

Keith's Hard Hitting Current E..., From Aboard The _Relentless_

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SPEAKERS

Tom, Keith



Keith 00:00

We are pleased to provide this text from our podcast. As you know, the spoken word is often less formal and sometimes less precise than a written piece that may be carefully edited. I have also been known to sometimes jumble my words beyond recognition! Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns -- and thank you for supporting the show! " Keith DeGreen



Keith 00:07

Hey folks, welcome to this edition of As I SEA It, as the background might indicate I am in Encina aboard the relentless safely in our slip this morning this Sunday morning. And we thought it'd be fun to just have a conversation with myself and with our I don't know what you want to call him or exec goes, promotions co host Yeah. And Tom de oro, who's just a great guy. And he's also the host of I got it. Don't worry. Don't Ask Don't Tell me. It is nothing, not nothing wrong. It's all good.



Tom 00:45

It's all good Newport Beach.



Keith 00:46

It's all good Newport Beach, and he has some really terrific guests on that. So you might want to check out his podcast as well. Well, good morning, Tom. How the heck are you?



Tom 00:55

T Tom 00:55

I'm great. Keith, great to see you. Thank you. Thank you for as I shared before we got on the show. I'm really honored and privileged to to be with you on as I see it. I really am.

K Keith 01:08

Well the feeling's mutual. Tom, you're a great guy.

T Tom 01:11

Thank you. Likewise, Keith, how was your trip down from Newport to Ensenada?

K Keith 01:18

Here's a tip. Do not attempt to drive into Mexico, especially at the Tijuana border on a Friday afternoon. A trip that from Newport Beach to Ensenada should have taken me maybe three and a half hours, took five and a half hours. And it's just a zoo as people try to cross the border. And incidentally, there were no guards. There was just the traffic, they never stopped. I saw him pull a couple of people over in one specific lane. But otherwise, it was just everybody got through, you couldn't find a guard if a bomb went off. I'm sure you would. And I'm not shouldn't use that expression. But you know, it's not as though they were checking everybody. It didn't have to produce my passport. And they don't use the Global Entry cards on the way into Mexico. You can use it to speed up your return on your way back in United States. But you know, in addition to having a passport, it's really a good idea to have one of those Global Entry cards, you got to go down and get photographed, answer some questions. prove to them you're not a terrorist. And then it's just a lot easier for you to travel. So anyway, don't drive down here on a Friday. I am I am now at the marina. It's called the coral Marina and the coral hotel in in Ensenada. It's a kind of a family hotel. The place was packed with families yesterday, weddings and things like that and families having brunch. And we're here in the marina and we just lucked out and got a really good slip. So we're very safe, safely tucked in here. And it's a spectacular view. I took it yesterday. Last night. I'm sitting out in the bow of the boat. And it's night and the full moons out. I took a picture and I'm an amateur photographer. I mean, I don't take it seriously at all. But sometimes you just heard hit paydirt without even trying. It's a great photo. It's up on our photo gallery on the website at degreen.com and I would encourage everybody to take a look at it. You talk about peace and tranquility. That's it. All right, I've rambled on enough.

T Tom 03:23

Is peace and tranquility. You hit paydirt without even trying. That's an interesting observation and a quote.

K Keith 03:34

Oh, you mean with the picture?

T Tom 03:37

Yes, you know, in life in general to hit paydirt without even trying?

K Keith 03:41

Well, I'm not sure life in general, you usually hit paydirt without trying but this was let me put it this way. By accident. It was I think it just turned out to be a really great picture by accident. And professional photographers by luck assets. Yeah, it's not so great. I think it's great.

T Tom 03:59

Keith Well, the background looks terrific. I don't see anything on Zoom or any other platform as as lovely as what you've got there really. I'm going to go right into some seriousness for a moment or sure quite a while the first Republican presidential debate was held last week. Right with your with your degrees in political science and, and law and in a obviously a long history of your political involvement. What's your impression? Did that oh, if you want to say each candidate made but you know, some key candidates made What's your impression of it?

K Keith 04:35

Well, you want to take them like quickly one candidate at a time for example.

