

TIDE Academy Newspaper

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TIDE Academy Newspaper

- Don't let democracy slip into decay.

Writers:

Cambria Jones

Joaquim Cruz

Micah Robinson

Siya Verma

Advisor:

Ms. Leeson

Editor:

Dr. Emily Robinson

2020 Presidential Election Recap

Opinion By Micah Robinson

In the weeks following the 2020 presidential election, we have seen some of the most unprecedented actions, responses, and claims from the Trump campaign. To fully unpack the election, we will look at it in two parts, starting with election night and week, and going into the response from the Trump campaign up until, spoiler alert, Biden's clear win.

The 2020 election started weeks before November 3, with a record number of early and mail-in votes being cast throughout the country. Early votes are traditionally cast by people living abroad, active duty military, and those who cannot make it to the polls on election day. In 2020, people cast early votes out of safety concerns over the pandemic. In many states, these votes could not be counted until election day. Keep this in mind; it will be important later.

Election night began with vote counts being called in, starting on the east coast and heading west. For the first few hours and into the night, there were no upsets: the candidates seemed to be carrying their stronghold states, and as all polls closed, Trump seemed to have a lead. Taking Florida, holding Texas, and appearing to hold Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan, Trump was on track to win. We began to see the switch a few days after the polls closed. We saw Biden making a comeback in the midwest. This is attributed to those early votes. Demographics of voters dictated that Democrats were far more likely to vote early than Republicans. This meant that although it would appear that Trump was winning at first, a resurgence and eventual victory by Biden and Harris would soon follow.

Following the election, it was clear that Joe Biden and Kamala Harris had won. All major news outlets called the election, and it was widely recognized even within the Republican Party that Trump had lost. Despite this, President Trump refused to concede, refused to start the transition process, and began filing lawsuits to fight the result.

The Trump administration has made claims that there was voter fraud, that those mail-in ballots should not be counted, and that their poll watchers were not allowed to view the canvassing. Many of these claims have been taken to court, but nothing has stuck. The court, along with the public and the parties, has ruled on the side of Biden and the Democrats.

Many Trump supporters have vocally agreed with the president. During and after election night, protesters stood outside counting locations chanting, calling for poll workers to stop the counting of mail-in votes. If they were not counted, Trump would have won. Due to this, he incorrectly claimed that it was illegal to count votes after election day. Anecdotally, when an election official told the crowd that if they stopped the count, Biden would win, they switched their chant from "Stop the count!" to "Keep on counting!" This is a clear example of the hypocrisy that the president shows.

The 2020 election was one for the history books. It left us on edge for days, and, according to Trump, is still contested. At the same time, it has set many records. Not only is this the first time a woman has been elected into the White House, this election featured the most mail-in ballots and early votes, and

the most votes cast overall -- and all while the United States faces a crisis that has affected each and every American.

Announcements

By: Siya Verma

Menlo Park Library Tutoring Services:

They tutor core subjects: math, reading, writing, and science. Here is their [flyer if you would like more information](#).

TIDE Tutoring:

TIDE students offer tutoring services in all subjects. [View this link to find the right tutor for you and where to contact them](#).

Activities/Clubs at TIDE:

Get engaged in the TIDE community by participating in the several clubs offered at TIDE! They range from learning meaningful civil discourse all the way to sitting back and watching Netflix. View this link for a [full list of active clubs and where to contact club advisors](#).

TIDE Movie Night:

Student Council and TIDE Tuesday will be working together to host a movie night!

When: December 10th, 6-7:30 pm dates - lots of January dates - the Dec date passed~

Link: <https://seq-org.zoom.us/j/7104430323#success>

Free Asynchronous College Art Classes:

Foothill College is providing asynchronous art classes to high school students, and they're free! Professor Carolyn Brown has taught award-winning online art classes at Foothill for 20 years. Here's a quick summary of the classes:

- FREE to all high school students through the dual enrollment program at Foothill College.
- Completely asynchronous, students work on their own time, **we do not meet on Zoom**.
- Fulfill the art, visual arts, creative arts, or elective requirement for high school graduation.
- 4 units of college credit, transfer-able to UC/CSU.

