

## Daily Meditation 3/31/2023

### Buddhism, Christianity and Fox News War on Truth

Good morning.

Some of the news this week has included the further revelations about Fox News and about the coverup, really, about the election results back in November. That put gasoline on the fire that President Trump was trumpeting back in 2020, and even up to today: namely, that he won an election that President Biden actually won.

Again, we now know that the poobahs at Fox News all knew that Trump was lying and that Biden did indeed win the election. Not only that, but they conspired to put Rudy Giuliani and Sidney Powell, lawyers of Trump who had immense imagination, though not a very immense sense of truthfulness, put them on air time and time and time again to tell their stories -- and stories they were -- about the tales of how Trump won the election and Biden actually lost it.

So the emails are coming out because of this suit with Dominion, who makes voting boxes. And what I'm trying to do in this meditation is to get us to think about the spiritual values, choices, in all this. Because as we've written about for weeks, truth is considered an ideal, an aspiration, not only in all the religions of the world, but in value systems of humanists, as well, and the value system that grounds democracy, and certainly American democracy. Society cannot survive on tales alone and lies, it needs some kind of aspiration for truth and that is where justice comes in.

That is where law is supposed to render some parameters to our voices and what the Buddhists call Right Speech...Right Speech. Right Speech is about not using our fifth chakra forces to tell constant lies or to incite resentment or other shadow feelings, especially in crowds, mass mind, the mass consciousness, but to be careful in what we say, and how we say it.

And clearly, Fox News has failed at this commitment to an effort at right speech, at truth, therefore, truth telling. And it's not that we're all 100% truthful all the time. But for a large, the largest cable company, cable news company, so-called, in America, to indulge patently in falsehoods -- and why would someone do that? To make more money, as we learned from these emails that are coming out in the trial.

It's all about the fact that the Fox News people were losing customers because their customers wanted loud messages full of resentment and didn't want to hear the truth.

So this is an affront against Right Speech and against what Thomas Aquinas calls love of neighbor and the truth that go together. It's important to meditate on these events in the context of spirituality and of the importance of truth to sustain societies.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.