

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.

00:00:09.450 --> 00:00:09.840

John Aughenbaugh: Morning Nia.

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00:00:12.480 --> 00:00:13.740

Nia Rodgers: You okay over there.

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00:00:16.289 --> 00:00:20.880

Nia Rodgers: Oh, I'm not. I'm completely stressed and totally grumpy and kind of slightly freaking out a little bit.

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00:00:21.870 --> 00:00:23.280

John Aughenbaugh: Um, is that

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00:00:24.300 --> 00:00:27.450

John Aughenbaugh: I'm just going to take a shot in the dark here is that because

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00:00:29.610 --> 00:00:37.170

John Aughenbaugh: Of the elections, the fact that we are recording the Friday of election week and we still don't know who's president

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00:00:37.770 --> 00:00:40.170

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, that'd be a good shot in the dark.

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00:00:40.470 --> 00:00:51.480

Nia Rodgers: I haven't slept in like three days my finger is exhausted from hitting the refresh button like and what's funny is you told me about, I don't know, three or four months ago Nia

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00:00:51.990 --> 00:01:00.360

Nia Rodgers: This isn't going to be settled on election night. It's going to be tight. It's going to be complicated. This is going to be a tough election because we're in the middle of a pandemic.

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00:01:01.080 --> 00:01:11.640

Nia Rodgers: And I said, aha, and intellectually I what I heard was, there's going to be a lot of mail in ballots were not really prepared for how that's going to work. It's going to slow us down.

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00:01:11.970 --> 00:01:22.620

Nia Rodgers: You know, a lot of them can't be open until election day there's double envelope. You were saying all that and what I was hearing was woah woah woah like Charlie Brown's teacher

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00:01:22.800 --> 00:01:24.930

Nia Rodgers: Yes, because I wanted

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00:01:25.140 --> 00:01:26.460

Nia Rodgers: election night results.

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00:01:27.000 --> 00:01:32.520

Nia Rodgers: Sure and and it's three days later, and I still don't have them because you right

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00:01:33.660 --> 00:01:36.060

Nia Rodgers: And here I am so

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00:01:37.920 --> 00:01:46.350

Nia Rodgers: But it appears from where we are now that Joe Biden is going to squeak this one out.

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00:01:48.330 --> 00:01:50.910

Nia Rodgers: And hit 270 before the President does

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00:01:51.180 --> 00:01:51.540

Yeah.

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00:01:52.950 --> 00:02:02.520

John Aughenbaugh: And again listeners, just to be very clear. So when you're listening to this episode know when we are recording. It's the Friday of the week of the election.

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00:02:03.810 --> 00:02:04.920

John Aughenbaugh: As of this morning.

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00:02:06.810 --> 00:02:18.000

John Aughenbaugh: neither candidate has reached the magical number of 270 in the Electoral College, however, Joe Biden is at 264 of those states.

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00:02:19.050 --> 00:02:23.040

John Aughenbaugh: Who have announced their results as we record.

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00:02:24.150 --> 00:02:43.020

John Aughenbaugh: It looks like he has a leads in Arizona, Nevada, um, right before we started recording it looks like now. Vice President Biden has leads in Pennsylvania and Georgia, so

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00:02:43.710 --> 00:03:00.000

John Aughenbaugh: Any combination. Basically all you have to do is get one of those and he'll get to 270 his margin could be almost as great as Trump's electoral college margin was in 2016 if all of those states.

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00:03:01.530 --> 00:03:03.690

John Aughenbaugh: go for Biden.

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00:03:04.170 --> 00:03:05.730

Nia Rodgers: But that's unlikely right it's

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00:03:05.790 --> 00:03:07.200

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, that is unlikely. Yeah.

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00:03:07.260 --> 00:03:09.720

Nia Rodgers: I mean the president will go up that

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00:03:09.750 --> 00:03:11.670

Nia Rodgers: Yes, people will be closer than

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00:03:11.910 --> 00:03:13.350

Nia Rodgers: Blow out status.

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00:03:13.380 --> 00:03:22.890

John Aughenbaugh: It will be. Yeah. Yeah. And like, like in Georgia. I think they're only separated by some thousand votes or 2000 I mean basically

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00:03:23.160 --> 00:03:29.130

Nia Rodgers: The size of my hometown would make the difference which freaks me out because I know most of the people in my hometown related to a lot of them

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00:03:30.420 --> 00:03:30.870

Nia Rodgers: So,

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00:03:31.860 --> 00:03:42.150

Nia Rodgers: You know, like it freaks me out when it's that close. And I'm assuming that when they're that close and correct me if I'm wrong, but wouldn't that be in some places an automatic recount?

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00:03:42.600 --> 00:03:48.450

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, so in some states if the margin of victory or the margin of difference.

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00:03:49.590 --> 00:04:10.200

John Aughenbaugh: Is within a certain percentage and then the state will automatically do a recount in other states, um, again, if the margin of difference is is slight, okay, is very small then one or both of the candidates can ask for a recount okay

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00:04:10.650 --> 00:04:12.690

Nia Rodgers: This is a winner ever asked for a recount

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00:04:13.410 --> 00:04:15.030

John Aughenbaugh: A typically no

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00:04:17.340 --> 00:04:20.310

John Aughenbaugh: But then once the recount begins the

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00:04:21.750 --> 00:04:28.050

John Aughenbaugh: Unofficial winner typically then wants to weigh in on how the bat... the votes are recounted

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00:04:29.730 --> 00:04:32.880

John Aughenbaugh: Which is what we saw in 2000 in Bush v. Gore.

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00:04:34.050 --> 00:04:43.860

John Aughenbaugh: Once Al Gore requested a recount then the Bush campaign was just like, Okay, now we want to speak. Okay.

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00:04:43.890 --> 00:04:48.090

John Aughenbaugh: Right now we want to weigh in on how y'all are going to recount the ballots.

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00:04:49.500 --> 00:04:53.730

Nia Rodgers: Well, and that was a lot of drama. Let's have that we don't have that level of drama.

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00:04:53.850 --> 00:04:56.970

John Aughenbaugh: Well, when my students. So I said, Okay, guys.

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00:04:57.390 --> 00:05:01.020

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, we're within the week of election.

