

**Thoughts on Coming Apart and the Coming Great
Reset**



**Turning and turning in the widening gyre
The falcon cannot hear the falconer**

Kit Webster

August 2, 2024

**Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics
and
We Have Collectively and Literally Lost Our
Minds**

This constant lying is not aimed at making the people believe a lie, but at ensuring that no one believes anything anymore. A people that can no longer distinguish between truth and lies cannot distinguish between right and wrong. And such a people, deprived of the power to think and judge, is, without knowing and willing it, completely subjected to the rule of lies. With such a people, you can do whatever you want. - Hannah Arendt

Let me never fall into the vulgar mistake of dreaming that I am persecuted whenever I am contradicted. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

If Trump's shooter had been a little more to the right, Neil Howe would have had to have come up with an additional Turning - Doomberg

The reason that the train doesn't stop, is because nobody is in control of the train. - Lyn Alden

Perhaps when we find ourselves wanting everything, it is because we are dangerously near to wanting nothing..- Sylvia Plath

... social networks represent the single largest change in how humanity produces, accesses, and comprehends symbolic communication since the invention of protocuneiform in Sumer over 5,000 years ago - Rusty Guinn

If by the time we're sixty we haven't learned what a knot of paradox and contradiction life is, and how exquisitely the good and the bad are mingled in every action we take, and what a compromising hostess Our Lady of Truth is, we haven't grown old to much purpose. - John Cowper Powys

I love sleep. My life has the tendency to fall apart when I'm awake, you know?" – Ernest Hemingway

Key thoughts for this week:

If it wasn't before, things just got serious between Israel and Iran.

Statistics require thought.

We have collectively and literally lost our minds and are committing cultural, political and economic hari kari.

There might have actually been a palace coup on Biden.

Following Kamala and Donald, particularly Kamala's tacking right.

Ironically, identity politics could determine our nation's fate, since identity politics made Kamala all but inevitable.

Whites are forming an identity, which is both inevitable and fraught with peril.

There is a non-zero chance that Trump trades Vance for a player to be named later.

The US fertility rate is now 1.6. Ironically, the lower it goes, the more important immigration becomes. There is much to contemplate about why we are, as a species, not replacing ourselves, committing specie-cide. Reproduction is literally the only purpose of life on Earth.

Markets

[Updated Charts](#)

> No change in outlook.

While not finally confirmed, my call of a market top is looking good. If I am correct, things could get pretty nasty in just a little while.

> Probably nothing

FedEx to cut daytime domestic flight activity by 60%.

McDonald's misses Q2 estimates across the board, as consumers pull back on dining out.

> I'm not sure how it happens with all the debt and deficits, and in the face of unanimous thought to the contrary, I am still predicting a weak economy and perhaps a recession prior to an inflationary boom.

I did check and I am up to date on my meds, so it is not that.

> Let's see. Chips Act last year. This year, Intel craters and lays off some 15,000 people. Probably not correlated, but still interesting.

> Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics and We Have Collectively and Literally Lost Our Minds

Let's start with the fact that California is the most populous state in the US and Texas is second.

You would expect them to top the list of ... most anything ... so that saying for example that California has the most cars is not providing any information. You

would expect that. That Texas is near the top, in third, is also expected, but there is something about Florida that results in (barely) more cars on the road than Texas. To find out whether something is more prevalent in California, you might want to calculate that thing on a per capita basis (Montana has the most cars per capita - California is 41st and Texas is 43rd), or a per dollar of GDP basis.

These things do get tricky. Texas, for example, has the most highway miles in the US, but is only the second largest state to Alaska. There is useful information in highway miles per square mile of a state - because Texas is mostly empty, it would not rank highly by that measure - but you have to understand a more complex context that involves population and population density.

I'm not going to belabor the point, but if you are not making arrests, crime statistics will get better.

The number of "billion dollar hurricanes" has increased, not because hurricanes are more intense, but because we are building more stuff in their paths and the cost of the things we are building is going up.

My favorite misuses of statistics come from professional football and movie box office.

One measure of success as a running back in professional football is rushing for 1,000 yards in a season.

Only, the number of games in a season has varied from a low of 10 games during the early 1940s to 17 games today (ignoring 9 games during the strike year).

The first 1,000-yard rusher was said to have been Beattie Feathers of the Bears in 1934, but many think those books were cooked.

The first undisputed 1,000-yard rusher was Steve Van Buren of the Eagles in 1947, when there were 12 games in a season.

In the early 60s, when the great Jim Brown played, there were 14 games - he gained 1,000 yards in seven seasons. Brown also had the most rushing yards per game over a meaningful number of games.

