

JD

Jay Doherty

*The **Jay Doherty** Podcast*

EPISODE 134

SHOW NOTES FOR ON-AIR BROADCAST

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The Jay Doherty Podcast Episode 134

Show Notes for On-Air Broadcast

Today's Show: 12:00 AM to 1:00 AM

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Today on The Jay Doherty Podcast:

The latest -- and 7.1 rated -- Presidential Debate... Joe Biden claims he is the party and tries to hoist his fellow Democrats back to center left... and Donald Trump is excessively dependent on his preset rhetoric to carry him through the chaotic battle... meanwhile Chris Wallace attempts to facilitate the first of three debates whose guidelines are soon to change after both Wallace and the Commission on Presidential Debates were criticized for letting it get out of hand. The strategy of Biden is pretty straightforward but Trump's poll-lagging seems to leave him confused. Who really won the debate? And why is Biden not going out of his way to appeal to the super-progressives?

Also, The President and First Lady report testing positive for COVID-19. What is the President's progress in defeating the virus thus far? What are the many ways his COVID-19 diagnosis can hurt and help him politically?

We'll answer all of that and more on episode 134 of The Jay Doherty Podcast.

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The First General Election Presidential Debate

GENERAL THOUGHTS

The entire thing was a complete mess and, I think anyone you ask, regardless of their political alignment, would say that it got out of hand... and really all of that is rooted in President Trump's strategy coming into the debate. If you look right now at the [national polls](#), Donald Trump is down in every single one. FiveThirtyEight, as always, has fantastic coverage of all of this... they ran tens of thousands of simulations and Donald Trump is behind in every swing state there was in 2016 and overall the results output poorly for President Trump's campaign based off of their polling data which could be inaccurate as with all polling data but it is the best metric we have in determining these races.

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Also, if you look at the last time there was a debate against an incumbent, you would find yourself watching: [Obama V. Romney 2012 Debate](#) where they *actually talked* about the issues.

This is sort of an uncomfortable feeling for Trump who, as he will tell you is “The Chosen One”:
TRUMP 1

Anyway, last election, all of the polls were down for Trump when he came into the election against Hillary Clinton and... look where we are now... but that was when Trump was a political novice and Hillary was about as bad as Trump was. Biden is, and I think lots of people will agree with this, a vanilla candidate. He is not radical, he is not super controversial... he has been in politics for almost 50 years... he knows the game and he is a classic middle-of-the-road old school Democrat. And, I think that is exactly what this country needs right now. Now all of that goes without mentioning the many cons of Biden in the pros/cons comparison of each of them. Biden sometimes has difficulty remembering things, he will often have little gaffes where he'll accidentally say things that are untrue... and sometimes he just defaults back to the “I’m a charismatic politician so I’m just going to smile at the camera because my opponent is an idiot” look.

TRUMP’S STRATEGY

So how does any of this relate to Trump’s strategy? Well, Trump and his people know that, nationally, he is losing to Biden and Trump’s goal is to just decimate Biden in every way possible. Last night, as you heard in that montage, Trump literally would not stay quiet for 70% of Joe Biden’s answers because he was so eager to take votes away from middle of the line voters. The main factor in each of their strategies is demographics. The voting comes down to how unified each party actually is. Right now, the Democratic party is a complete mess; we saw this with the Republicans in 2016... it seems that whenever the incumbent is of the opposite party, the opponent’s platform is always rattled and confused. Right now, though, the Democrats are facing a very odd split down the middle between radical and moderate subgroups of their party. The Democrats’ “below 40 voting population” are literally promoting the term “[Settle For Biden](#)” because they wished Bernie Sanders would have come to be their candidate. And, honestly, this super progressive wing of the Democratic party is growing among young voters so much so that they will openly admit that a candidate that is supposedly in their own party is “begrudgingly” putting Joe Biden in office... that is literally the word they use on their website, [settleforbiden.org](#)

Trump took advantage of that and tried to almost poke fun at Biden for being moderate and sort of being on the quiet island of moderate Democrats unlike some of the very vocal, progressive elected officials in Democrat cities and districts around the country. One of the very few smart things Trump snuck in last night was planting doubt in Biden’s stance as a

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Democrat which again plays into Trump's agenda of fear. Here's a quick moment that is really important but is not being talked about too much because it was sort of glossed over in the debate and in the media's post-coverage... TRUMP 2.