T Tom 04:40

I'll go in I'll gonna rub up Mike Pence. All right right to sands,

K Keith 04:44

he first of all, he always looks like his hair is painted on. Have you ever noticed that? It has not changed and I Oda? Since he was vice president since he was a governor. What was it Illinois? Or Indiana? I forget what Indiana I think it was I lost I like Mike Pence because he's a Reagan, Republican. And he's true to his principles. I don't think the party, he's not going to go very far I don't think in this election, because I don't think the party is ever going to forgive despite his competence. ever forgive him, not so much for not invalidating votes and doing what Trump asked him to do after the election, but by but for being so sanctimonious about it. You know, he just did what he felt was his job. He felt he did what the Constitution required, required and boom, you know, full stop. So a, you know, good guy, very competent. If another Republican president gets elected, another Republican candidate selected, I would hope he finds a home in that administration in some appointed position.

T Tom 05:50

How about Ben? Ben DeSantis?

HOW ABOUT RON? RON DESANTIS?

K Keith 05:53

You know, I think he did himself a lot of good in that debate. As you may know, his poll numbers were slipping or at least staying stagnant. He came out swinging. He was articulate, forceful, and yet mature. And he's got a credible track record to point to in Florida. I particularly like him. Singling out for criticism, the George Soros financed district attorneys that are turning our country upside down, ignoring crime that they want to ignore. And, you know, not just prosecuting, but persecuting people with whom they disagree politically. So I like him. And he did that, incidentally, without specifically defending Trump. He was just talking about the system in general. I think he pulled it off. I think he did himself. And incidentally, I think his poll numbers were up by seven points or something. In the last couple of days after the after the debate.

T Tom 06:54

Nikki, Nikki Haley,

K Keith 06:56

I think she probably has the best foreign policy credentials of the group. Wasn't she? Ambassador to the UN, and she has been involved in a lot of other foreign policy stuff, too. She's just a really smart lady. And I don't think I've ever seen her more upset than she was with Vivek Ramaswami who we're going to talk about here in a moment, too, I think.

T Tom 07:19

Yeah, maybe we'll sink segue into Yeah,

K Keith 07:21

sure. Look, I I was singularly unimpressed with him. He Yeah, he's glib. He's articulate. But he reminds me of a precocious 15 year old who just wants to argue, and who makes outrageous statements. And by doing that, everybody had to rebut him. And when they rebutted him, then he had a chance to offer a response. And so he got a lot of airtime during that debate, and I don't think he particularly deserved. As I mentioned, Nikki Haley, she was really upset with him about his belief, or his statement, that we ought to stop funding the Ukrainians and use that money to build a wall. Well, we can walk and chew gum at the same time. You know, they're not those are not mutually exclusive goals. So I just really was not impressed with him. I hope he goes away sooner rather than later, frankly.

T Tom 08:14

Wow That's a real statement

wow. That's a real statement.

K Keith 08:18

Yeah. Well, you know, he's he's a bright guy. He's got a lot of money and go home count his money. And, and maybe when he grows up, who knows? Take another shot at it Vivek

T Tom 08:31

Another shot at it, how about Tim Scott?

K Keith 08:35

Mr. Happy. I liked him. I really do like him. And what I liked about his debate performance is that he came across much more serious than you normally see him. He's a very uplifting guy. He's a very positive guy. And there's nothing wrong with that at all. But I thought he got he got down to it during the debate. He I don't know that he's going to win the nomination. He could. But if he does, and I think he would make a very strong vice presidential candidate,

T Tom 09:06

Chris Christie. But Chris,

K Keith 09:09

look I wrote him off in 2012. During the Obama who's who was our candidate, the senator from Utah. Oh, come on, man. I'm missing here are all a sake. You're gonna have to find me because I know Romney. Romney, we're talking to so many names here. Now I'm losing it. So Mitt Romney is the Republican candidate. It was a very close race until that point. There was some flooding in New Jersey FEMA, the Federal Emergency Response organization, piled some money on Christie and and New Jersey, which is their job, which is what they're supposed to do. My Obama came to visit New Jersey and Christi treated him like this is in the middle of the toward the very end of a camp very tight camp. am Christie treated him like it was the second coming of Christ. And I just got to turn me off immediately. He's a vine debater. He's a fine debater, but I have no real use for him.