In 2023, of the 12 players who rushed for over 1,000 yards, only one player, Christian McCaffrey, would have rushed for over 1,000 yards in 14 games. He would have also rushed for over 1,000 yards in 12 games. However, he does not make the top 25 in rushing yards per game.

Then, we get to the - things get complicated - stage, discussing artificial turf, indoor stadiums, the size and speed of defenses and offensive lines, the importance of passing and the changes in rules over time.

Now, let's get to movie box offices.

The all-time, top grosser is Star Wars VII - The Force Awakens, with domestic box office of \$937 million. (Worldwide, the all-time, top grosser is Avatar, with \$2.9 billion.)

Only, the value of the dollar has declined by some 97% since 1913. In inflation-adjusted terms, Star Wars VII comes in 11th, behind such movies as The Sound of Music, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, and even Star Wars IV - A New Hope. The all-time, top domestic grosser after inflation is Gone With The Wind. Again, there are complications. In 1940, when Gone With The Wind was released, there was no TV, there was no internet, there were no video games. Entertainment came from movies, sports and the radio. Coming out 75 years after the end of the Civil War, when wounds were still raw, it was probably the most anticipated movie of all time.

Which brings us to the Olympics.

The US has the most Olympic medals of all time, more than double that of second place Soviet Union and more than tripling that of third place Great Britain.

USA!

Let's say you were the proverbial (man) from Mars and wanted to think about what it takes to win a medal without caring who wins.

Genes are really important. Statistically gifted people have to pop out.

How do you do that?

You have a large population. Statistically, you get more gifted people. The math just works. (However, when taking the whole Earth as the population, world-class gifted people can pop up anywhere. This year, France has a generational swimming talent.)

So, China and India would be at the top, then.

But, they aren't.

You start looking at other factors, such as diet, financial ability to devote yourself to intensive training, medical and training resources, access to technology and the willingness to put in hour after hour of intensive work. The famous Jamaican bobsled team notwithstanding, there are some geographical constraints, such as having mountains and snow for winter events.

All things being equal, wealthy, populous countries should do well, particularly wealthy, populous countries meeting any geographical constraints.

Then you notice other patterns.

Genes can win out, such as with small, poor African countries that can flourish in long distance running without wealth or technology.

The West has many distractions, so that the very best athletes are attracted by other opportunities. The Soviet Union, a relatively populous, but relatively poor country, made international sport a priority for ideological reasons and scoured the country for talent. That talent was then moved to training facilities and focused on their sport.

So, you would bet that, as a populous, wealthy country, being able to compete in the summer and winter games, the US would dominate.

And it has.

And that the Soviet Union would have punched above its weight.

And, it did.

However, if you measure total medals per capita, the US comes in 24th to the Bahamas, Hungary, Finland, and Sweden. The Soviet Union is behind the US. If you measure total medals per dollar of GDP, the US is not in the top 10, which is led by Jamaica, North Korea, Bulgaria and Hungary. (I wonder what it is about Hungary that makes it so effective in the Olympic games. Similarly, I wonder what it is about India and Indonesia that they effectively don't show up. Culture is evidently a factor.) If you are going to understand the implications of statistics, I'm afraid you are going to have to think about what they mean. This year, the US will probably dominate the summer Olympics. But China is increasing in wealth and improving its techniques and technology and will be a rising star (he he). All things being equal, the statistics of genes should enable China to overtake the US in future years. In absolute numbers. Probably in medals per dollar of GDP. Unlikely in medals per capita. So, who's number 1?

Human nature continues to be endlessly fascinating. Harris was the least popular VP in history, imo for good reason, with an approval rating below Joe's and unable to garner enough votes to even run in a primary. Liberal media was regularly discussing how unqualified she was. Then, overnight, she has become an almost unanimously-supported savior in yet another example of slowly-then-suddenly. Human instincts for denial and magical thinking are up front and center in both the cases of Harris and Trump. We have collectively and literally lost our minds as we continue to commit cultural, political and economic hari kari. But the soap opera / reality TV will be fascinating.

Short Takes

- > Israel's strike on Beirut and the assassination in Tehran have significantly upped the ante in the Middle East.
- > Celine Dion's song at the opening of the Olympics was exquisite. Listen to it [here](#).
- > France decided to go avant-garde for the opening ceremony, which is fine, but it was probably disturbing to 2/3 of the planet - which may have been the point. Interesting they did not mock Islam, while Christianity was fair game. There are evidently limits, even to the avant-garde.

The Olympics took down parts of the opening ceremony from YouTube due to backlash.

I talked last week about the "green" Olympics and how France was not supplying air conditioning. Heat index on Tuesday was over 100 degrees.

Btw, about 70% of France's power comes from nuclear, so there is virtue signaling involved.