Here are the offered opportunities:

- Illustration & Digital Art (CRN 31161): make art on paper, phone, tablet or computer
- Game Art & Design (CRN 31104): draw game characters and fan art
- Typography (CRN 30205): create with hand lettering and fonts
- UI/UX design (CRN 30708): create prototypes for mobile apps
- Graphic Design I (CRN 30204): design for social media, posters, infographics, packaging

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the professor by calling or messaging her at : 415.997.9270.

Classes start on January 4th, so [enroll](#) as soon as possible!

News Feedback and Opinion survey:

Lastly, please fill out this survey so we can write better articles in the future and can write stories that you are interested in: <https://forms.gle/e6jcKz9xpV6cjc97>

Club Highlight

By: Siya Verma

- Real Talk: TIDE will soon be joining a non-profit organization called Real Talk. Real Talk's lessons "aim to strengthen your critical thinking, news literacy, and civil discourse skills, so that you can become a more informed, empathetic, and engaged citizen" (Real Talk). They focus on educating students and enhancing their critical thinking and civil discourse skills. By the end of the year, members will be able to comfortably converse about political and other current issues.
- GSA: TIDE Academy's GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) club meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month! Please join us in working together to help create and maintain a safe, positive, and welcoming space for all students. For more information, please contact Ms. Cortez (kcortez@gmail.com). Join us!

Protests: A Brief Background On Belarus And Protests

Opinion By Joaquim Cruz

In 1990, just before the 1991 dissolution of the Soviet Union, Belarus declared itself an independent nation, no longer a part of the Soviet Union. In 1994, four years later after independence was declared in Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko was elected into office as president. His election occurred in the midst of the political and economic chaos coming from the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Two years later, in 1996, Lukashenko rewrote the constitution of Belarus, giving himself all the powers of the country's government institutions. This was the beginning of the downfall of democracy in Belarus. It slowly became a Far Right-wing Conservative dictatorship, characterized by nostalgia for Soviet Socialism such as old Soviet state-owned cars, state-owned industrial complexes, collectivized farms, parades honoring the Red Army, displaying Soviet symbols such as hammers and sickles on the coat of arms, and a government spy agency named after the KGB that oppresses people's individual freedoms. However, while there is nostalgia for Soviet Socialism within the country, its indoctrination in Belarus takes the form of extremely nationalistic, far-right-wing conservative values such as family and Christian values that discriminate towards people on the basis of sexuality, anti-immigration laws, prejudice, and discrimination towards countries like Poland. But there is no indoctrination for Soviet-style Socialism or Progressivism; these philosophies are considered terrible and frowned upon.

In Europe, Alexander Lukashenko is considered one of Europe's longest and "last dictator". He has styled himself as a strict, tough Nationalist when it comes to defending his country from harmful foreign influences in order to guarantee Belarus's stability. These ideas that Alexander Lukashenko has ascribed to himself to have (?) given him support from the people, but elections in Belarus have never been considered free or fair under his rule. This has given the opposition parties in Belarus, an opportunity to criticize the government of Alexander Lukashenko by protesting the problems of political corruption, the growing poverty rate, the lack of opportunities, low pay, and the inability to solve the problems of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 9, 2020, Alexander Lukashenko ran for reelection as president of Belarus. The election was disputed; people accused Alexander Lukashenko of rigging it so he could stay in power for another decade. But this came with criticism of massive protests with 100,000 people without any social distancing and no wearing of masks from the opposition parties in the capital city, Minsk, Belarus for four Sundays of every week(?). During the September 6, 2020 protests in towns and cities all over Belarus including the capital, Minsk, it was reported that 600 people within the protests were detained. Protests or rallies for Alexander Lukashenko have been quite small.