T Tom 10:13

How about Asa Hutchinson.

K Keith 10:16

You know, Assa, Hutchinson and Doug Burgum, both have the same issue. They're, you know, Asa was former governor of Arkansas. Doug Burgum, former governor. I believe, of North

Asa was former governor of Arkansas, Doug Burgum, former governor, I believe, of North Dakota. And they're just, despite everything and assets got a lot of credentials, in particular, but they're still relatively obscure guys, and they're not particularly dynamic. And I just don't see them going much of anywhere. It's a credit to them that they made the debate stage that just shows that they have people out there who, who do believe in them. Doug Burgum, the one of the other participants, that poor guy, he ripped his Achilles tendon, the morning of the debate playing basketball with his son. And you know, it's just trying to burn off some steam prior to the big night, he rips his Achilles tendon and yet he managed to hobble onto the stage. That's why he made that joke about people not saying to him break a leg. During the day up, I just lost my thing doesn't I can hear with one. My point is that look, they're good guys. I just don't think they have the dynamism or the organization to go much farther.

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Tom 11:31

on that. Who do you feel? Are you at liberty to share right now? Who do you feel is the strongest candidate who you feel would be the most effective?

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Keith 11:41

Well, this goes to the, this goes to the elephant in the room really. And the elephant, I should say that was not in the room. Right? There's Donald Trump, of course. And if he and if it winds up being him and Joe Biden, like it's going to be a WWE grudge match, except that one participant is going to have trouble finding the cage. But that was true. I mean, and I don't know that Joe Biden's gonna hold out long enough to get become a serious candidate. I think there's gonna be a lot of people who may not vote for Trump, but they're not going to vote for Joe either. Because they recognize that he's just, you know, it's just not kind to him. It's just not fair to him, to keep putting him in that, for his family to be putting him in there. This should be the first be saying, you know, Joe, you're done. Okay, you need to come home, relax, and, and we'll let you drive the Corvette every now and then. With with with an adult guardian, and, you know, just enjoy the rest of your life, man. So anyway, he if it's if it's Trump and and Biden, it's, I still think Trump wins. I do. And I And incidentally, you know, Trump managed to turn a mug shot into one of the most iconic political pictures of our age of defiance. And it's interesting how that that mug shot, according to polls, has played all across various demographics, especially among young black men who have that same resentment. And, you know, because they've been, you know, crushed frequently by the law one way or the other. And, you know, that look at that look of Trump's was what it reminds me of, in terms of its impact, that famous photograph of Winston Churchill. So how Trump pulled how Trump pulled that off? No, he must have been practicing in front of a mirror for two weeks. But man, he got it exactly right. Now, that's, that's Trump, don't, there's another elephant that was not in the room. And that's Governor Glenn Younkin of Virginia. He is he has a lot of support. He's a very, very substantive guy. He's run a very tight ship as governor of Virginia. And right now he's focused on winning the Republican legislature in November, in Virginia, and he has a shot at that, and especially if he succeeds, and flips the legislature, I think he's going to be a very formidable candidate if he chooses to run. We'll see. We'll see. I know he has some very substantial financial backers already urging him to run with the checkbooks out ready to go.

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Tom 14:28

know that this is the death knell for a lot of people, especially in different countries

keep the this is the don't know if as he says strong question is definitely a different question. But I think it's absolutely relevant to this and is what is your idea of great governance and what does it look like great governance in effective governance.

K

Keith 14:52

First of all, governance driven by the first principles of our country where the government serves the people, the people don't serve the government, where the government asks the permission of the people through honest democratic elections, where the government understands that its role is to stay out of the way of the exercise of individual liberty just as much as possible, without dictating to the people what they should or should not think, what they should or should not do. effective governance obviously starts starts at the top. And that requires leadership. The President doesn't have to have a majority opinion all the time. But he's has to be able to look into the camera and coherently explain to people. This is why we're in Ukraine. This is why we need to build the border wall. This is why we need to do this. And I challenge all my fellow Americans to help us get it done to make this country better. I don't know it's kind of a rambling and response.