Biden wants to reform the Supreme Court. I think a Code of Ethics would be a great idea and it saddens me deeply to say that. There are, however, separation of powers problems arising from Congress telling the Justices how to behave. Term limits are unlikely and are unconstitutional. This is just political virtue signaling - some raw meat to the base.

> This is actually very sad - from *Scientific American* -

As the daughter of a cancer researcher, Kamala Harris would bring a lifelong familiarity with science to the presidency, experts say

Validating Trump's claim that he understands science because his uncle was a physicist at MIT.

It is not a criticism of either that it would shock me if either could deal with simple algebra or knows what a gluon is. (Beth insisted that I tell you that a gluon is a transmitter of force between quarks. And then, she hit me.)

Then, again, we all have Venn diagrams in common. How about a Feynman diagram? Please make it stop.

> Wow! We have nothing on Machiavelli or the Borgias -

From Seymour Hersh -

By Saturday, July 20, former President Barack Obama was deeply involved, and there was talk that he would place a call to Biden. It was not clear whether Biden had been examined or just what happened to him in Las Vegas. "The Big Three," the official said, referring to former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer, and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, continued to be directly involved. "On Sunday morning," the official told Seymour Hersh, with the approval of Pelosi and Schumer, "Obama called Biden after breakfast and said, 'Here's the deal. We have Kamala's approval to invoke the 25th Amendment.'" The amendment provides that when the president is determined by the vice president and others to be unfit to carry out the powers and duties of his office, the vice president shall assume those duties. "It was clear at this point," the official said, "that she would get the nod"—that is, the support to run for the presidency in the November election. "But Obama also made it clear," the official said, "that he was not going to immediately endorse

her. But the group had decided that her work as a prosecutor would help her deal with Trump in a debate.”

One possible drawback, I was told, was Harris’s sometime disdain for the work of the US Intelligence Community. She is known not to be especially interested in the President’s Daily Brief, a highly classified summary of current intelligence that is prepared overnight by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and delivered by hand to the most vital offices in Washington, including the vice president’s. The document, which includes signals intelligence, is to be read by the addressee in the presence of the delivering intelligence officer. I was told that Harris often showed little interest in reading the document and at some point asked the agency to stop delivering it to her. Now, as a presidential candidate, she is being kept up to date on all significant intelligence matters.

A key factor in the decision to force Biden out of office by invoking the 25th Amendment was a series of increasingly negative polls on the president’s standing against Trump that had been commissioned by the funders, the official said. “The downward slope was increasing.” Polling would also be important for the vice president, I was told, and it was agreed that if the polls did not continue to show her gaining traction, other options would be considered, including an open convention. I was unable to learn if Harris was aware of such considerations or whether she intends to abide by them.

The official, who has decades of experience in fundraising, told me that Obama emerged as the strongman throughout the negotiations. “He had an agenda and he wanted to seek it through to the end, and he wanted to have control over who would be elected.”

Seymour Hersh is a generally credible guy, but I am looking for confirmation.

So, was this a coup? According to Seymour, yes.

Was it necessary? Probably. It looked like Joe, Jill and Hunter were dug in.

So, we have a presidential candidate that has not received one vote in any primary?

Yes.

I’m reserving my opinion on the Trump assassination attempt. There was too much incompetence to be an accident.

But, I don’t think Kamala’s ascension is a conspiracy. It was a series of unfortunate events and a logical conclusion to Joe’s dementia.

Would an open convention have been a good idea?

Certainly.

But there was a power struggle and Kamala won, probably fueled by the black female dynamic I have been discussing recently.

Often, maybe even most of the time, that’s the way the world works.

Ironically, identity politics could determine our nation’s fate.

> You may recall that my original theses about our great unraveling included a marked move to the left in politics. Since, as a practical matter in the US, it is difficult to get further left than Kamala, her winning would be in line with my thoughts about the overall flow - until the reaction occurs.

In the past decade, I have thought that the 2024 election was ripe for unrest, but that the 2028 and 2032 elections would be the defining moment of the Fourth Turning.

> My very own Kamala Venn diagram –



> There is a non-zero, but small, probability that Trump trades Vance. For whom? Nikki, maybe? Very difficult to do, but so far, Vance is doing poorly and his past comments about Trump and various policies may push Trump over the edge. Clearly, he was not vetted prior to his appointment.

When asked whether Vance would be ready to assume the presidency if necessary, Trump answered that question by observing that the vice president “historically” has “virtually no impact” on the election and “makes no difference.”

Trump is one of a kind.

Ok, some shots are below the belt - headline from *The Telegraph* -
Kamala Harris is the Meghan Markle of American Politics

An astrologer who predicted the exact date of Biden's exit predicted that Trump would win.

