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Thoughts and Observations on Music, Nature, and **Politics**, from the Catskill Mountains

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THE MANY MYTHS OF RUDY GIULIANI...

HOW AMERICA'S MOST OVERRATED "LEADER" PARLAYED AN "HEROIC" FALSE NARRATIVE INTO A NET WORTH OF \$65 MILLION



GIULIANI MYTH #1

Unlike De Blasio... The NYPD always supported Giuliani.

The members of the NYPD were certainly angry with the mayor as officers circulated a petition/flyer among themselves that read...

"I, _____ a New York City police officer, want all of my family and brother officers who read this to know [that] in the event of my death the mayor and his police commissioner should be denied attendance of any memorial service in my honor as their attendance would only bring disgrace to my memory."

Declaring that NYPD officers wished to forbid the mayor from attending their own funerals should they die in the line of duty was certainly the worst of insults for the mayor of America's largest city.

But this flyer... though very similar to a recent one aimed at current Mayor De Blasio... was actually circulated in 1997... and the mayor that it was directed at was none other than Rudy Giuliani.

It seems that "New York's Finest" and their unions have had problems with NYC mayors going back decades (or possibly forever).

SOURCE: New York Times – Giuliani & Police Clash in 1997 / <http://www.nytimes.com/1997/03/17/nyregion/depote-police-unions-mobilize-officers-anger-for-giuliani.html>

In recent weeks... Giuliani has appeared more times on Fox News than almost any other "talking head" concerning the conflict between the NYPD and New York's current mayor De Blasio.

Blaming the current mayor would be bad form for an ex-mayor (just as it is for presidents) so instead Giuliani has chosen to blame President Obama for the deaths of the two NYPD cops.

"We've had four months of propaganda... starting with the president... that everybody should hate the police. The protests are being embraced... the protests are being encouraged. The protests... even the ones that don't lead to violence... a lot of them lead to violence... all of them lead to a conclusion: The police are bad, the police are racist." Giuliani on Fox News

But President Obama has never said anything close to this in his statements and he has actually said completely the opposite on numerous occasions. All over the press... and in letters to editors... I have read time and time again about how President Obama's words inspired the killing of the two NYPD officers.

But all of the accusations are careful not to ever offer any direct quotes backing up these claims. As no such statements actually exist.

Watching this unfold has been one of the worst examples of unsubstantiated propaganda spewed forth from the right wing media in recent memory. They are ALL simply lying.

Obama's first statement after the incident in Ferguson was...

"There is never an excuse for violence against police, or for those who would use this tragedy as a cover for vandalism or looting. There's also no excuse for police to use excessive force against peaceful protests, or to throw protestors in jail for lawfully exercising their First Amendment rights.... Put simply, we all need to hold ourselves to a high standard, particularly those of us in positions of authority."

Obama's second statement after the Ferguson incident was...

"I've said this before... in too many communities around the country, a gulf of mistrust exists between local residents and law enforcement... This is not an argument that there isn't real crime out there, and that law enforcement doesn't have a difficult job and that they have to be honored and respected for the danger and difficulty of law enforcement."

Politifact rated Giuliani's anti-Obama statements as "PANTS ON FIRE" lies... as the president came nowhere close to making any kind of statement inferring that "everyone should hate the police".

And if ANYONE is guilty of inflaming the situation through inappropriate rhetoric it is Rudy Giuliani.

SOURCE: <http://www.politifact.com/punditfact/statements/2014/dec/23/rudy-giuliani/giuliani-obama-propaganda-says-everybody-should-ha>

GIULIANI MYTH #2

Giuliani's record as a "fighter of terrorism".

Giuliani has made a career out of his supposed reputation as a fighter against terrorism and this fictitious role supposedly began with his CLAIMED investigation of the Leon Klinghoffer killing.

"As United States Attorney, I investigated the Leon Klinghoffer murder by Yasir Arafat... It's honestly the reason why I knew so much about Arafat... I knew, in detail, the Americans he murdered. I went over their cases." - Giuliani - speaking to Jewish voters.

But Victoria Toensing (the Deputy Assistant Attorney General at the Justice Department in Washington at the time) says that Giuliani was not involved in the case at all and Jay Fischer (the Klinghoffer family attorney) claims he never had any contact at all with Giuliani.

In fact... in his time working as a U.S. Attorney... Giuliani only worked on one terrorist case... which involved arms sales to Iran.

After taking office shortly after the first 1993 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center... Giuliani claims he “*set up emergency plans for all the different possible attacks we could have. We had drills and exercises preparing us for sarin gas, anthrax, and dirty bombs.*”

When actually... he never addressed terrorist issues at all other than one readiness drill that was a total disaster and an embarrassment due to its' complete failure. Thousands were “killed” in the mock attack.

Giuliani also made the BRILLIANT decision to locate the city's new emergency command center INSIDE OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER.... after terrorists swore they'd return to finish the 93 job.

