Denial

by G. Murphy Donovan (May 2016)

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"One picture is worth a thousand denials" - Ronald Reagan

In any other election year, at this point in the primaries, party leaders would be rallying around the front runners in the name of unity. 2016 is no ordinary year. Hillary Clinton's coronation has been a bumpy ride thanks to Bernie Sanders. Nonetheless, short of a federal indictment, Mrs. Clinton will probably be the liberal standard bearer come November. The Democrat Party will be running under the "business as usual" banner too. Their campaign slogan might well be: "If you liked Bill and Barack, you will love Hillary."

In contrast, the Donald Trump phenomenon, under a Republican guideon, is nothing short of revolutionary. Trump defies the pundits, the prognosticators, both parties, the conventional wisdom, and the politically correct at every turn. He has redefined candor and the notion of outsider. Trump is reviled by the establishment press and entrenched political hacks on both sides of the political divide. Neither left nor right, neither liberal nor conservative; Trump is anathema to the American *nomenclatura*, and still wildly popular with many American voters. Indeed, the Republican front runner seems to have redefined "high negatives" as a virtue.

Trump is running on a telling theme. He wants to give America back to democracy and the *hoi polloihere*.

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