> Polls and betting markets tighten. Polls are around 50/50, and the betting markets are now leaning toward Harris. However, Nate Silver, one of the better pollsters, shows 61/38 for Trump. Kamala is actually campaigning, as opposed to Biden, who didn't do that much campaigning. And, from what I've seen, she is tacking right (do not, under any circumstances, call it flip-flopping) and consciously fighting the laugh and using silly, elementary words. So far, she is presenting a serious person. We have a long way to go, but this is shaping up to be a dog fight.

> Kamala things -

Very nice summary of Kamala by the liberal Andrew Sullivan at the bottom of this posting. He and I are in agreement.

Kamala on equity - "everybody should end up in the same place" - video [here](#).

Vice President Kamala Harris will not seek to ban fracking if she's elected president, an official with her campaign told *The Hill*. Kit - This is part of her policy-adjustment program of moving to the right / flip-flopping she will be rolling out over the next few weeks.

She is no longer pushing for a single-payer health care system, and on Friday her campaign said she would maintain Mr. Biden's pledge not to raise income taxes on people making less than \$400,000 per year. -NYT - Kit - Again, tacking right/flip-flopping to get the votes

A summary of a Vanity Fair's UK editor's evening with Kamala: "My evening with Kamala Harris stayed with me and I have remained impressed through her extraordinary rise. I cannot say if she will be a good candidate, although she has started well – or, if she wins, a good president – but I can say that she is highly intelligent and a decent, thoughtful and modern human being – in fact, the polar opposite to the incubus that has settled on American public life in the shape of Donald Trump."

Elizabeth Warren says on CNN that Kamala Harris will keep the border open and grant citizenship to more than 10 million illegal aliens. Kit- Immigration is a big deal. Harris tactically should not be supporting this and I am wondering if Warren is freelancing.

We had to endure all of the, when is a Border Czar not a Border Czar, absurdity. Then comes an op ed in *The Wall Street Journal*, "Kamala Harris Made Progress on the Border Crisis." I've seen an actual Whirling Dervish who pales in comparison to spin like this.

New York magazine has declared this the year of Kamalot. Sounds good, but has a bad ending, you know.

Meagan Thee Stallion performed a vulgar routine at Kamala's rally in Atlanta.

Interesting black backlash to having Meagan and to the disrespect shown to Trump in a meeting with the black press.

Given some perception of Kamala as weak and particularly on foreign policy, one of the first [puff pieces](#) on her as a presidential candidate is about ... cooking.

Turns out she failed the bar exam on the first try and passed on the second. I'm not sure that matters, but it is another data point that she is neither dumb nor brilliant. Few politicians are brilliant.

> Ok, if I'm gonna do Kamala things, I might as well go ahead and do Trump things - "On day one, I will sign a new executive order to cut federal funding for any school pushing Critical Race Theory, transgender insanity, and other inappropriate racial, sexual, or political content onto the lives of our children, and I will not give one penny to any school that has a vaccine mandate or mask mandate, and I will keep men out of women's sports."

"You won't have to do it anymore, four more years, you know what? It'll be fixed, it'll be fine. You won't have to vote anymore," Trump said. "You've got to get out and vote. In four years, you don't have to vote again. We'll have it fixed so good, you're not going to have to vote." Kit- Here's the problem - Trump rambles so much you are not sure what he is really saying. On it's face, however, this may be the scariest thing he has said and reinforces charges of authoritarianism.

Trump asked whether Kamala is Indian or black. I have no idea where he was going with that one. Harris has led with one identity or the other over time and in this campaign is capitalizing on both, but that's just politics.

Trump officially killed Project 2025.

> There are literally groups called, "White Women for Kamala" and "White Dudes for Kamala" organized by her campaign. Whites are gaining an identity, which is both inevitable and fraught with peril. Beth is less concerned. She says it is only white men trying to get laid and white women wanting to sit at the cool table.

This is part of a conscious identity-group association strategy by the Harris campaign. Probably very good politically, but very bad for our country. (A promotion for AANHPI Men for Kamala Harris popped up. Stands for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander. "AANHPI Brothers united for our AANHPI Sister.")

Ok, this just in. Blacks Against Harris is now a thing.

Curiouser and curiouser.

And very funny, if it did not have such serious implications.

