

Welcome to Civil Discourse. This podcast will use government documents to illuminate the workings of the American Government and offer contexts around the effects of government agencies in your everyday life. Now your hosts, Nia Rodgers, Public Affairs Librarian and Dr. John Aughenbaugh, Political Science Professor.

Nia Rodgers: Hey Aughie

John Aughenbaugh: Hello, Nia, how are you?

Nia Rodgers: Well, you know, I'm alright except that you and I already recorded an episode today and then we got more news. Well, you have the news before me, because you knew this morning, before we recorded, which I did not. So for listeners, we don't usually tell you when we're recording because sometimes things get out of order. But we're telling you today because we're going to be releasing pretty soon, probably Monday. So today is October 2nd and Augie found out apparently last night at 11:15 or so, and I found out this morning after we recorded that President Trump has tested positive, President and Mrs. Trump have tested positive for COVID-19. And we thought we would we would address a couple of things because of course people immediately went to the question of succession which argue is going to explain to us that we are in no danger of not having a line of succession, should the President become incapable of serving. And also the president currently or the White House currently is saying the President has very mild symptoms in a very mild case which may indeed be true. I know that the President is a German folk. So they're probably has been a fair bit of handwashing even if there has not been mask wearing. So we'll just have to see where that goes. But so Aughie. According to the 25th Amendment, so the Vice President is next. And vice president Pence has been has tested negative.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, so, the way the 25th Amendment reads. Okay. And again, we've recorded a podcast episode about this. Okay. The 25th Amendment arose in the 1960s, okay. In response to what happened to President John F Kennedy, when President Kennedy was assassinated. Right. And initially, the impetus for the amendment was okay, how do we handle the transition of power from a president who either dies or is incapacitated to the Vice President. Because as Nia, as you pointed out in that podcast episode, there is that infamous, if you will. Photo of LBJ actually taking the oath of office in a plane. Right okay in a plane right?

Nia Rodgers: With a judge that they basically snatched off the street and stuck in front of him and said, Go. Yeah, you have to administer the oath of office, and she's like the oath of what office? And they're like, the Presidency.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, okay so you know questions arose. How do we go ahead and handle this? Right. So right now what we know what's being reported in what the White

House as clearly said in a press release is that President Trump is still functioning as president. He has mild symptoms. Okay. They have not gone into any more details other than that, but let's just say for instance the symptoms get worse and he's not able to perform the duties of President. At that point in the 25th Amendment, there has to be a vote of a majority of the cabinet members that the President is incapable of discharging the duties of the office and vice president Pence, okay, should assume, if you will, the in terms, you know, he becomes interim president. Okay. That's the 25th Amendment. Now, the amendment stops there. Okay, the amendment stops there. But as we also discussed in that previous podcast episode. we have the Presidential Succession Act of 1947. Okay now you might be wondering why did Congress get involved in passing such a law? Well, according to the US Constitution. Okay. Congress does get to, if you will determine the succession. If the office of President and the Office of vice president become vacant for whatever reason. Okay, for whatever reason, okay. And in particular that law was passed when Harry Truman, who had been the vice president assumed the office of president when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt died in office. So you then had a vacant vice president position. Okay. And at that point, okay, Congress went ahead and clarified what would be the succession. If both the President and the Vice President. Okay. We're incapacitated. Incapacitated right now. You know Nia you and I've talked about this; until this law was passed. Okay. In previous laws, the succession was founded on Cabinet Secretaries right. You know, so after the President and the Vice President, I believe it was the secretary of state and then they basically work their way through the cabinet secretary positions.

Nia Rodgers: As they were created. So Ag would be next. I think like it goes all the way down to Homeland Security's the last one because that's the most recent.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, so I mean pretty in previous statutory iterations. Okay. It basically went Secretary of State Secretary of the Treasury. Okay. And as Nia pointed out, you know, Congress basically went ahead and did it in chronological order. Right. Okay. But the presidential Succession Act kind of sort of weirded things up. Because what they went ahead and did was after the Vice President. Okay, it would then go to the Speaker of the House. The Speaker of the House of Representatives. And if the Speaker, okay, refuses... Okay, get this, the Speaker of the House could refuse to become the next president. Okay.

Nia Rodgers: There is no circumstance under which that would happen, but okay let's pretend. If you want to go to the pretend land. I'll go with you.