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Tom 16:00

No, it's terrific.

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Keith 16:02

I think it is terrific. Great question. And there you have it, who embodies

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Tom 16:07

this, or what? Let's just say two or three, okay? Don't need rather than one, let's keep a little mystery. Two or three people that embody that,

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Keith 16:16

the and where it's, I think, I hope to get, we have an opportunity to talk about tribalism in America, how we're broken into tribes. But I think the last person to most effectively do it was Ronald Reagan, he united a country. I mean, even the Democrats had a hard time not liking the guy. And he always lifted people up. He always encouraged people, you can agree or disagree with specific policies of his, but he was extraordinarily effective. As a leader of as a national leader, I don't think we've had anyone that effective if we haven't, in my lifetime. Now, Trump is so interesting, because he represents the frustrations of more than half of America, a growing percentage of Americans. And he does it and you cannot keep the guy down. I think these prosecutions will ultimately help him. Because people keep looking at what they throw at him, punch after punch after punch. He shows up the next day for a rally. It's what he does. And you know, who does that? Who sticks that out that long, and subjected himself to that if he had not, if he had decided not to run again, after the 2020 election, this none of these charges

would have been brought. None of them would have been brought maybe one or two in order to keep him from being a force in the party. But if he had totally withdrawn, said, I'm done going back to business, I think it's highly unlikely that it would have persecute him. So just by being so relentless, in his pursuit of a goal, relentless being the name of our boat, incidentally, I did not name it after him. By just by being so relaxed, I think, you know, he's established himself as, as one of the great leaders, and he can agree or disagree with it. But he's got the guy's got guts.

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Tom 18:10

Is that that the attribute? And I don't know if that that's the correct word, the attribute that level of grit, that ability to get up from the canvas, so to speak, in and personally and professionally, is that something? What do you believe one is born with or it can it be instilled?

K

Keith 18:28

I think that every parent believes they can, it can be instilled. I think all children have an underlying sense of self, that they can accomplish anything. One day, they wake up, they want to be an astronaut the next day, while your company wants to be president, then they want to, you know, lead their team to the Super Bowl. And they believe that they can do these things. Obviously, reality intercedes, they recognize as they get older, that they have to limit their their sphere of focus, but every parent believes that they can instill in their child, that kind of determination. Now, I also think it takes character. Some of that is innate. I think there are some people that no matter what you do, are not going to be particularly responsive to that sort of encouragement. But I think the great majority of people are, and that's what we've got to keep trying as parents as grandparents. And as young people coming up, believe in yourself.

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Tom 19:27

Speaking of believing in yourself, what's your belief on Ukraine in do you support the efforts, and why or why not?

K

Keith 19:35

It? I look? Yes, I I support supporting Ukraine. I certainly don't support some of the withholding of support by President Biden that Ukraine so desperately needs his decisions, not to provide adequate air support. And I'll give you one simple solution here in a moment, has costed literally 1000s of young Ukrainian Ukrainian lives as we see, those young men are dying because they don't have any air cover. And they're out in open fields. That's the nature of that area of of Ukraine. It's just there's wide open, there's no air cover. And they could easily have been protected or at least better protected by some simple steps. I'll give you one example. Now, first of all, we could have spared the delivery of certain existing current fighter jets and reconnaissance planes to Ukraine and train their pilots up on it, we're not talking about risking American lives, it's not necessarily just people are credible, and they're willing to fight you, they just need the tools. I'll give you one example though, at Davis Monthan Air Force Base, that is a little outside of Tucson, there is an area called the airplane Boneyard. There are 4400