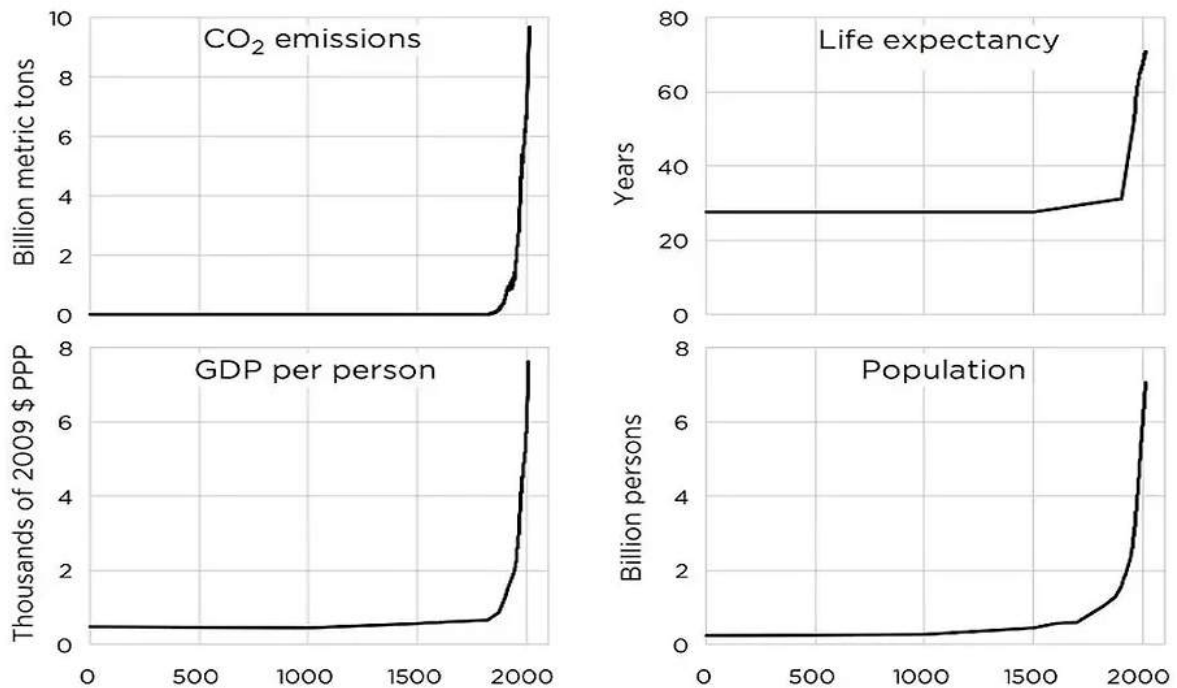
> The U.S. fertility rate is at a historic low of 1.6 births per woman, well below replacement level. A recent study shows that it's Americans having no babies at all—rather than people having fewer babies—who account for over two-thirds of the drop in births between 2012 and 2022

Last week—in the midst of cat-lady-gate—Pew published new research examining why young adults say they're "unlikely" to have kids. Top answers include prioritizing careers and hobbies, insufficient funds, concerns about the state of the world, and climate change. But the number-one reason, particularly among women: they "just don't want to."

There is much to contemplate about why we are, as a species, not replacing ourselves, committing specie-cide. Reproduction is literally the only purpose of life on Earth.

> Not right, but not totally wrong, either -
RFK, Jr. - "The Democrats Are Destroying Democracy to Save it from Donald Trump"

> Definitely correlation - the hidden variables are the Enlightenment, technology and energy



This really does look like a body double for Biden - taller and with a smoother gait -
It's so bad, no one in their right minds would have done it - right?



> Overly simplistic, but I really like the thought - from Delano Squires on X -
There is a symbiotic relationship between white liberals seeking absolution for sins they didn't commit & black liberals seeking empathy for injustices they didn't endure. Both groups fail to realize that condescension and equality go together like oil and water.

Chinese athletes at the Olympics tested positive for steroids, which they blamed on hamburgers. And they got away with it. The pervasiveness of corruption is depressing.

I became a Dallas Cowboys fan when the team was formed. I suffered through the early years, rallied around Don Meredith, gloried in the Staubach / Landry era and in the Jimmy Johnson / Aikman era, and suffered in the Jerry Jones mediocrity. This year could mark a new low. Not only do we have the Dak Prescott psychological issues, but the team has hemorrhaged talent. For years, they have made the playoffs and failed. This year, they will be lucky to make the playoffs.

> So, X is alive with accusations of Google bias against Trump in search. I did not believe it, so I tried it out.

First up is a simple search - assassination attempt on president tru

The only word completion available is, truman.

Then the first article up on a search for "president trump rally" is "Kamala Harris responds to Donald Trump's remarks"

So I tried Edge. First completion was truman, with trump in second place.

Edge led with Trump on the rally question, but Harris' response was second.

Firefox uses Google search.

Safari: Trump, then Truman

Rally results were all Trump

I am not yet eligible for SearchGPT, so I could not try that.