John Aughenbaugh: If the if the Speaker of the House. Okay, if the position is either vacant or the Speaker doesn't want to do it, then it goes to the President Pro Tem of the United States Senate and typically the president pro tem of the United States Senate is the longest serving senator of the majority party.

Nia Rodgers: Not necessarily the

John Aughenbaugh: Senate Majority Leader, that's correct.

Nia Rodgers: So it's not necessarily Mitch McConnell right now, it would be...

John Aughenbaugh: Chuck Grassley from Iowa.

Nia Rodgers: President Grassley. Although, there would never not be a President Pelosi so, okay, that would not happen.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: I mean you know what you'd have to have would be incapacitation way down the line in order... And neither of those people would ever choose not to serve.

John Aughenbaugh: That's right. But then after the president pro tem then we start working our way through the cabinet secretary positions. So basically what the presidential Succession Act of 1947 did was add to elected officials from the legislative body to the succession list. Okay.

Nia Rodgers: That makes sense, actually, because it's elected official elected official elected official like official then appointed officials.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: I assume figuring you there's no way you're going to get through for elected officials. Down to a non elected official

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. I mean, unless unless you follow a plot from a Tom Clancy book...

Nia Rodgers: Exactly. Unless your conspiracy theory ism goes off the chart.

John Aughenbaugh: Charts, right. Okay, so we have this right. And yes, I could foresee as do number of legal scholars and constitutional law scholars any number of legal challenges. But let's face it, okay. We have this well established law; right we have this constitutional amendment, um, and, you know, the process you know in many ways is clearly laid out. And let's face it, folks, if it gets to the United States Supreme Court right now as me and I have referenced in previous podcast episodes, John Roberts will be Cool Hand Luke, he'll be the steady figure on the Supreme Court and he'll make sure that at the end of the day, somebody is going to be identified as the President in the United States. That's

Nia Rodgers: It's not, we are not in a, we do not have a dearth of leadership. In this particular instance, we may have a dearth of leadership that you individually like But that is not the same thing.

John Aughenbaugh: That's right.

Nia Rodgers: And frankly, my guess is that if someone did have to take over. Okay, so, heaven forbid that that President Trump should die because I don't wish that on anybody. I don't think that that I think if those people out there who are who are making jokes about that or wishing, things like that on Twitter need to stand down. That is totally wrong. That is not an okay thing to wish on another human if you consider yourself to be a decent human. You should never wish for another human to suffer or die in in something it for any reason, like that just it's, it's inappropriate. But if that were to happen. And, and for some reason, Vice President, Vice President Pence stepped in. I'm not entirely certain or, you know, let's say he couldn't serve in and Speaker Pelosi stepped in... I'm not entirely certain that people would do a lot of stuff because they would know that they were not that they were placeholder you want. I mean, I don't think that they would take it as an opportunity, you'd like, Well, I've always wanted to you know get have a kick up with Cuba now seems like a good time. I mean, like, I don't think that's

John Aughenbaugh: No.

Nia Rodgers: I don't think they would do that. I think they would say, okay what we're going to do is keep this ship upright. And, and gently cruising along at a nice slow speed so that nothing happens. So we don't upset the markets. We don't upset, other countries, we don't you know we don't turn the apple cart over because that's not. Yeah. I think very few people would look at it as sees it as an opportunity to suddenly go wild with their agenda.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, there are so many reliant issues right now. Okay, whether we like it or not, whether or not you think the United States is, you know, exceptional whether or not you believe the United States. Okay, is a dominant world pot, world power, or should it be, I mean, the reality is this: Okay, the president United States is a position that not only do Americans pay attention to, but economic markets makes it pay attention to, as you pointed out. The rest of the world does : I mean, so there's a you know a delicate, you know, fragile geopolitical, if you will, environment. Okay, that doesn't want the President of the United States, even if they don't like the current president's foreign policy, they don't want the President to die right okay because that brings uncertainty into the environment, right.

Nia Rodgers: And any successor would know that, and would want to stand as still as possible. Yeah. So basically what we should have is a presidential deer. As our successor, just stand here with your eyes really wide open. And don't do anything.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, so, you know, for those of you who are like, oh yeah. Hey, you know, hey, I hope, Trump has to go ahead and turn over power per the 25th Amendment Okay, so, you know, Pence comes in as Vice President. Okay. If you think that Mike Pence okay is going to go ahead and initiate, you know, broad policy change in the one month and one day before the next election. Yeah.

Nia Rodgers: You're bonkers.