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00:05:01.830 --> 00:05:02.910

Nia Rodgers: We're with right it's

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00:05:03.600 --> 00:05:08.190

Nia Rodgers: Exactly. I need to relax because we're only three days out and last time.

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00:05:08.460 --> 00:05:11.610

Nia Rodgers: Yes, this bad it was. What a month and a half.

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00:05:12.120 --> 00:05:14.520

John Aughenbaugh: It was nearly a full month. Okay.

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00:05:14.910 --> 00:05:16.350

John Aughenbaugh: Again, the safe.

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00:05:16.380 --> 00:05:25.560

John Aughenbaugh: Harbor date okay that Congress said, oh, is basically five weeks after election day. Okay.

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00:05:25.830 --> 00:05:43.590

John Aughenbaugh: Right and and that's what went on I you know I tell my students this I said guys, not to sound like that old family member that goes ahead and says, you know, hey, when I was a kid, I had to walk in foot high snow in bare feet. Both ways were five miles.

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00:05:43.620 --> 00:05:44.640

Nia Rodgers: Uphill, yeah.

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00:05:45.090 --> 00:05:49.410

Nia Rodgers: I had to kill a bear with my three ring notebook in order to get into the school house.

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00:05:49.470 --> 00:05:51.960

Nia Rodgers: Yes, which wasn't heated. Yeah.

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00:05:52.350 --> 00:05:53.070

John Aughenbaugh: I said, you know,

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00:05:53.820 --> 00:05:54.060

Not

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00:05:55.710 --> 00:06:05.340

John Aughenbaugh: That old family member, but I said in 2000. This is the stuff that went on for an entire month. Okay, an entire month

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00:06:05.760 --> 00:06:10.650

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, it's funny. It, it's 20 years ago. So I was 20 years younger.

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00:06:10.830 --> 00:06:15.870

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, but I wasn't driven as crazy by it, as I am this time.

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00:06:16.470 --> 00:06:18.480

John Aughenbaugh: In Nia. What's the big change?

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00:06:19.980 --> 00:06:23.850

John Aughenbaugh: The immediacy of media today, right, because

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00:06:23.880 --> 00:06:24.420

Nia Rodgers: That's true.

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00:06:24.810 --> 00:06:31.170

John Aughenbaugh: Think back to for instance 20 years ago. Okay, if you had a cell phone. It was a flip phone

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00:06:31.980 --> 00:06:39.120

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, and you didn't get the internet on your flip phone you basically could take calls and send text messages.

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00:06:39.930 --> 00:07:01.200

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, you didn't have, you know, a you know updates from half a dozen new sources, even your computers. Okay, I try to remind students that you know in 2000 okay we were coming off of Y2K right internet systems. Okay. Were okay.

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00:07:02.550 --> 00:07:15.240

John Aughenbaugh: Famously slow because all of us had had to go ahead and change our computer settings to go ahead and withstand any kind of Y2K crashes, hacks, etc.

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00:07:15.660 --> 00:07:18.510

Nia Rodgers: Right you know well and just computing was just slower.

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00:07:18.510 --> 00:07:22.260

Nia Rodgers: Anyway, realize the phenomenal change and

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00:07:22.410 --> 00:07:29.670

Nia Rodgers: Yes 20 years. Also, I would put to you that we were slightly less bitterly partisan

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00:07:29.850 --> 00:07:31.530

John Aughenbaugh: Oh yeah, that's, yeah, that's another

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00:07:32.160 --> 00:07:40.410

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, we are now, I think that we have become again, one of the reasons we have this podcast is because the discourse has coursed



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00:07:40.830 --> 00:07:54.570

Nia Rodgers: To the point now where where people are acting as if this election is personal. And I'm struggling, not to be part of that. And part of it is, you're right. I'm constantly exposed to media.

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00:07:55.680 --> 00:08:09.510

Nia Rodgers: Which is urging me to be partisan because it makes them money it. That's a caution, we need to remind ourselves if people are trying to divide you, what are they getting out of it because they're getting something

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00:08:09.780 --> 00:08:14.940

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, they're not going to divide. You just because they're bored, they're dividing you because it makes them money in some way.

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00:08:16.110 --> 00:08:17.160

Nia Rodgers: And so

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00:08:17.430 --> 00:08:18.480

Nia Rodgers: You know, I think.

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00:08:19.590 --> 00:08:32.730

Nia Rodgers: I think that during the recount if I recall correctly, they didn't do hourly update like they just came every night and went well. We've counted this many and it's this and we're going to bed now. And that was, you know,

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00:08:33.120 --> 00:08:35.490

Nia Rodgers: You're now it's a it's a

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00:08:35.640 --> 00:08:37.590

Nia Rodgers: Refresh, refresh, refresh, refresh.

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00:08:38.790 --> 00:08:53.580

John Aughenbaugh: So what we're going to do listeners. The rest of this podcast episode is talk about the results and mind you, some of our results discussion is going to be tentative because some things have not yet been decided.

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00:08:54.930 --> 00:09:08.010

John Aughenbaugh: And if we make mistakes. Nia, and I have already agreed that we will record another episode where we basically go ahead and offer a whole bunch of, you know, Mea Culpa has okay we were wrong. Okay.

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00:09:08.460 --> 00:09:10.320

John Aughenbaugh: Well, I can think of that is Nia culpa.

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00:09:12.750 --> 00:09:13.320

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

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00:09:14.310 --> 00:09:15.120

Nia Rodgers: On my part.

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00:09:16.590 --> 00:09:18.360

John Aughenbaugh: I'm going to pull in Nia culpa here.

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00:09:18.990 --> 00:09:21.810

John Aughenbaugh: Isn't it the Mea culpa, Aughie. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

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00:09:21.870 --> 00:09:24.330

Nia Rodgers: You haven't met her yet she's wrong a lot

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00:09:25.230 --> 00:09:27.390

John Aughenbaugh: Um, no, actually, uh,

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00:09:28.440 --> 00:09:35.070

John Aughenbaugh: As we have found out over roughly what two full years of recording this podcast.

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00:09:37.200 --> 00:09:38.580

John Aughenbaugh: I can make more errors.

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00:09:41.610 --> 00:09:42.450

Nia Rodgers: No,

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00:09:42.630 --> 00:09:42.930

That

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00:09:44.340 --> 00:09:47.970

Nia Rodgers: You also know lots of more stuff than I do but ok so

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00:09:48.540 --> 00:09:51.420

Nia Rodgers: I would like to make an assumption. Can we make an assumption.