That short remark was preceded by a debate about healthcare where Biden was going through his moderate healthcare plan which was built off of The Affordable Care Act and it left room for a more moderate hybrid of options which in my opinion is much better than Trump's very loosely defined (at best) repealed but not replaced version of The Affordable Care Act. In short, in my opinion, Biden's plan is best because it gives options: you can stick with the government or you can pay for your own insurance... Freedom in politics comes in the form of options and Biden's plan presents options because it breaks from the socialized alternative that the progressives push and the fully privatized version that conservatives push. Here is the first part of that exchange which came before the clip you just heard: BIDEN 1 (pause).

Now, Trump is lying when he says "that's not what you've said." That is a flat out lie. Biden, from day one, has said that he wants to take a more moderate stance on healthcare and continue to try and build off The Affordable Care Act. Here's where Biden actually takes a stand and says, look *I'm the nominee here... I am the party!* (PALPATINE 1) So how can you discredit me if I am the lead writer of the agenda. Here's the rest of that clip... BIDEN 2

Another example of this is when the candidates started talking about actual issues (which took up a concerningly low amount of time throughout the entire debate). A particular instance is when Biden was asked about climate change and the Green New Deal. BIDEN 5. That was a really awkward moment because Biden, ahead of that clip, was literally advocating for how the Green New Deal will pay for itself over time... here is that extended clip... BIDEN 7

So that was the more logical strategy of Trump. In a more observable sense, his strategy was to just shout and shout, so much so that he didn't even let Biden make a single gaffe. If Trump shut up and just let Biden talk for maybe more than 45 seconds, Biden would have made a mistake or two like he's done on the campaign trail and then Trump would be able to just chew on that and rip it apart minutes, days, and weeks after he said it. Perhaps the very liberal Jake Tapper said it best in CNN's coverage of the aftermath of the debate on the night it happened... TAPPER 1

BIDEN'S STRATEGY

Almost everything went right for Biden during the debate. Trump was super aggressive which covered for any mishaps that Biden could have had. And, that's pretty much it. Biden didn't make any headlines and really neither did Trump. Trump just sucked the air out of the debate

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hall because he didn't let Chris Wallace take control and Joe Biden sort of just sat back and watched... oftentimes telling the President to be quiet which resulted in some attempted interference from Chris Wallace... here are a couple of clips: BIDEN 3, 4,

As I talked about before, both of these candidates are really going after the moderate, white 50, 60, 70 year old voter. Although Trump is winning that battle in many ways so Biden is trying to pull the *iffy* voters from Trump world over to his own campaign which is why he, on the debate stage, did not have much intent to condone super radical policies because he wanted to be a voice for calm for all of the voters that he is trying to win over in that middle ground.

Also, Chris Wallace had a super hard time keeping the debate flowing cohesively and often he just blatantly made editorial comments about Trump that he should have just kept to himself... this would be a difficult challenge for anyone and I can't really think of a better moderator than Chris Wallace for this debate which is a simultaneously positive and negative comment... here's an example of one editorial comment that Wallace made throughout the debate. WALLACE 1

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HIGHLIGHTS AND LOWLIGHTS

Highlights

- The political theatre
 - Perhaps the most famous soundbite of the night was the President's: TRUMP 11

Lowlights

- Trump refused to outwardly condemn white supremacy or at least seemed hesitant to do so.... Trump's response was absolutely horrific... here's the full exchange: TRUMP 3
 - First, Trump should have said: I completely condemn all acts of any white supremacy and want nothing to do with white supremacists or their outwardly hateful ideologies; they do not represent America or its values and I neglect their support. Is it really that hard? Why on earth would anyone want to be involved with anyone who is a white supremacist and why did Trump seem hesitant to condemn that hate?
 - Even Fox News hosts were tough on the President for this egregious error... FOX 1
 - So... How was that clarification presented? Well, it sort of depends on who you ask. Kayleigh McEnany was very persistent in citing the President's past on this during a press conference where she went back and read dates about Trump's condemnation of white supremacy in the past.
 - But then Trump attempts at a rebound when he speaks to the press pool and it all goes down hill once again because he BEATS AROUND THE BUSH on a very straightforward issue and claims now he doesn't know who the Proud Boys are: TRUMP 10
 - The semantics
 - Let's go to the dictionary definition of each of them to completely understand what we're talking about here

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