Airplanes sitting in the desert, doing nothing. Now, the vast majority of those are not flyable right now. But that's why you get some mechanics in there and they start borrowing parts from this plan or that plan. And they start putting things together that should have been one of the very first things that Biden did, the planes are just sitting there at Davis, Monthan 4400 of them, and they range from anything, a little Piper clip from little Piper Cubs up to, you know, fighter jets from World War Two, these planes could be used, they can be pieced together and used and there ought to be an operation right now. So I'm appalled by Biden's inability to comprehend how important that is. I you know, he says he doesn't want to widen the war. He doesn't want to give Russia an excuse to use nukes. They're not going to use nukes just because we provide the Ukrainians with the airplanes they need for protecting themselves on the battlefield. That's just not going to happen. And the idea that it would is just, it's just another indication to me, show Biden's incompetence. There are so many other things that we could be doing. And I hope we do them. Here's the deal, you can draw a direct line between our support or lack of support for Ukraine. And whether China is going to attack Taiwan, or its neighbors in the Asian in the in Asia, whether or not China wants to take over by force, the China Sea, which is one of the most heavily traveled trade routes, I think it is the most heavily traded trade routes, shipping routes in the world. And begins to stop chips and demand tribute or whatever, as chips come through. Look, here's a serious stuff. And I promise you that she and China is watching what Putin is able to get away with. And of course, Putin was emboldened, especially, in my opinion, by the horrible, horribly botched, withdrawal, American withdrawal from Afghanistan, as we speak. Many I don't know the number, but I know there's a lot of people in Afghanistan who worked with us who helped us who assumed that if we left they'd be able to leave to are stuck there. And they're being systematically murdered by the Taliban. That's not a false accusation. That's a fact. The Taliban when they took over said, Oh, no, we're gonna leave them alone. Yeah, just like they said, Oh, no, we're gonna protect women's rights. Now they're killing murdering those people. This guy just doesn't want to stay in. I'm not gonna worry about the now they're systematically killing people. And of course, they're suppressing just as emphatically as ever the rights of women. You know, this happened because of the botched withdrawal from Afghanistan. And as a Vietnam veteran, former Marine, I cannot help but draw comparisons between that. And the withdrawal by the US from Vietnam and all the people we left behind there, who had openly and publicly tried to help us. Those people were severely punished if not kill. So there you have it. Absolutely. Yes. And the thing is, look, Putin claims that Ukraine is a part of Russia because it was once part of the greater Russia and of the Soviet Union. That's like saying, that's like Mexico saying that Texas is part of Mexico, because it was once part of Mexico. Good luck with that. Don't Mess With Texas. And the Ukrainians feel the same way. Bullshit. They say, Look, this is our country. Now. Is there corruption in the Ukrainian government? Of course there is and incidentally, there's almost always been a corruption in fledgling democracies, that's not new hell, we've got it here now. So it's not as though that's per Chicot only knew whether we waste as we provide financial support. Yes, no matter how many inspectors we send over, there will be creative people over there who find a way to steal the money. I think Solinsky is great. I think he's doing a terrific job. And I believe that the people of Ukraine have made a statement that you just not big enough to kill our desire to have a free country. And, you know, I hope we I hope we help them at every level possible. We're certainly not doing enough right now. And again, I remind you, as we speak, Ukrainian kids are dying on the battlefield, because we're not providing them with the equipment. They don't, we're not, they're not asking for our pilots, just the equipment and the training to help provide them with their support. Something we could easily have done

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Tom 25:50

on the subject of the topic of money. And how that is a factor in this is switch gears to inflation and interest rates. And it's rather somber to go from lives, but this may actually have a factor in it is, which, even in finance for decades, what what's your prognosis have a look, it's