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00:09:51.510 --> 00:09:53.310

Nia Rodgers: At the beginning of this or

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00:09:53.580 --> 00:09:55.290

Nia Rodgers: Go forward with that which is that

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00:09:55.410 --> 00:10:02.670

Nia Rodgers: That Biden will find the six electoral college votes that he needs to hit the magical 270 number.

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00:10:02.670 --> 00:10:17.610

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, second, okay, um, whichever presidential candidate doesn't get to 270 will file a whole bunch of lawsuits.

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00:10:17.790 --> 00:10:19.110

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, we shouldn't assume that

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00:10:19.350 --> 00:10:23.070

Nia Rodgers: Because that's already happening. Actually, we shouldn't assume that that's in fact

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00:10:25.560 --> 00:10:29.580

Nia Rodgers: What they call it in in law when you're like, I'm just stating facts for the record.

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00:10:29.760 --> 00:10:34.260

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. Okay. It's almost like a dicta from a Supreme Court ruling.

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00:10:34.380 --> 00:10:35.280

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, we're

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00:10:35.460 --> 00:10:37.050

Nia Rodgers: Assuming this thing is true because

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00:10:37.050 --> 00:10:38.190

Nia Rodgers: We already know it is true.

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00:10:38.460 --> 00:10:51.000

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, right. Um. And third, and I apologize to any of our listeners who are Trump supporters, the President will go ahead and make a whole bunch of grandiose

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00:10:55.260 --> 00:10:57.930

John Aughenbaugh: claims about voter fraud.

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00:10:58.620 --> 00:10:59.700

Nia Rodgers: He's already doing.

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00:11:01.020 --> 00:11:03.180

Nia Rodgers: Those things we already know we're happening.

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00:11:03.240 --> 00:11:03.630

Yes.

113

00:11:05.670 --> 00:11:26.190

Nia Rodgers: So let's talk about that for just a second about the sort of the claims of voter fraud, you have said in past that there is that there is a little bit of fraud intentional or accidental in every election that sometimes things just get a little bit bugged up and and some

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00:11:26.280 --> 00:11:31.920

Nia Rodgers: Something goes awry, but it is not. You have said in past statistically significant.

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00:11:32.100 --> 00:11:32.460

John Aughenbaugh: No.

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00:11:32.550 --> 00:11:34.590

Nia Rodgers: Do you believe that holds for this election.

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00:11:35.070 --> 00:11:56.730

John Aughenbaugh: In fact, I believe in holds more truth in this election, simply because most states. Okay. Were hyper aware that that would be a claim made by at least one or if not, both candidates or their political parties in this election. Yes.

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00:11:57.000 --> 00:12:00.000

Nia Rodgers: Okay. So you think this time they've actually been...

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00:12:00.240 --> 00:12:02.580

John Aughenbaugh: Well, I think they've done a wonderful job.

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00:12:03.990 --> 00:12:12.690

John Aughenbaugh: I think state voting officials across the country have done a wonderful job. And the reason why I say this, okay, is for two reasons. One,

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00:12:13.230 --> 00:12:35.130

John Aughenbaugh: At the time we are recording most predictions are that voter turnout in the United States or this election will be about 66% that 66% of those eligible to vote actually voted this year. That's the highest in over a century.

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00:12:35.910 --> 00:12:43.350

Nia Rodgers: Isn't it it ranking who said, you don't have to win the majority of Americans, you have to win the majority of Americans that vote.

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00:12:43.770 --> 00:12:44.310

John Aughenbaugh: That's right.

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00:12:44.490 --> 00:12:47.970

Nia Rodgers: Like, and that's a relatively small number of

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00:12:48.330 --> 00:12:56.550

Nia Rodgers: Yes, Americans. When you think 330 and a whole bunch of those are kids and they can't vote and some of those are people in prison and they can't vote.

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00:12:56.880 --> 00:13:05.730

Nia Rodgers: And some of those are people who can't vote for other reasons. And then you get down to this much smaller number. And then you only have to win 51% of that number.

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00:13:06.690 --> 00:13:14.430

Nia Rodgers: In order to win the presidency, so I have to admit, I'm kind of excited that we have more turnout than we've had in a century, but

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00:13:15.210 --> 00:13:26.730

Nia Rodgers: I also am casting side eye at 2020 because I'm really during a pandemic is when this is happening when it's more complicated to count the votes than it's ever been.

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00:13:27.060 --> 00:13:30.870

John Aughenbaugh: Well, and that's the reason why I actually say, oh,

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00:13:31.980 --> 00:13:43.050

John Aughenbaugh: I use the adjective. They've done a wonderful job because the volume of votes is higher and the volume of mail voting is significantly higher.

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00:13:44.130 --> 00:14:04.470

John Aughenbaugh: And most states and you and I started talking about this Nia when the pandemic hit in the spring. One of the major concerns that you and I expressed was the fact that many states were unprepared for the upcoming election if they decided to have

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00:14:06.150 --> 00:14:10.080

John Aughenbaugh: More flexibility in regards to mail, mail ballots. Okay.

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00:14:11.400 --> 00:14:22.830

John Aughenbaugh: And without boring you with the excruciating details of what okay goes into counting a mail ballot. It is a time consuming process.

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00:14:23.460 --> 00:14:46.590

John Aughenbaugh: And again, most states did not hire extra staff to process mail balance in person voting is the easiest to count, simply because most states now use some sort of computer technology to where you scan your ballot. Okay, before you even leave the poll.

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00:14:47.430 --> 00:14:51.300

John Aughenbaugh: Right immediately okay your vote is counted

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00:14:51.930 --> 00:14:56.280

Nia Rodgers: Okay, I was number 414 at my polling place.

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00:14:56.370 --> 00:15:00.300

Nia Rodgers: Okay, so you get another little number comes up and you know which one.

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00:15:00.330 --> 00:15:08.790

Nia Rodgers: Which NUMBER YOU'VE and there's a woman who stands there who says what number was it and she's looking at her clipboard cuz she checks off.

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00:15:09.030 --> 00:15:09.360

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah.

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00:15:09.630 --> 00:15:16.350

Nia Rodgers: The numbers. I mean like uber checked off to make sure. I heard that it's four minutes per mail in ballot.