John Aughenbaugh: Right, okay.

Nia Rodgers: Mike Pence is going to say to everybody: shhh. Shhh, maybe nobody will notice and we'll just be quiet until the election.

John Aughenbaugh: baby sleeping.

Nia Rodgers: Don't wake anyone up.

John Aughenbaugh: Let's get through the night. Right. And for those of you who are liberals Democrats who are like, man. Wouldn't it be great if nancy pelosi became president. Okay, if you think the nancy pelosi is going to come in and say, oh yeah, by the way, in the next month. I'm going to roll back all of the Trump executive orders and policy, I'm

Nia Rodgers: Going to make all college student loans free. I'm gonna, I'm gonna give a billion dollars to every citizen and you know she's not gonna do any of that she may want to do all of that. Yeah, she would not do it without being elected to the office because she knows better. She knows that in the long run, that hurts the party that does that. Both parties know that both parties know that if they took open advantage of the unfortunate passing of a president To do crazy things they would be punished in the polls eventually

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: They would be, they would be punished at the voter box. Because people would say you're being a jerk.

John Aughenbaugh: Like you're being a jerk. You're trying to take advantage of a situation. You're being opportunistic. You want the opportunity to go ahead and govern, then win the next presidential election. Right, right. Um, so there is that, but you know listeners Nia and I are also concerned about some of the other stuff that we're actually seeing being reported one. Okay.

Nia Rodgers: Can I flail my arms at you and have you tell people something

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

Nia Rodgers: Aughie. Would you please confirm for me... See how I'm using my controlled voice because it makes me so irritable? Would you please confirm for me that there is no circumstance except congressional change to the Constitution that would change the date of this election?

John Aughenbaugh: Correct.

Nia Rodgers: Okay. It doesn't matter if other people want to hold the election at some other time. Or they say, oh, this is a terrible time for me. Can I get back to you in a month. Nothing is going to change the date of this election.

John Aughenbaugh: No. Okay. The date of the election is firmly established in the Constitution as Nia pointed out, okay, United States Congress would have to go ahead and approve a constitutional amendment. Then it would have to go to the states or the second method of constitutional interpretation is we call a constitutional convention. Okay, to go ahead and consider changes to the constitution and I can tell you this right now Nia; neither of those two are going to occur in the next month and one day. It isn't happening right. There is no provision in the Constitution that says, Oh, yeah. This is the date of the election, but if one of the political parties' nominees get sick. Okay, or there is a pandemic, then we're not going to hold the election. No, there was no fine print in the US Constitution that says that. Okay.

Nia Rodgers: Thank you.

John Aughenbaugh: So those people...

Nia Rodgers: That conspiracy theory needs to die, die, die right now. Yes, it's such a, it's such a silly. Oh, will this affect the day to the election. No, no, it won't, it will not affect the date of the election and unless and I'm really... like this would be catastrophic... unless all four candidates pass away in the next 33 days, there will be an election of someone.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. I, I've even seen this on the internet: okay well what if Trump gets really sick and dies? Well, we got to go ahead and suspend the election. No! That's why you have okay, a vice presidential candidate.

Nia Rodgers: That is the entire point of a vice president. The entire point of a vice president is to say good luck with your health, sir, but I'm here in case it goes badly.

That's, that's what you have a vice president for. Other than that, they're more or less decorative. I mean... And they're nicely decorative. They're lovely people who do warm, fuzzy things like open hospitals and visit the elderly and do all kinds of marvelous things

but the entire point of them is if something happens to the President, I'm here. Which is why on the morning of 9/11, they had, they had President Bush and Vice President Cheney in two very separate places for most of the morning until they figured out what was going on. They didn't want them in the same place they did not want to take President Bush back to back to DC where Vice President Cheney was because then you might lose both succession. So, you know, hello, like there. I feel certain that right now. Somebody has bundled Mike Pence up in a very warm blanket and tucked him away somewhere and said, I'm going to need you to not talk to anybody. For the next two weeks, till we make sure the President's okay.

John Aughenbaugh: Right now. Okay. Some doctor who works for some unit of the military has already told Mike Pence and Mike Pence's wife and Mike Pence's staff. You guys are going to get tested. Okay. Every single day, if not every single hour for roughly the next week.

Nia Rodgers: Right. Right. And you're going to quarantine that entire time.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, right.