That's as much as I had interest in.

However, the results are interesting. If this actually goes anywhere, I'll let you know.

**Has Anybody Seen An Update From The FBI On The
Trump Assassination Attempt? Anyone?**

It Ain't Easy Being Green

> An illustration of the stupidity -

The World Economic Forum tweeted - Venus was once Earth-like, but climate change made it uninhabitable.

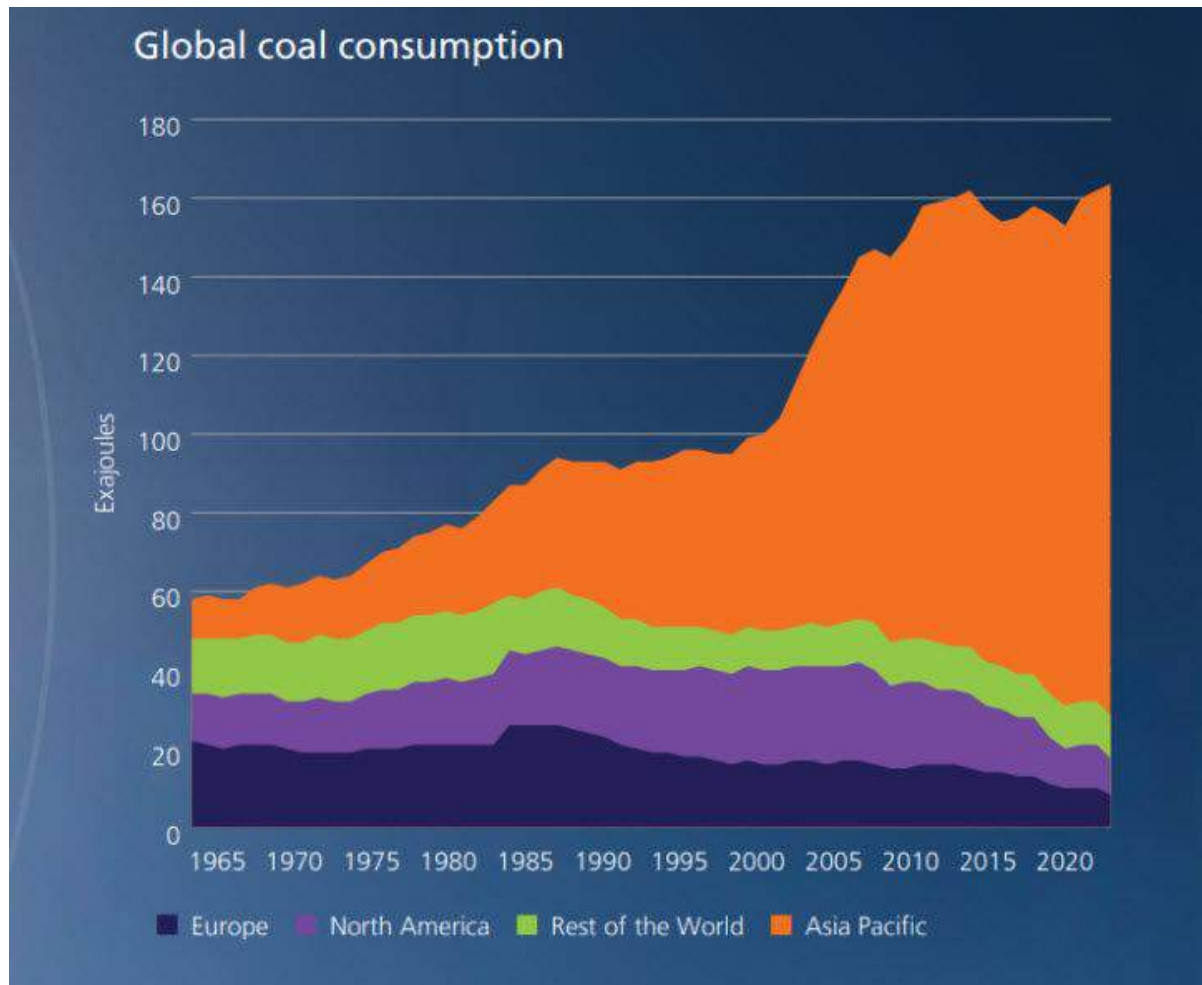
The response was -

How could the climate on Venus possibly have changed without cow farts, gas boilers, internal combustion engines, nitrogen fertiliser, and the existence of humans in general?!

The WEF tweet was just gaslighting at its worst. Physical systems evolve. The Earth's atmosphere was once almost completely carbon dioxide. The Earth was once encased in ice. Ice ages have come and gone without humans.