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00:15:16.920 --> 00:15:18.240

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, yeah.

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00:15:18.720 --> 00:15:36.480

Nia Rodgers: That's an enormous amount of time when you think about 80,000 ballots or 100,000 ballots or however many a precinct god that's and those poor ball workers for, like, Sure, I'll sign up, they signed up last year, la, la, not thinking that, you know,

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00:15:37.350 --> 00:15:37.740

But

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00:15:39.390 --> 00:15:41.850

John Aughenbaugh: So when you break down.

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00:15:43.080 --> 00:15:54.540

John Aughenbaugh: And again, we've been focusing in the first few minutes of this episode on the presidential race. Okay. But, you know, remember, folks, you had the

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00:15:56.070 --> 00:15:56.880

John Aughenbaugh: Presidency.

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00:15:57.900 --> 00:16:17.850

John Aughenbaugh: You had slightly over a third of the Senate, all House of Representatives. Okay. We're up all their seats were contested. And then you had a whole bunch of state elections and state ballot referendums and initiatives.

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00:16:18.990 --> 00:16:28.770

John Aughenbaugh: So what I would like for us to do is kind of sort of go through each and we're probably not going to be able to get into the, the great details.

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00:16:29.880 --> 00:16:38.940

John Aughenbaugh: But some initial, if you will, observations about each. So, you know, one of the first observations near you and I just talked about is

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00:16:39.480 --> 00:16:50.070

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, more Americans voted and yes I frequently make the point that you did, which is we still have a whole bunch of Americans who don't register to vote.

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00:16:50.400 --> 00:17:05.160

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, so they can't vote or they're not eligible to vote for various reasons. Okay. But nevertheless, I mean you know that's generally good for democracy when you have more people vote. Okay. Okay.

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00:17:06.060 --> 00:17:07.440

Nia Rodgers: I think so.

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00:17:07.980 --> 00:17:09.990

Nia Rodgers: I, I know that there's an argument.

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00:17:10.350 --> 00:17:10.860

John Aughenbaugh: Sure.

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00:17:10.980 --> 00:17:14.490

Nia Rodgers: But on the other side, that in fact that is not a good idea.

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00:17:14.640 --> 00:17:19.440

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, because there's a whole bunch of people who are voting who are rationally ignorant.

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00:17:20.430 --> 00:17:20.790

Nia Rodgers: Right.

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00:17:20.880 --> 00:17:22.230

Nia Rodgers: And it's the same argument.

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00:17:22.290 --> 00:17:25.740

Nia Rodgers: That that helps to underpin the Electoral College.

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00:17:26.310 --> 00:17:30.180

Nia Rodgers: Like that sometimes the masses shouldn't be making a choice because

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00:17:30.450 --> 00:17:32.130

Nia Rodgers: They don't make good choices.

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00:17:32.580 --> 00:17:35.370

John Aughenbaugh: Now, in regards to the presidential election.

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00:17:37.320 --> 00:17:38.400

John Aughenbaugh: It. I mean,

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00:17:39.840 --> 00:17:48.930

John Aughenbaugh: If you have one measurement one statistic to show you how divided the United States is okay um

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00:17:49.980 --> 00:17:54.240

John Aughenbaugh: The presidential election turnout really highlights that

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00:17:55.260 --> 00:18:09.060

John Aughenbaugh: Because right now, Joe Biden is at slightly over 50% of the votes cast and Donald Trump is that 48% okay I'm

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00:18:09.360 --> 00:18:10.740

Nia Rodgers: Not a huge mandate.

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00:18:11.190 --> 00:18:17.730

John Aughenbaugh: Not a huge mandate. Okay. And that's going to be part of the difficulty for Joe Biden is that

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00:18:19.560 --> 00:18:24.840

John Aughenbaugh: You know presidents. Well, those who went elections always say they have a mandate. Okay.

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00:18:25.650 --> 00:18:26.430

Nia Rodgers: Are they gonna say

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00:18:26.490 --> 00:18:27.210

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, but

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00:18:27.240 --> 00:18:30.630

Nia Rodgers: I squeaked that went out good for me. I mean,

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00:18:31.290 --> 00:18:48.750

John Aughenbaugh: But the difficulty is, if you win. Okay, by two percentage points at have over you know 140 million votes cast that okay um a whole bunch of the population.

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00:18:49.920 --> 00:18:51.210

John Aughenbaugh: didn't vote for you.

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00:18:51.300 --> 00:19:08.310

John Aughenbaugh: Right. Okay. Um, so, on the other hand, okay. The most obvious implication of Joe by winning if he does. Okay. And I'll stop using that caveat. Well, let's assume Biden wins.

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00:19:08.850 --> 00:19:20.640

John Aughenbaugh: The most obvious implication is we now have a president. Okay, um, who is an established Democratic Party figure running the executive branch.

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00:19:21.330 --> 00:19:30.900

John Aughenbaugh: This is a guy with decades of federal government experience both in the legislative branch and the executive branch. Let's not forget, folks.

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00:19:31.410 --> 00:19:45.270

John Aughenbaugh: He was vice president for eight years. So even if you know Barack Obama didn't really use them all that much. He least was in attendance for pretty much all of the important meetings. Right.

179

00:19:45.420 --> 00:20:02.670

John Aughenbaugh: Right. Okay. Um, so by adding in Harris. Okay. And in Kamala Harris. Okay. Um, is a relatively, if you will, young federal government official okay she's been in the Senate for less than one term, okay.

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00:20:03.630 --> 00:20:11.670

John Aughenbaugh: But she has plenty of governing experience in the state of California. She was Attorney General for the entire state right

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00:20:12.090 --> 00:20:14.820

Nia Rodgers: Right, so she's, she's a political animal

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00:20:14.910 --> 00:20:16.770

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, and she's been in it.

183

00:20:17.040 --> 00:20:17.910

Nia Rodgers: For a while,

184

00:20:18.060 --> 00:20:34.800

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, okay, um, by the way, for those who were hoping that the election was going to be a clear and obvious repudiation of the Trump four years. Sorry, folks, you didn't get that. Okay.