Nia Rodgers: Now there is a question and it is legitimately circulating on the internet that if you don't believe that, that coronavirus is as serious as it is, that there is no way to enforce a quarantine upon someone. Like they can't make Mike Pence quarantine. They can ask him to

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah.

Nia Rodgers: They can strongly encourage him to but there isn't this thing where like they'll put you somewhere and make you quarantine whoever they are. They cannot do that there is no law that allows somebody to be forcibly quarantined.

John Aughenbaugh: No, I mean if...

Nia Rodgers: You have to just be willing to do that because you should be willing to do that to protect the country, but...

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, I mean you and I've discussed this in regards to there are rules at colleges and universities, for instance, it's a, if you're a student at university and you test positive. Okay. You have to be quarantined. Okay, now: If you choose not to be quarantined. Okay. The university can go ahead and suspend you okay. But it's not like...

Nia Rodgers: They can physically ban you from campus but they can't do anything else; they can't make you go a specific place.

John Aughenbaugh: No. Okay.

Nia Rodgers: They can just say, we don't care where you go, but you can't stay here. If you're not gonna isolate like that. It's like, it's like when bars close. You don't have to go home, but you can't stay here, right. Like they're, they're saying you don't have to stay on campus, but you can't be on campus, unless you follow our rules.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah yeah

Nia Rodgers: There isn't anything like that for the Vice President.

John Aughenbaugh: No, but if I had to venture a guess right now. Okay, a whole bunch of folks, okay, in the White House staff. Okay, or going through quarantine protocols. Right.

Nia Rodgers: And in the republican party like they're they're calling him and saying, Please, sir, please. Yeah, isolate yourself, please help us protect both you and Mrs. Pence.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. Okay. And, and, you know, but you know, I'm with you. I'm just like, you know, hey, guys. We gotta dial this down. Right. I don't care what you guys think about Trump. Whether you love them, whether you hate them. Okay. You just got to dial back some of this stuff. Okay. And I know the Trump presidency has been unusual on so many levels. Heck, we have spent podcast episodes discussing okay the unusual features. Okay. And I'm being diplomatic. I know. But again, the name of the disc, you know the name of the podcast is civil discourse. Right. I get all that. But guys, okay, there have been countless other Americans who have contracted COVID-19 okay. We know what has been advised to the president. We know what has been advised to the Vice President, we know what's been recommended to the White House staff and everybody else who has come in contact with the President. Right.

Nia Rodgers: The good thing with the president is they can usually contact trace. Right, because you had to be vetted by the Secret Service so that you didn't bring a gun in there and shoot the president, so they know who everybody is that he's had contact with - I'm and I'm just saying, that's a good thing, right. It's not ways living that super public like part of, part of the reason that the President was likely to contract code relative to other people, is because of the publicness of his life. Right. The fact that he is out with the press. He's out with people. He's in the middle of a campaign. So those things would bring you into contact with other people. And I think that... And there's conspiracy theories about who we can track it from there's no conspiracy folks, it's Hope Hicks. She became ill, she happened to be riding on the plane with President she happens to be an advisor. She was sitting very close to him. She certainly did not intend to make him sick. But it's just one of those things. It's not a mystery. It's not a conspiracy. Nobody snuck into the White House and injected him

with coven like I've seen that, like, okay, people. This isn't a spy novel. This is not Le Carre. This is this is Trump. Right, this is not. I mean, it's pretty simple. He doesn't wear masks. He doesn't he's, he is a risk taker for a variety of reasons. And always has been.

John Aughenbaugh: Everything that you just went ahead and mention from the nature of the position of President to the nature of how the current President views his job to the fact that Trump okay is not a mask where okay I'm in. Yes. Okay. Like many parents. Okay, I've had to go ahead and explain to my eight year old. Yes, the president United States is not following COVID-19 protocols right guess, you know, she's seen him on TV. Why

Nia Rodgers: Why isn't he wearing a mask.

John Aughenbaugh: I gotta wear a mask. Right, okay. And I'm like, you are correct.

Nia Rodgers: Right He's setting a bad example. But we're not going to do what he does. We're going to do...

John Aughenbaugh: We're gonna get we're going to do differently. Right. Um, and, but, again, guys. You know, you got to dial back the conspiracy theories.

Nia Rodgers: And the rhetoric, just dial it back.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, right. Okay, I'm in. Again, no matter. You know what, you know, whether you like him whether he disliked him if you're Democrat. If you're a Republican, whatever the case may be. Okay. We're talking about the person who runs the national government. Okay. Um, he has COVID-19 and right now. He doesn't seem to be severely impacted, but he could be. We don't know. Okay, um, that's the nature of COVID-19.