SOURCE: Village Voice – Five Giuliani Lies / <http://www.villagevoice.com/2007-07-31/news/rudy-giuliani-s-five-big-lies-about-9-11/full/>

The recommended location of the emergency command center was in Brooklyn... but Giuliani insisted on something “walking distance” from city hall (which is how it ended up in the World Trade Center).

On 9/11 the command center was destroyed... thus putting the city in a terrible position of having to improvise a fast replacement.

A memo surfaced in 2008 that covered Giuliani's terrible decision and revealed that a panel of police experts and the Secret Service concluded... “#7 World Trade Center is a poor choice for the site of a crucial command center for the top leadership of the city”.

The memo stated many “*significant points of vulnerability*”, which included the building's public access... the center's location on the 23rd floor... a 1,200-gallon diesel fuel tank in the building... and of course the building's history as a terrorist target.

But at least the mayor could walk there if he needed to!

SOURCE: New York Times http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/26/us/politics/26merememo.html?ex=1159003600&en=2001dbd001a0e0&ei=5018&partner=rny&sec=crime_r1&_r=1&_t=1&_u=1&_v=1&_w=1&_x=1&_y=1&_z=1

GIULIANI MYTH #3

Giuliani was responsible for crime reduction in NYC.

When beginning his failed presidential run in 2007 Giuliani claimed that he “*brought down crime more than anyone in this country... maybe in the history of this country... while I was mayor of NYC.*”

While crime did indeed drop dramatically during Giuliani's two terms... his claim that the city was at an “all time high crime rate” when he took office isn't true. As crime actually began falling three years before he was elected... when Mayor Dinkins was still in office... and it continued to fall after Bloomberg took over in 2002.

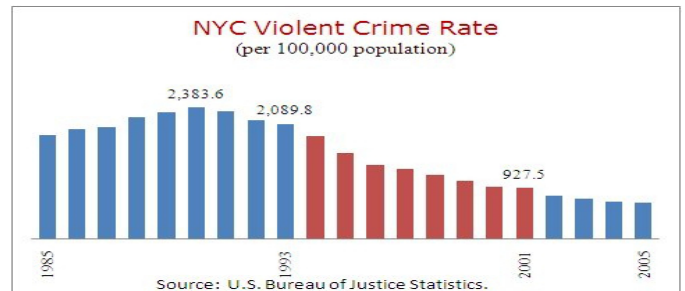
Historians have now attributed this reduction in the 90s... along with the financial resurgence of the city... to the explosive success of Wall Street at the time and the enormous tax base it generated for the city (as well as the leveling off of the 80s & 90s crack epidemic).

NYC crime figures also mirrored national reductions at the time.

GIULIANI MYTH #4

Giuliani has done “good work” since leaving office.

If it were not for 9/11 Giuliani would have left office with the perception of being a failure. His approval ratings dropped to 37% in the year 2,000... and unlike Bloomberg... there is no way he could have won a third term if it had been legal for him to run at the time.



Giuliani's terms are in red (note drop beginning three years prior)

9/11 saved Giuliani's reputation... and it also paved the way for a VERY profitable “after office” career. Quite simply... NO ONE has made more money off of 9/11 than Rudy Giuliani.

SOURCE: <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/rudy-approval-rating-reaches-new-poll-article-1.876513>

When he left the mayor's office he had gross assets of between 1.6 and 1.8 million dollars (mainly from his two Manhattan apartments).

And today... between his consulting business and his speech making... he has amassed a net worth estimated at 65 Million dollars.

SOURCE: <http://investmentwatchblog.com/mitt-romney-is-the-3rd-richest-presidential-candidates-in-us-history/>

Confidentiality agreements keep most of the information about Giuliani's clients a secret... but a lot was covered in a well-researched article in the Washington Post in 2007.

SOURCE: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/05/12/AR2007051201270.html>

Giuliani's projects have included negotiating a settlement with Purdue Pharma (the makers of Oxycontin... Rush Limbaugh's drug of choice) after executives at the company pleaded guilty to falsely marketing the highly addictive drug as not being so addictive.

Another client was Hank Asher's Matrix company that “data mined” public records. Asher has admitted to smuggling kilos of cocaine into Florida on a private jet in the 80s. The Bush administration paid Matrix twelve million dollars for their data mining services but withdrew funding after lawsuits developed over privacy issues.

Yet another client has been the Indian Point nuclear power plant just north of New York City. His work included making a “feel good” infomercial about the most dangerously located power plant in America. You can watch it here... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PwOrRepV0-M>

His company also worked with Mexico City where the Mexican mayor hoped to replicate the crime decreases of NYC in the nineties... but this project was a complete failure... leading the Mexico City police chief to declare that “I am no fan of Giuliani” after having paid Rudy \$ 4.3 million for his consulting efforts.

SOURCE: http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2011/10/rudy_giuliani_for_hire_how_ame.html

It seems that the ex-mayor... like the emperor... has “no clothes”.

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