Global warming is a big enough challenge without institutions sacrificing their reputations.

> We're winning!



Miscellany

I have lived in fear of this my entire life.



The Babylon Bee  @TheBabylonBee · 36m



Authorities Arrive To Confiscate Husband's Man Card After He Calls Handyman To Fix Faucet



Authorities Arrive To Confiscate Husband's Man Card After H...

From babylonbee.com

[THE WEEKLY DISH](#) [The Kamala Chimera](#)

The Dems' weakest and wokest candidate becomes the nominee.

[ANDREW SULLIVAN](#)

JUL 26, 2024

No sentient, compassionate being could begrudge the Democrats this week this small, still moment of relief and even joy. From what seemed like certain Electoral College death, with a candidate who is manifestly mentally and physically incapable of being president for four more years, they are now in the throes of Kamala euphoria. And who could blame them? In an instant, the Democratic ticket is the younger option for American voters; a fresh alternative to the previously dotaged duo; a non-white and

female breakthrough, which has already narrowed the Trump lead. It's a female Obama!

The initial themes Harris deployed, more to the point, seemed solid against Trump: prosecutor vs felon; future vs past; positivity vs hatred. She gave speeches that finally worked. Her [opening ad](#) centered a word usually associated with the right in America: “freedom” — to the sound of Beyoncé. And the polls showed a small recovery for the Democrats among black, Latino, and young Brat-ty voters. The swiftness of Harris’ consolidation of support also gave off the hint of a political canniness previously absent from her vice-presidency. And the mainstream media pivoted instantly to hype, hope, excitement and ... amnesia.

Yes, amnesia. With Harris, amnesia is essential. We all have to become unburdened by what we — and, more specifically she — have been. And beneath the enthusiasm linger some obvious, loud, unanswered questions. Why did Biden so quickly put his weight behind a vice president he had previously ignored, sidelined, and regarded — according to almost every media outlet — as something of a [burden](#)? Why has Obama taken his sweet time to endorse her, after calling for an open nominating process? And why did no other viable candidate come forward to challenge her?

The official answer is that a Harris nomination avoided a mess at the convention, quickly united and energized the party, safeguarded Biden’s war chest, and solidified the demographics of the base. Fair enough, and it seems to have worked (although I suspect a little chaos and a fresh face emerging from the convention would still have been preferable).

But there are other plausible explanations for Harris’ unexpectedly sudden dominance. Could it be that Biden and all of Harris’ rivals still expect to lose in November, and Harris is a useful sacrificial lamb? Or that Biden suspects that a Harris defeat would vindicate him in retrospect? Or that the Dem governors knew it would be political death to challenge a black, female candidate for president in a woke party, and see 2028 as by far their best shot?

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I suspect it’s a mix of all of the above — and not quite the strategic breakthrough some may want it to be. And Harris’ opening ad takes a bold stand against “chaos, fear and hate” and issues a brave call for freedom, universal healthcare, and public safety. And maybe the platitudinous vagueness of this is just the overture before we get actual proposals or policies. But at some point, Harris is going to have to square what she has said and done in the past with what she proposes to do as president. Her record on the national stage — from [2019](#) till now — is that of a super-woke leftist. In [speech after speech](#), and in an [ad she narrated](#) just before the 2020 election, she insists on the need for “equity” as well as “equality,” and by “equity” she means that “everyone ends up in the same place.” She is a presidential candidate who endorses “equality of outcomes” over “equality of opportunity,” a position that even Communist China has now abandoned.

One moment in her catastrophic 2020 campaign for the Dem nomination also stood out for me. There was a discussion in a debate about issuing an executive order that would ban all assault weapons. Biden made the simple point that this was not within the president's constitutional authority: "There are some things you can do [as president]. Many things you can't." Harris replied, giggling: "I would just say, Hey Joe, instead of saying no we can't, let's say yes we can. And yes we can!" As she said this, she burst into hysterical laughter. Go watch [the clip](#). She's not a serious person. In the only primaries outside California she campaigned in, she favored [decriminalizing](#) illegal border crossings and compared ICE to the KKK. On June 1, 2020, as BLM riots were so spreading out of control that even the NYT had an [A1 story the day before](#) — "Appeals for Calm as Sprawling Protests Threaten to Spiral Out of Control" — she tweeted out a bail fund for those arrested in the rioting, and urged people to donate. As the chaos surged in June, she [told](#) Stephen Colbert: They're not going to stop. This is a movement, I'm telling you. And everyone beware. They're not gonna stop ... They're not going to let up and they should not. And we should not.