185

00:20:35.070 --> 00:20:39.300

Nia Rodgers: Same number of voted for him that voted for him before, right, like

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00:20:39.510 --> 00:20:43.230

John Aughenbaugh: pretty much spot on in terms of percentage

187

00:20:43.410 --> 00:20:49.710

Nia Rodgers: So what happened was more Democrats came out to vote than voted for Hillary Clinton.

188

00:20:50.040 --> 00:20:58.500

Nia Rodgers: Not, not somehow Donald Trump lost huge swathes of the population's support that he had before.

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00:20:58.680 --> 00:21:03.360

John Aughenbaugh: That's right, you know. Yeah. By the way, Trump actually did better.

190

00:21:04.470 --> 00:21:10.200

John Aughenbaugh: Among three minority groups Muslims, Latinos, and blacks.

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00:21:10.560 --> 00:21:11.970

John Aughenbaugh: Really, yes.

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00:21:12.240 --> 00:21:16.140

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, yep. Um, we also know the country.

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00:21:16.200 --> 00:21:18.480

Nia Rodgers: Is a numbers game it was turning it was your turnout

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00:21:18.480 --> 00:21:24.270

John Aughenbaugh: it was completely a numbers game turnout made the difference. Okay.

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00:21:24.480 --> 00:21:25.860

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, now

196

00:21:26.190 --> 00:21:30.690

Nia Rodgers: That's an interesting question which I would like to talk to you about some other time now.

197

00:21:30.870 --> 00:21:36.810

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, which is the difference between turning out for Hillary Clinton and turning out for for for

198

00:21:37.740 --> 00:21:48.210

Nia Rodgers: Yes. And so, I mean, I feel certain that some of that is because Donald Trump was at one point theoretical and is now a reality figure

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00:21:49.410 --> 00:21:54.480

Nia Rodgers: In American politics. So that's part of it. But part of it too would be interesting to talk about

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00:21:54.780 --> 00:21:56.430

John Aughenbaugh: The gender difference. Yeah, right.

201

00:21:56.820 --> 00:22:02.070

Nia Rodgers: So, but we will not put that that's not we're not talking about Hillary. Today we're talking about other things.

202

00:22:03.420 --> 00:22:16.050

John Aughenbaugh: In regards to the presidential election. You guys have probably already seen many of the maps, but the divide in the United States geographically is still stark

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00:22:16.590 --> 00:22:34.170

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, the Democratic Party does well in urban and suburban areas of the United States, the Republican Party dominates in rural and exurban areas of the country. Okay, um,

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00:22:34.230 --> 00:22:35.190

Nia Rodgers: It makes sense.

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00:22:36.300 --> 00:22:38.730

John Aughenbaugh: In this is a phenomenon that

206

00:22:39.780 --> 00:22:52.470

John Aughenbaugh: My colleague, Mike Paarlburg world talked about in a couple of political science department election panels. Okay, um, increasingly Americans will pick places to live.

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00:22:53.370 --> 00:23:07.260

John Aughenbaugh: Because they want to live with or around people who think like them politically. Okay. It is just shocking the extent to which Americans do that okay just shocking.

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00:23:07.290 --> 00:23:09.180

Nia Rodgers: We self segregate

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00:23:09.420 --> 00:23:12.120

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. Yes, we are. Yes, we are.

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00:23:12.210 --> 00:23:15.450

Nia Rodgers: Even though we complain about segregation based on other criteria

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00:23:16.050 --> 00:23:29.580

John Aughenbaugh: Innate characteristics. When we are given a choice. We are increasingly saying, I don't want to live in that area because those people are blank. And I think they are blank.

212

00:23:32.190 --> 00:23:33.870

John Aughenbaugh: It is truly amazing.

213

00:23:34.800 --> 00:23:35.970

Nia Rodgers: Huh. Okay.

214

00:23:36.210 --> 00:23:40.440

John Aughenbaugh: And we also know this about the voters so far.

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00:23:42.030 --> 00:23:43.320

John Aughenbaugh: In regards to the parties.

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00:23:44.340 --> 00:23:57.180

John Aughenbaugh: The Republican Party continuing a trend we saw basically throughout this millennium is a white, male, increasingly poor, and older.

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00:23:58.350 --> 00:24:06.990

John Aughenbaugh: The Democratic Party is young, diverse, female, and increasingly wealthy.

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00:24:07.440 --> 00:24:09.150

John Aughenbaugh: And highly educated

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00:24:09.570 --> 00:24:12.330

Nia Rodgers: Okay, except biking is one of those

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00:24:13.050 --> 00:24:15.420

Nia Rodgers: Yes, he's increasingly wealthy.



221

00:24:15.930 --> 00:24:18.420

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, but he's not any of the others.

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00:24:18.420 --> 00:24:20.730

Nia Rodgers: No he's not. That's an interesting...

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00:24:21.060 --> 00:24:26.010

John Aughenbaugh: And by the way, I'm going to talk about that Nia, just a few moments when I came to the United States.

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00:24:27.420 --> 00:24:43.140

John Aughenbaugh: Congress. But right now, okay. Joe Biden kind of sort of represents the old if you will guard or old school of the Democratic Party in so many ways.

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00:24:43.710 --> 00:24:56.850

John Aughenbaugh: And it will be very interesting to me to see the tension between his White House and a congress a Democratic caucus in the Congress. Okay. That ain't much like him.

226

00:24:57.510 --> 00:24:58.560

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, they

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00:24:58.800 --> 00:25:00.720

Nia Rodgers: Are progressive they want to move

228

00:25:01.230 --> 00:25:04.920

Nia Rodgers: At the speed of light, and he's not that guy.

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00:25:05.250 --> 00:25:18.570

John Aughenbaugh: He's not that guy. Okay, you know he he he is okay. an old school dealmaker okay I'm in the United States Congress. Okay.

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00:25:19.170 --> 00:25:29.970

John Aughenbaugh: And by the way, I mean I were kind of sort of going in this direction. If Joe Biden thought that campaigning for the office of president was difficult. Okay wait till he has to govern

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00:25:30.990 --> 00:25:32.730

John Aughenbaugh: First of all, okay.

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00:25:33.060 --> 00:25:37.200

Nia Rodgers: Of divided government, you've talked about that before on the podcast.