K

Keith 26:12

all it's always all about the money and always has to be because you can't if you can't afford to do something, it's not even on the table as an alternative. Obviously, we've had runaway inflation, I think a 16%, total now aggregate, since Joe Biden took office, it is coming down. And on Friday of this past week. Jay Powell, who is the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, he spoke at a an annual meeting of central bank officers from all over the world. It's called the Jackson Hole symposium, and they meet every year. And every year, as you might imagine, everybody waits to hear from the big doc, and the chairman of the Fed will stand up and give his prognosis for what's going on, on Friday. And he always speaks last. And he always speaks just before markets closed on a Friday so that markets don't have a chance to fully react or give a knee jerk reaction to what it is he has to say I think it's going to play well, what he has to say, because if you look through his comments, here's what happened. He said, we're going to pause for a while to see what impact all these increases in interest rates will have on the economy going forward. Now, that makes sense, because economists debate, but they believe that it usually takes seven to 12 months for the impact of an interest rate increase or decrease to really work its way through the economy. And he's been raising rates like a crazy man since the beginning of this year. Incredible, from a quarter of a point to what is it now four and a half? I forget exactly. But it's a lot. Incredible and biggest percentage increase in history. So it's fair to say let's step back and just see how things go. Fair enough. But I think reading between the lines, and a lot of people agree with this perception. He's saying, oh, and then oh, and then he said, but we reserve the right to raise rates if we don't like the numbers going forward. So we'll constantly review and we could raise rates again. I think he said that to prevent markets from starting to speculate on when he will begin to lower rates. I think they're done. I think they're done. And rates are course plenty high, with home mortgages at what, seven and a quarter, some and seven and a half, where it takes now what, eight, almost \$800 a month to buy an average price car. And that's on a 48 year 48 month purchase plant. I mean, it's ridiculously expensive out there with these interest rates. And of course, home mortgages, you know, is really killing the housing market. So I think they're done for now. And I think they may remain done. Here's the deal. Here's my personal opinion, they might start lowering interest rates sooner. But I would not be surprised. I think Jay Powell is a straight shooter. And I think he's entirely sincere about wanting to wring inflation out. Incidentally, it's a time honored tradition in Washington that the Federal Reserve Chairman does not criticize the fiscal side of the house or Congress for spending too much money and creating the inflation which of course, is exactly the cause of all of this, giving people money to not work during COVID as of course the cause of all this. We have podcasts on that very subject. So anyway, I think that he may wait until as late as the second half of next year to start lowering rates now could happen sooner. But I Like my odds on this, He that way he's, you know, keeps the pedal to the metal for as long as possible, then he starts easing off just in time for a market rally prior to the election. And don't say the Fed is not political. Everybody in Washington is political. And you know, they if he wants anybody's cooperation, he's going to help make Congress look good, as best you can and make the president look good. That's my opinion. I'm sticking to it.

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Tom 30:31

Wow. Before I ask a final question, I want to go back to Russia and Putin is, what's your assessment of Putin's Russia? And the

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Keith 30:42

it's a it is a great question. It's a it's a mafia. It is a mafia. And do you hear the horn? The Foghorn behind me?

T

Tom 30:53

I don't know if you can. It's again, can hear.

K

Keith 30:55

Okay, you can stop now. There it is. I think that's going to be at each people. Okay, now we're done. He's, it's not even foggy out. Alright. What was the question again?

T

Tom 31:10

Oh, what's your assessment of Putin in

K

Keith 31:13

it is it is the world's largest mafia operation. It is not a political movement. It is not a government. It is a crime syndicate. Some years ago, a woman I forget her name, wrote a great book called Putin's kleptocracy. And in that book, she started at his very beginning of his career all the way through until that present date, and walked through how he surrounded himself with people who just wanted to pillage all the graph that they possibly could and protect each other. So as he moved up, he appointed them around him, and created the oligarchs and the and the apparatus around to protect him. He, he's a criminal, he kills people he doesn't agree with, he murders them, he kills people that are a threat course he doesn't pull the trigger himself. No mafia, Don does. But he gets it. But he gets the job done. The Wagner group per Shogun, who obviously just died in a highly suspicious plane crash, almost certain that it was there was a bomb planted on the plane is just another casualty of Putin, he made the mistake of not killing Putin, when he was marching his army into Moscow, bought the bill of goods stopped, and turned around, got to fly around for a couple of months. And then, of course, got killed very publicly by Putin, the Wagner groups it is excellent example. It is not a military organization, per se, it is not a political organization. It is a criminal organization. Africa is a great example of that they go in, and they go to these dictators in these countries. And they say we got a deal for you, we will make sure you live lucky you because we're going to offer you protection. And we're going to do what we can little little politicking try to make it a little more popular with your people. And you're going to give us the concession to this mineral or that mineral or that mineral. And as you can, and we're going to throw some money at you too.