Also in June 2020, she [said](#) on national television, "It is outdated, and it is actually wrong and backward to think that more police officers will create more safety." Harris [believes](#) illegal aliens should get work authorization and free healthcare. She [favors](#) unproven, irreversible medical experiments on gay, autistic, and trans children. She favors, and the Biden administration has enforced, systemic government discrimination against men, whites, Jews and Asians to compensate for past discrimination against African-Americans and women. Her Senate record is [one long series](#) of DEI initiatives. And yes, Biden selected her using a DEI process: [no men](#) were to be considered, and in the hysteria of 2020, white women were also seen as [no-go areas](#) for the veep role.

Her record as vice president rivals Dan Quayle's. Every single media outlet, including all the mainstream ones, said so until last week. No, she wasn't given the formal title of "Border Czar," because such a title doesn't exist. But she was the administration's "point-person" on immigration and the Southern border, as every media outlet [also told us](#) until this week. So she is strongly attached to the Democrats' weakest issue by far: mass, illegal immigration.

She deserves some pity for this. The Biden administration, unwilling to do anything to stop the illegal influx, stuck poor Harris with the task of so reforming Central America's dysfunctional countries that no one there would ever want to leave. So of course she failed. She was, in reality, deployed to deflect the issue of mass illegal immigration away from Biden — not to actually do anything. But [that video](#) of her reiterating in weird, somber tones — "Do not come. Do not come." — added a patina of excruciating cringe.

She's also obviously incredibly insecure. That laugh is a nervous one — it's to cover up her awkwardness and her inability to say something that actually means something.

All of those [famous, inane](#), Jack Handy [ramblings](#) about [space](#) or the [passage of time](#) are designed to say something meaningful while [not saying anything concrete](#): I think it's very important, as you have heard from so many incredible leaders, for us at every moment in time, and certainly this one, to see the moment in time in which we exist and are present, and to be able to contextualize it, to understand where we exist in the history and in the moment as it relates not only to the past but the future. What the fuck does any of that mean? And what does she actually believe in? From locking up criminals as California's AG to pushing bail for BLM rioters, from imprisoning cannabis users to favoring national weed legalization — is quite a journey. It will be interesting to watch the campaign and see if Harris is able to tell a story of her different political identities that doesn't amount to pure expediency. And she is a world-historically bad manager of people. That's not my view or the view of the GOP. It's the view of almost everyone who ever worked for her. In just her first year-and-a-half as veep, Harris lost her chief of staff, communications director, domestic-policy adviser, and national security adviser. After three years, she had a [92 percent](#) staff turnover! Only 4 out of an original 47 could stick it out. She wasn't much better in the Senate, ranking [#9 out of 114](#) for highest turnover from 2017 to 2020. Her presidential campaign was plagued by in-fighting, family members — her sister, Maya, in particular — pulling rank, constant leaks to the press, strategic incoherence, and endless resignations and layoffs. She blew threw \$40 million and had to pull out two months before Iowa. “You can't run the country if you can't run your campaign,” wrote Gil Duran, a former staffer.

If you want to read a classic examination of how not to run a political campaign, check out the [NYT's retrospective piece](#). It's brutal. Think of how Obama ran his campaigns. Now imagine the exact, polar opposite. That's All-Drama Kamala. And all the staffers echo the same complaint: she doesn't do her homework and then berates aides who try to help her. She was [vindictive and toxic](#) as an employer. In greasy pole Washington, attaching yourself to a veep is a rare chance for access to power, a jewel in the careerist crown. And yet so many ambitious and previously successful people simply [couldn't work for Harris](#) without quitting in bitterness and disdain.

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I raise these issues not to rain on the Democrats' parade — they deserve a moment of jubilation and relief — merely to recognize the reality they now face. And look: in 2024, who knows what could happen? Maybe Harris' relative youth (she's my age!), her sex, her non-whiteness, and her freshness will change the dynamics of the race. She's certainly off to a strong start, and the MSM will go overboard in celebrating her. Maybe Trump will suddenly seem too old or too nasty or now just too boring in comparison. Maybe he's peaked way too soon. Maybe ugly personal attacks on her — along with the weirdness of J.D. Vance — could shift things one more time. Maybe Harris is key to preventing black and Latino and youth defections to the GOP. I don't

know. The race remains tight. And anyone predicting anything right now needs to remember where we were just three weeks ago.

But I'll say this. Harris is one of the weakest and wokest Democratic candidates there is. She cannot credibly appeal to the center after such extreme-left posturing; she cannot run a campaign; she cannot run an executive office; she has never been able to win elections outside the left-liberal, one-party state of California; and she has nothing to offer to those of us who really, really don't want to vote for Trump but don't want to unburden ourselves of every moderate or conservative principle we ever had. Apart from that, she's perfect.