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00:25:37.230 --> 00:25:41.820

Nia Rodgers: Yes, because the Democrats did not take the Senate, is that correct

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00:25:42.060 --> 00:25:45.720

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, what it looks like right now okay um

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00:25:47.100 --> 00:26:02.310

John Aughenbaugh: It looks like the republicans are going to retain control of the United States Senate, and it now as we are recording the morning we are recording Georgia still counting votes Georgia in regards to its

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00:26:05.460 --> 00:26:06.270

John Aughenbaugh: Elections

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00:26:07.290 --> 00:26:13.830

John Aughenbaugh: For national office, with the exception of President and statewide offices.

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00:26:14.850 --> 00:26:26.310

John Aughenbaugh: If neither candidate or no candidate gets 50% of the vote, then they do a run off of the candidates with the two highest vote totals.

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00:26:26.700 --> 00:26:29.730

Nia Rodgers: For their local for their state and local

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00:26:29.880 --> 00:26:30.210

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah.

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00:26:30.240 --> 00:26:32.280

Nia Rodgers: For their staff for their federal they don't make

242

00:26:32.520 --> 00:26:33.480

Nia Rodgers: Joe Biden.

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00:26:33.720 --> 00:26:36.690

Nia Rodgers: And Trump have a run off, although that would be

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00:26:36.930 --> 00:26:44.610

John Aughenbaugh: Awesome. So right now, or this year, George, both of George's sentence. Each one were up

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00:26:45.720 --> 00:26:47.040

John Aughenbaugh: In the reason why is,

246

00:26:48.720 --> 00:26:54.840

John Aughenbaugh: Johnny Eisenson who represented Georgia in the senate retired for health reasons.

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00:26:56.670 --> 00:27:05.850

John Aughenbaugh: The governor of Georgia, who, who has this authority appointed a replacement. Her name is, I think, Kelly Leffler

(clipped and restarted for internet difficulties)

266

00:28:27.060 --> 00:28:42.870

John Aughenbaugh: Neither of George's Senate elections had candidates achieved the 50% threshold. So it looks like right now. Okay, they're going to have to run off elections in January.

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00:28:44.010 --> 00:28:57.150

John Aughenbaugh: Now let's be very clear, Georgia. Okay, the demographics of the state have changed. It's more of a battleground state than it previously was but nevertheless

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00:28:58.590 --> 00:29:04.710

John Aughenbaugh: At least one of the incumbent Georgia centers and both of them were Republicans per do

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00:29:05.790 --> 00:29:22.560

John Aughenbaugh: Most people believe he will probably win the runoff election. Okay. Because I think he's at like 49.7% but okay then pretty much almost every other state in the country. He would have been announced as the victor that okay

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00:29:24.000 --> 00:29:29.820

John Aughenbaugh: The law Fleur see is if here. But even still,

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00:29:31.710 --> 00:29:36.300

John Aughenbaugh: Even if waffler loses the republicans will have 51

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00:29:38.160 --> 00:29:39.060

Nia Rodgers: So it's either

273

00:29:42.690 --> 00:29:43.140

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

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00:29:43.380 --> 00:29:48.390

Nia Rodgers: But that's smaller than it was before. Right.

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00:29:48.660 --> 00:29:52.710

John Aughenbaugh: Well, this year going into the elections. It was 5347

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00:29:53.100 --> 00:29:58.140

John Aughenbaugh: So, but remember Nia okay right now.

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00:29:58.710 --> 00:30:02.880

Nia Rodgers: So peeling peeling one or two office easier than feeling three off.

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00:30:03.270 --> 00:30:15.420

John Aughenbaugh: That's true. Okay. Um, and in the Republican caucus in the Senate. They actually have two senators susan collins from Maine.

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00:30:17.280 --> 00:30:29.010

John Aughenbaugh: Who many thought would lose, but she actually won pretty easily and Lisa Murkowski in Alaska, who are known to occasionally

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00:30:30.030 --> 00:30:37.020

John Aughenbaugh: Ignore the Republican Party's leadership and vote the way they want to

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00:30:37.530 --> 00:30:39.240

Nia Rodgers: Heads. They're very elections.

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00:30:39.330 --> 00:30:42.030

Nia Rodgers: Yes, they both they vote locally.

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00:30:42.090 --> 00:30:42.930

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, yeah.

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00:30:42.990 --> 00:30:44.310

Nia Rodgers: As opposed to

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00:30:44.910 --> 00:30:46.350

Nia Rodgers: A party striped party line.

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00:30:46.740 --> 00:30:48.840

John Aughenbaugh: On the other hand, let's be very clear.

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00:30:50.250 --> 00:31:07.680

John Aughenbaugh: By today's standards they would be considered moderate by the standards of research as recently as the 1990s and the first decade of this millennium, neither Murkowski or Susan Collins have been voting very moderately

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00:31:09.990 --> 00:31:19.680

John Aughenbaugh: Their last term term and a half a sentence. Okay, so basically, basically what you're looking at here is more than likely, and again

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00:31:20.160 --> 00:31:36.750

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, we could be wrong. I mean come January the voters in Georgia could go in and say now. Okay, we're going to go ahead and vote for the Democratic candidates. And by the way, if we have any listeners in Georgia. If you think the

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00:31:38.250 --> 00:31:48.240

John Aughenbaugh: ad campaigns for the presidency, I'm bombarded your airwaves your social media before

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00:31:49.530 --> 00:32:00.450

John Aughenbaugh: November 3 I'm just telling you right now. You better get ready, because the next two months in Georgia, there is going to be a whole bunch of money spent

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00:32:00.870 --> 00:32:26.220

John Aughenbaugh: On media okay because both political parties. Okay. See how important Georgia is because if it's, if it's a 5050 split in the Senate, then the tie breaking vote is the Vice President, which means effectively the Democratic Party would then gain regain control of the Senate.

293

00:32:27.390 --> 00:32:42.300

John Aughenbaugh: So if you're the Republican Party, you're going to spend a whole bunch of money to make sure that Purdue gets reelected and you've also tried to get Leffler reelected right if you're the democrats you want both of them to go down.

294

00:32:43.410 --> 00:32:51.360

John Aughenbaugh: Because that gets you to 50 and split in the Senate. Okay. Oh, is broken by the Vice President.

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00:32:51.480 --> 00:32:58.980

Nia Rodgers: So what you're telling me is that even after this has decided it's not decided, and I'm not going to sleep again until February.