Nia Rodgers: Right. Some people come through fine and some people suffer tremendously and end up in the ICU and have and some people die. The likelihood is the President will not die. He has incredibly good medical care. It was caught extremely early like he he knew right away and his medical staff knew right away. So there's a lot to point to the fact that the President will likely be fine. I, I am most fascinated by the question of how they're going to do the next the next debate.

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah.

Nia Rodgers: Because, are they going to do it on zoom because, boy, that'll be interesting. And then what if they do, can we show them how to use filters to put like bunny ears on themselves and little hats and, you know, that'd be great. But I guess in some ways, the nice thing about Zoom is you could cut somebody's mic if you needed to.

John Aughenbaugh: Well, I was gonna go ahead and mention. Think about all the protocols that college professors and K through 12 teachers have had to learn and share with their students about zoom class sessions. Okay, or in the case of you and I as employees have a state agency all the protocols were supposed to follow a zoom meetings. Right. Right, you mentioned that conversation with Joe Biden and Donald Trump.

Nia Rodgers: Can you imagine explaining zoom bombing and how you have to prevent this at all costs. Because you know that there are people who, if they thought it was on zoom. Their only life goal would be to is to bomb it some way.

John Aughenbaugh: Sure, yep.

Nia Rodgers: And I have to admit I would be sorely tempted, but I would not do it.

Nia Rodgers: But also...

John Aughenbaugh: You're talking about the elites. You're talking to me campaign.

Nia Rodgers: Can we mention another conspiracy thing and we need to debunk which is the President was not trying to make Joe Biden sick on at the debate. Know when he was not wearing a mask and he was fussing he was just not wearing a mask and fussing he was just being Donald Trump. He was not attempting to in any way harm Joe... well I don't know about that. But he wasn't trying to harm him physically; he wasn't trying to make Joe Biden sick.

John Aughenbaugh: I mean this is Donald Trump. The Entertainer

Nia Rodgers: Right.

John Aughenbaugh: I mean, we've already seen this Trump thought that the Tuesday night debate was actually success because the ratings were so good.

Nia Rodgers: And he thought he owned it, because he talked more.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: And, you know, that is to be seen in the polls in the next week or so, when all that comes out. We'll see how people reacted. I think most people thought it was kind of a dumpster fire but but what I'm saying is that yesterday, when he went to see people in his, on his public. Like he if you look at the President's public calendar yesterday he met with a fundraising group. He did not intend to make any of those people sick. That whatever else you may you may ascribe to Donald Trump as far as his motives. I do not believe that he is

maliciously attempting to spread COVID and that that conspiracy rumor needs to die too. Yeah.

John Aughenbaugh: I mean, because again, you know,

Nia Rodgers: If he was going to try to kill you, he'd find some other way to do it. Wouldn't be satisfyingly dramatic enough for him. I don't think... You know, I mean like that doesn't seem...

John Aughenbaugh: Same and as I reminded my students over the years, presidents have so many ways to go ahead and kill other people. Okay. They don't necessarily need to go ahead and have anything be that public right

Nia Rodgers: And really, what kind of dummy. Would you be to give yourself coven first and then try to give it to other people. He's not. He just wouldn't do that. So, so like when I read that on one because what, what happens is that I because I am this person I go out and look and see what conspiracy conspiratorial things people are saying. And and the reverse, by the way, is also true Biden did not give it to Trump.

John Aughenbaugh: No.

Nia Rodgers: He wasn't attempting to kill the president, either. I suspect that if Joe Biden wanted to kill you, he would find a different way to do it. So, it just isn't. None of those things are true. What happens is that people make mistakes and they...

John Aughenbaugh: By the way, this should be a good lesson folks right in the lesson is this: Okay, whether you want to wear a mask or you don't want to wear a mask. Whether you're the president United States. Okay, or a person who's working the night shift at a grocery store stocking shelves, COVID-19 doesn't care who you are. It doesn't right?

Nia Rodgers: race, nationality, gender, sexual orientation. Position in the company. None of it matters.

John Aughenbaugh: Right. It is an infectious disease. Right.

Nia Rodgers: It's not personal. It's trying to kill everybody if it can.

John Aughenbaugh: And we are told to do certain things to reduce the risk, but as we've already seen with some people who have contracted COVID-19. They did everything the right way and they still got it.