So you're gonna get rich, we're gonna get rich, and you get to live. Congratulations. And so just like a mafia, they move in, they get their piece, they get their what does that call their Viv? They're not alone. There's a term network.

T Tom 33:41

I know. I mean, I don't know what it is,

K Keith 33:44

somebody is screaming at the screen right now.

T Tom 33:46

I don't know exactly the word.

K Keith 33:47

They get a piece, they get this piece, a big piece, I might add. And they were getting enormously rich. And of course, Putin was getting enormously rich from this as well. That's not politics. That's not military. That's just crime. That's just crime. So here we have this man who cannot travel outside the Soviet Union or the Russia now, because there's an international warrant out for his arrest on the treatment of children during the Ukraine war. And he's just just an awful man. You know, if somebody needs to take him out. Of course, we just don't know what's beneath the surface, what might replace him. And that's also an issue. So that's my assessment of Vladimir Putin. It is not a good one.

T Tom 34:29

Now, we'll go back to our country, obviously, that still affects us. But is there an overriding concern and an OPT and or an optimism that you have as we entered the the presidential election year?

K Keith 34:45

Yeah, here's the thing that I'm becoming increasingly aware of, and I think most Americans are to the increased tribalism in America, that is going to lead people to vote. Not so much on one issue or some combination of specific issues, but really, for the candidates they believe, are most inclined to protect their culture and their tribe. Now, we've had a lot of that over the years, but it's getting different. I'll incidentally, I mentioned to writings, first of all, Wall Street Journal this weekend, had a great article on tribalism. And that a lot of studies about how we're breaking into tribes, as political parties, and why it's not so much about this issue or that issue, as it is about the belief that the other party is going to ruin the way of life of the other party of the members of the other party. It's very interesting read, I recommend that you take it, check

it out. And then there is a book called *The Dying Citizen*, by Victor Davis Hanson. And we hope to have him on the show Tom, as you know, professor at Stanford, wonderful book, really a good book, it goes way back to ancient Greece and talks about the formation of tribes in society, and how they ultimately are counterproductive to the cohesion, to coat the cohesive tendency to want to rise to a national standard. When first people first came over from the United States, and this is a combination, both of these articles, one the book in the article, and some my own thinking, when people came over, originally, to the United States, everybody wanted to aspire to this concept of being an American and American first, that national identity. And even though there were the the Irish and the Jews and the Italians and the people from Central Europe, like my grandparents date, nevertheless, they were they aspired to be part of something bigger. And that's how they defined themselves. They didn't decide find themselves first, as I'm Italian. I live in the United States, or I'm Mexican, I live in the United States. No, I'm an American. I'm an American. And that was the concept. That was what people embraced. The left, here's what's happened. FDR, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was brilliant at identifying what he called the forgotten man. And the Liberal Democrats in the progressives ran with that, fighting for the little guy that was tribalism based on economics, based on the haves, and who wanted to protect what they have, and the have nots, who had nothing to lose. So he identified the forgotten man. And they ran with that for a long, long time, until I might add Donald Trump came along. And he reinvented the common man, not just on economic terms, but on people who feel angered, and robbed of their national identity. By the the wacko agenda of the far left. So now Trump has recaptured that, and hopefully he's converted the Republican Party even after he's gone to the party of the Forgotten person, and not the party of the Chamber of Commerce. And we still have a large wing in the Republican Party, that's the Chamber of Commerce way, that's not going to get you anywhere. You know, it's good to be pro business. Of course it is. But be pro, the little guy who's starting a business, you know, emphasis on that guy. But here's the deal. The fact is, the left has realized that you cannot create tribes simply based on economics. Why? Because people don't stay poor. This is America. And it's very inconvenient that they might start out poor, and they might get rich, and they get poor again, and get rich and get poor again, and so on. So it's very fluid. So you cannot identify that particular category with any reliability. So they pick things that are undeniable color, the pigment on your skin, your sex, your sexual orientation. Those are the things that can break people into tribes. Where are you originally from? When you come to America from Mexico? You're not just an American, you're Mexican. You're a Mexican? No, you're not Why did you leave Mexico? Because you wanted something better? Well then embrace the better. You know, if you're legal, be an American. They also conflate citizens citizenship was residency, the left because that makes it easier to have a larger base of people who feel a grievance based on a condition that they really have no control over their color, their skin, their sex, and so on. So they, you know, the left has, has worked hard to define these new tribes that are more permanent in nature. And that's what I think we see. And meanwhile, they conflate residency with citizenship, which is really dangerous, which is really dangerous. And it's something we got to be very careful of. There's a privilege to being an American citizen and a right if you were born here, but there's a privilege associated with it and an obligation. That's why elections are for citizens, not for anybody else, for citizens. So anyway, I think that when we vote in November, a great number of people, maybe even a majority of people are not going to be voting on one issue or another. Oh, there's some hot button issues, that I think they will be cited by the parties as a reason why you should vote against the other guys. And they will really be about vote for us to to preserve your tribe. Vote for us to protect your tribe. That's going to be I think, the unstated or perhaps sometimes stated message of the campaign. Is that good is that bad, we've had some of that throughout our entire history, but it has certainly reached extreme proportions. Now. There you have it, actual case assessment in 2500 words or less.

