzpah to ask a federal judge to throw out 6.8 million votes cast in Pennsylvania on Nov. 3 and empower the state's Republican controlled legislature to appoint Electoral College electors who would vote for Trump.

This request was accompanied by no evidence of fraud or error that would come anywhere near Biden's majority. The case was dismissed Saturday and immediately appealed.

These widespread and reckless allegations of fraud have poisoned our democracy. A Monmouth University poll last week found that 70 percent of Republican voters thought some sort of fraud took place.

How admirable William Penn's ideals. How prescient his knowledge of human nature's dark side.