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00:32:59.430 --> 00:33:00.240

John Aughenbaugh: Very much. Yeah.

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00:33:00.660 --> 00:33:01.800

Nia Rodgers: Okay, thanks.

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00:33:03.360 --> 00:33:04.650

Nia Rodgers: I didn't get you anything.

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00:33:06.090 --> 00:33:22.290

Nia Rodgers: Okay, so. So now, Joe Biden is looking down at down the barrel at he has the executive branch, the Democrats retained the house, right, the House of Representatives, although a bunch of those turned over.

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00:33:23.460 --> 00:33:32.610

John Aughenbaugh: They lost the last count I saw. Is there more than likely going to lose five to seven seats in the House of Representatives.

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00:33:32.910 --> 00:33:34.860

Nia Rodgers: So, so seven years.

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00:33:35.100 --> 00:33:38.340

John Aughenbaugh: They don't have a majority in a pretty healthy majority.

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00:33:38.460 --> 00:33:50.940

Nia Rodgers: But still, that's a that's commentary by the populace about that. And then the Senate will either be republican or squeaky squeaky so he doesn't have this

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00:33:52.920 --> 00:34:05.220

Nia Rodgers: Okay, let me back up. So one of the platforms, what for the Democrats, this time was big change and giant ginormous progressive what he's not gonna be able to do any of that.

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00:34:05.430 --> 00:34:07.710

Nia Rodgers: Right, because there's just not going to be

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00:34:07.830 --> 00:34:08.490

John Aughenbaugh: There was not

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00:34:08.790 --> 00:34:09.300

Nia Rodgers: For that

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00:34:09.450 --> 00:34:19.500

John Aughenbaugh: There was not a Blue Wave. Okay, the Democratic Party's is portrayed by the color blue right there was not a Blue Wave. Okay.

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00:34:20.070 --> 00:34:30.030

John Aughenbaugh: And that's where the Democratic Party is doing a lot of navel gazing we're already because they're trying to figure out how in the world.

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00:34:30.510 --> 00:34:39.750

John Aughenbaugh: Was the predicted Blue Wave how they did not materialize. How did we not give. Okay. Our president



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00:34:40.650 --> 00:35:01.770

John Aughenbaugh: Solid control of both houses of Congress. I mean, because let's face it Nia, as we've already discussed the federal judiciary, particularly the Supreme Court okay isn't going to be all warm and fuzzy okay about liberal policies that extend the powers of the federal government.

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00:35:02.790 --> 00:35:03.210

John Aughenbaugh: Right.

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00:35:03.510 --> 00:35:03.810

Nia Rodgers: Right.

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00:35:04.410 --> 00:35:13.170

John Aughenbaugh: A majority of the Supreme Court. Okay. According to most experts is at least five if not six out of the nine votes.

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00:35:14.550 --> 00:35:29.580

John Aughenbaugh: Over half of the appeals court federal appeals court in this country have a majority of judges appointed by Republican presidents. Okay. So you're talking about Elise you the judicial branch.

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00:35:30.720 --> 00:35:37.950

John Aughenbaugh: That if not openly antagonistic will be occasionally antagonistic. Okay.

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00:35:39.540 --> 00:35:40.710

John Aughenbaugh: To President Biden.

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00:35:40.800 --> 00:35:46.560

Nia Rodgers: That was actually brilliant on mitch mcconnell's Park. He's been working on that for years.

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00:35:46.620 --> 00:35:56.850

Nia Rodgers: It was basically been playing the long game like a seriously long game of dude, we can lose in the interim little elections here and there.

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00:35:57.120 --> 00:36:00.840

Nia Rodgers: But what we need to do is stocks, a judiciary with

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00:36:01.230 --> 00:36:02.880

Nia Rodgers: Your servant of individuals.

322

00:36:02.910 --> 00:36:19.770

John Aughenbaugh: Young Conservatives. I mean, the age group of the judges are appointed by drone okay was easily three and a half to four years younger than the average just average age of the judges appointed by the previous four presidents.

323

00:36:20.850 --> 00:36:27.900

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, see, I sometimes I get the feeling that the democrats are playing checkers and the republicans are playing chess.

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00:36:28.470 --> 00:36:37.800

Nia Rodgers: Yes, and that's not true of every person in the party because you know there are brilliant thinkers on both sides right there are people who are kind of chuckleheads on both sides.

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00:36:38.100 --> 00:36:47.430

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, I mean, for instance, me and you and I have talked about the Republican Party in the Commonwealth of Virginia seems to be playing checkers, while the Democratic Party seems to be playing chess.

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00:36:47.610 --> 00:36:49.650

John Aughenbaugh: Right, though it does vary. Right.

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00:36:49.920 --> 00:37:04.320

John Aughenbaugh: Right, because right now the Republican Party in Virginia. Okay, would have a really difficult time, you know, getting somebody elected as you know director reasonable control. Okay, you know, small jurisdiction. Okay.

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00:37:04.650 --> 00:37:06.180

John Aughenbaugh: Right well in that badly.

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00:37:07.560 --> 00:37:21.900

Nia Rodgers: Which is interesting to me because we focus so much on the presidential election but but one of the things that's so important is the 2020 census right it's

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00:37:22.590 --> 00:37:30.840

Nia Rodgers: It's redistricting, which is done at the local level. It's not done at the presidential level so

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00:37:31.440 --> 00:37:46.920

Nia Rodgers: It brings me back to that question of, yes. The President is important, but there are other people who are there other players that are really important that are at the local level and will be making decisions that will then go 10 or 20 years into the future.

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00:37:47.040 --> 00:37:53.580

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, so before we get to state elections. Let's just go. Let's just go ahead and wrap up the Congress.

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00:37:53.790 --> 00:38:04.410

John Aughenbaugh: Okay. Okay, so you're going to have either a narrow Republican Party majority or an extremely narrow Democratic Party majority in the Senate.

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00:38:05.160 --> 00:38:08.850

John Aughenbaugh: Right Democrats will retain control of the hacks.

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00:38:09.930 --> 00:38:17.910

John Aughenbaugh: But the larger point here is Joe Biden's going to find that governing in those conditions is going to be extremely difficult.

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00:38:18.450 --> 00:38:29.190

John Aughenbaugh: If the sentence controlled by the republicans there is next to no chance that any kind of significant legislative program will be passed.