Nia Rodgers: Right, right. Yeah, there seems to be some terrible thing that happens in in the media world where they say well this governor who never wore masks. Got it. Yeah, but lots of governors who do wear masks... like our governor Northam was actually very faithful about wearing, he's a doctor for crying out loud. And he's got it so like It will come for you. You can do things that make it worse. So Aughie and I are not suggesting that you don't wear a mask. We're not suggesting... we want you to wash your hands and we want you to socially distance because you can help your chances a lot if you if you try to limit your exposures. But the reality is you can't always do that. You can't always limit your exposures. Then you may get sick. And it's not a conspiracy. It's an illness.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. Okay. And, you know, at least for me. Okay. And I don't know about you, me, but for me. Okay, I would hope that we learn from this? right We learn from this. Um, you know, it's kind of sort of like when I tell a student, it goes ahead and says something that is wrong as an answer to one of my questions during class, okay. And they start beating themselves up. I'm like, No, no, no, no, no, this is learning. Right, right. Okay, you attempted to answer a question right And in that attempt gives us an opportunity to get together and find out what is the correct answer right here's a learning opportunity right? If we needed any further proof that COVID-19 doesn't care who you are. Okay, that this is an insidious okay if you will implement illness. Okay. You can be the Prime Minister of Great Britain or the President United States, and it doesn't care. COVID-19 it doesn't care. Right.

Nia Rodgers: So, and what you should hope for Donald Trump is that he does not experience the level of illness.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: That Boris Johnson did

Nia Rodgers: Yes, because you should hope that for every person who contracts COVID

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: No one deserves it. And no one deserves to get sick, really, really sick. That's that nonsense needs to stop. It needs to stop with people dancing on other people's supposed it graves with the, oh, I hope you get really sick. What kind of person are you if you hope that about someone? You need to stop and look in the mirror and think about that. Yeah, I know that most people who listen to this podcast aren't those people. But if you know somebody who who's, who is a person like that. Tell them Nia thanks poorly of them.

John Aughenbaugh: So does Aughie.

Nia Rodgers: No, that's good. Tell them. We are united in thinking that they're big old pooky heads and they need to stop.

John Aughenbaugh: No, seriously. I mean, cuz in I've already begun to chastise some of my friends. Okay, who were relishing the fact that the president, they don't like okay contracted COVID-19. I'm like no, guys. Okay. Nia, this reminds me of what I say to my daughter all the time when we play sports and she does something well and she wants to gloat she wants to rub it in the face of the opponents and I tell her all the time. We don't do that. Okay, if anything, you should be thanking them that they gave you a game. Okay.

Nia Rodgers: We don't do that for two reasons, one because gloating is rude. Right. It's just inherently rude, but also, you won't always be the winner.

John Aughenbaugh: And not yet and that's my next point. I'm like, Mackenzie, how do you feel when you don't win when somebody who you're playing against beats you. Okay you feel bad already Right. Do you want them to go ahead and make you feel even worse because if that's the case. Okay. Um, we're not talking about good people. Okay, we're talking about mean people we're talking about people who are relishing in somebody else's. Okay. Misfortune and that's never right. Okay. And again, I get it. If you don't like Trump's policies, I get it. If you don't like his rhetoric, I get it. If you don't like how he's conducted himself as President. And those are all legitimate criticisms. Okay. But if you're relishing the fact okay that Donald Trump has COVID-19, okay and might suffer a lot. Okay. Well, how can you say that you're any better than Donald Trump?

Nia Rodgers: Right. Okay, it's, it's not cool. It is not acceptable to be that guy. It just isn't Donald Trump's s human. Melania Trump is a human, and you and By denying their humanity, you die, you deny your own.

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

Nia Rodgers: So, so our message to you is just one. Everything's going to be fine, because we have plenty of people in the line of succession.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: So we're not going to be leaders leaderless if nothing else, it will be me and Aughie in the White House. Which if that doesn't scare you. I don't know what would But also, you know, keep keep them in your thoughts because they're people and we want them to... We want all people who contract covered to have a light case and be able to get back to themselves quickly.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes.

Nia Rodgers: Because that's the only thing you should hope for when anyone gets it. And we also encourage you again to wash your hands and where your mask.

John Aughenbaugh: And practice good social distancing protocols. Yes.

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. Okay.

Nia Rodgers: Thanks Augie.

John Aughenbaugh: Thank you, Nia.

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