The Pandemic's Effect on the US Economy

By: Cambria Jones

The negative economic effects that COVID-19 has had on the United States are undeniable. The current recession has surpassed that of the Financial Crisis of 2008, and even the Great Depression. Cases are piling up every day, and it only seems that the situation is getting worse as California implements stricter county guidelines.

In his October 14 conversation on the Munk Dialogues, Robert Reich had a great deal of insight into how COVID-19 is affecting not just the economy, but America's population. Reich observed that economic inequality has always been an issue in the United States, but it has particularly exploded in the effect of COVID-19. However, social inequality can be lessened by taxing the very wealthy to support both middle and lower-class families and businesses.

Moreover, Especially in a pandemic, available health care is an important asset to have. Reich points out that people in the bottom 10% tend not to have good healthcare, and their housing and work situations are precarious. The U.S. is set up for the poor to suffer the most: they are now more likely to be unemployed while the rich still have remote jobs. Taxing the wealthy helps level the economic inequality that persists between the very wealthy and poor. Poor people are given little support, and, as shown by Reich, Trump has instituted policies that allow the wealthy to accumulate their wealth and for poor people to remain poor. He is even pushing to get rid of the Affordable Care Act, which would take away health care for poor people who can't afford regular doctor fees.

A problem during COVID-19 is that Congress cannot agree on a fiscal policy that will get the country out of the recession, and central banks cannot set interest rates alone. Because of this incapability to develop a plan, there is no fiscal policy to stimulate the economy. But, even a strong fiscal policy will not be much use if the virus isn't controlled. The government needs to prioritize getting the virus under control before starting the economy up and running again. Even though there would be a dramatic recession, it would only be a short amount of time before the economy starts inflating. If the United States delays action to prevent the spread of the virus, more people will die and the economy will have a lengthy recession which may be more detrimental than a sharp recession.

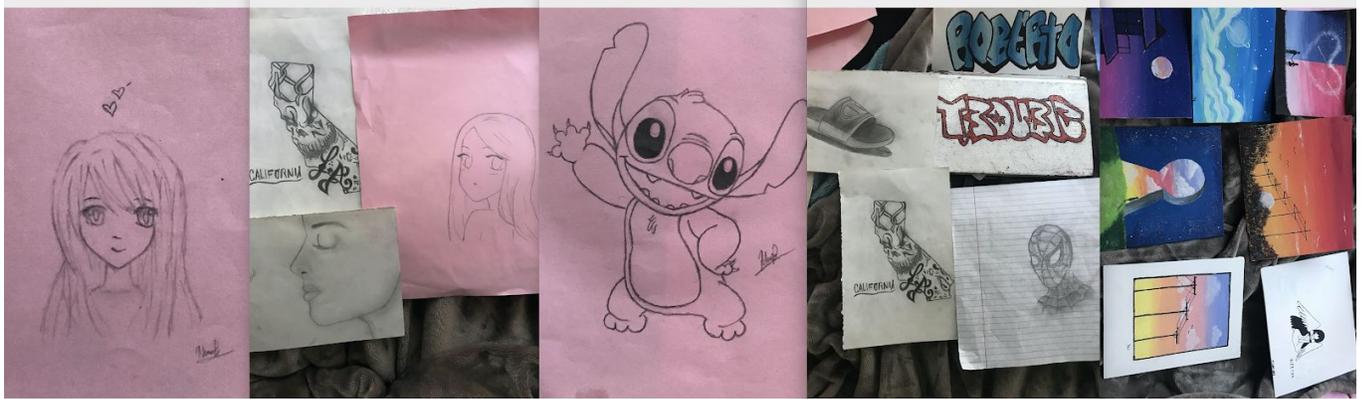
Works Cited

"Robert Reich: Munk Debates." Home. Accessed November 30, 2020.
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Artwork

Artist: Naomi Baltazar Soriano

Grade: 9



Artist: Julia Kelemen

Grade: 9



Artist: Brianna Hernandez
Grade: 9