T Tom 41:32

Keith, is there anything you want to add to what you you've discussed,

K Keith 41:36

I want to go sailing. It all this has been fun. But yeah, it's a beautiful day here, it's actually going to get kind of hot here in Ensenada, it's gonna go up to 86 degrees. In fact, as soon as we're done, I'm closing the big door here behind me. And turning on the air conditioning. It's funny, they have air conditioning in the halls, that that's the way the boat is built. And in the halls, that's where you have your sleeping areas. In the port Hall is one continuous master suite with a bathroom. And then in the starboard Hall, there's two bedrooms, each with their own tiny little bathroom. And they do the boat cons with air conditioning down there. But they never had it in the salon, which is where you spend all your time. So one of the things I had installed along with a long list of other items like a water maker and a FLIR camera for nighttime vision, and a bunch of other electronics was air conditioning up here in the slot. And I'm glad I did because on a day like this, I can kick back, have the air conditioning on even if I go sailing, because I can sail from inside the boat. I can be just cool as a cucumber. So anyway, there you have it. Life is good here. It's getting a little toasty. And but as for the people here are very friendly. You want an adventure go to the grocery store in Mexico. I said you know, God bless the translators now on your phone. Because I was going from one clerk to the to the to the next bananas, banana, and there's a word for that. You know, cinnamon, you know, so you have to go through this every single time. I go down the shelves and I think to myself these aisles. It's got to be here. This looks like the kind of place where this would be. But I can't read anything. I don't know what it is. So anyway, that's an adventure, but it's always fun. The people are very, very nice. They really are very family oriented, especially this hotel. Yeah.

T Tom 43:41

Keith absolutely honored. And it's my honor being with you. I hope to do it again soon.

K Keith 43:47

Well, I hope we have more of these kinds of discussions. It's fun to just opine. And I'd like to hear more about what you're thinking as well, Tom, because you're a very smart guy too.

T Tom 43:55

I appreciate it.

K Keith 43:56

Did you have anything you wanted to add?

T Tom 43:58

Not today, I think you did a terrific job and making it all go for circle when you brought back the I want everyone

K Keith 44:04

I want everyone know Tom's tie is surgically implanted. So he's I suffered from that for a long time. So anyway, okay, Tom, thank you very much. Thank you folks, for listening. This is Tom Dioro and I am Keith DeGreen. And you've been listening to As I SEA It!

K Keith 44:25

We are pleased to provide this text from our podcast. As you know, the spoken word is often less formal and sometimes less precise than a written piece that may be carefully edited. I have also been known to sometimes jumble my words beyond recognition! Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns -- and thank you for supporting the show! â€” Keith DeGreen