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00:38:29.700 --> 00:38:45.810

John Aughenbaugh: By the republican controlled Senate. Okay, then they will put the kibosh on it. Okay, so anything that the progressives in the house if they're able to go ahead and convince Joe Biden to, you know,

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00:38:47.250 --> 00:38:49.620

John Aughenbaugh: You know, do whatever. Okay.

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00:38:50.670 --> 00:38:52.830

John Aughenbaugh: It's going to come to a screeching halt in the Senate.

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00:38:53.790 --> 00:38:55.710

Nia Rodgers: Except he's got executive orders.

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00:38:56.250 --> 00:39:05.820

John Aughenbaugh: While you can do executive orders. But increasingly, as we discussed in previous podcast episodes of executive orders get challenged in Federal court.

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00:39:06.420 --> 00:39:07.530

Nia Rodgers: Well, except that

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00:39:07.770 --> 00:39:15.000

Nia Rodgers: I'm going to push back on that which is if you had a guy like you who knew administrative law and you could do it better.

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00:39:15.330 --> 00:39:16.650

John Aughenbaugh: Oh, well I mean hey, I mean,

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00:39:17.010 --> 00:39:18.630

Nia Rodgers: He does know those guys.

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00:39:18.720 --> 00:39:21.120

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, yeah, he's he's an old hand at

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00:39:21.450 --> 00:39:27.150

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, that you, that is correct. I have said that a number of times, you know,

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00:39:28.440 --> 00:39:38.040

John Aughenbaugh: If the Trump administration actually hired experienced a Federal Executive Branch officials and kept them in their positions.

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00:39:38.850 --> 00:39:46.800

John Aughenbaugh: Many of the executive orders and many of the proposed regulations in the Trump administration would have been written better

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00:39:47.250 --> 00:39:58.620

John Aughenbaugh: They would have follow the accepted process that required process and they would have been if you will not overturned by the federal judiciary, you are correct. Okay. You are correct.

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00:39:58.770 --> 00:40:05.220

Nia Rodgers: Right. So, so what I'm gonna throw out here a little bit is

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00:40:08.100 --> 00:40:14.370

Nia Rodgers: Biden has experience with being this guy because he was the vice president when this was happening to Obama

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00:40:15.030 --> 00:40:25.440

John Aughenbaugh: Jordan Obama basically his last term, you know, on the on the presidential website. It said going it alone. Right.

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00:40:26.010 --> 00:40:29.910

John Aughenbaugh: And that's what Obama basically did the last nap of his second term.

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00:40:31.200 --> 00:40:36.570

John Aughenbaugh: He issued Executive Orders ad nauseum which I find interesting.

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00:40:37.410 --> 00:40:51.240

Nia Rodgers: I think it will be interesting to see how Mitch McConnell and Joe Biden work because they may actually right there may be some some because they know each other really well there's

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00:40:51.390 --> 00:40:56.640

John Aughenbaugh: You make a good point there Nia and and I've been thinking about that. The last few days, right.

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00:40:57.870 --> 00:41:01.020

John Aughenbaugh: I thought it was always very

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00:41:02.520 --> 00:41:13.320

John Aughenbaugh: Illuminating to me during the Obama administration that when a budget deal had to be crafted between this Administration and the Congress.

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00:41:15.210 --> 00:41:21.690

John Aughenbaugh: He said, Joe Biden to the Senate to work out the budget deal with Mitch McConnell

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00:41:23.310 --> 00:41:28.230

John Aughenbaugh: And they got it done. That got it done three different times. Okay.

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00:41:28.470 --> 00:41:36.360

Nia Rodgers: See, I think that he has he may be able to go to Mitch McConnell and say we got to put everything aside and deal with corona.

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00:41:36.900 --> 00:41:38.820

Nia Rodgers: And like we've got to deal with coven

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00:41:39.090 --> 00:41:39.660

John Aughenbaugh: And if Joe

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00:41:39.810 --> 00:41:44.520

Nia Rodgers: Whatever it takes to do that. We got to do. I think he might be able to actually

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00:41:44.820 --> 00:41:45.900

John Aughenbaugh: Have Joe Biden.

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00:41:46.050 --> 00:41:50.730

John Aughenbaugh: Do some then go ahead and say to Nancy Pelosi, you're more than likely will be

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00:41:51.990 --> 00:42:08.880

John Aughenbaugh: Chosen again to be the Speaker of the House okay um if then Joe Biden is willing to go to Nancy Pelosi and say, Nancy. This is the best we can do. And you're going to go ahead, you're going to have to tell the progressive wing of the Democratic Party in the House. Okay.

369

00:42:10.260 --> 00:42:18.420

John Aughenbaugh: VOTE FOR THIS BECAUSE THIS IS THIS IS THE DEAL, WE HAVE crafted with the Republicans in the Senate.

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00:42:19.440 --> 00:42:19.920

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

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00:42:20.220 --> 00:42:20.640

John Aughenbaugh: Right.

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00:42:20.940 --> 00:42:22.560

Nia Rodgers: Oh, what we can get done.

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00:42:22.710 --> 00:42:24.090

Nia Rodgers: This to we can get done.

374

00:42:24.150 --> 00:42:24.540

John Aughenbaugh: Right.

375

00:42:24.570 --> 00:42:25.530

Nia Rodgers: To suck it up.

376

00:42:26.400 --> 00:42:34.560

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah. Um, so I don't know the extent to which Mitch McConnell, go ahead and do that. But let's face it.

377

00:42:35.160 --> 00:42:47.010

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, the Republican caucus since mitch mcconnell became Senate Majority Leader halfway through the Obama administration is basically done everything that Mitch McConnell has wanted them to do.

378

00:42:49.200 --> 00:42:55.110

John Aughenbaugh: I mean, let's face it, there were four or five members of the Republican caucus who weren't all that

379

00:42:57.030 --> 00:43:14.580

John Aughenbaugh: Enthusiastic about Amy coney Barrett being considered for the Supreme Court okay within three weeks of the election, but they did it. And it didn't seem to hurt the parties control of this sentence.

380

00:43:16.770 --> 00:43:17.970

Nia Rodgers: It's heard a little bit



381

00:43:18.450 --> 00:43:23.520

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, but that's not the reason why they lost okay in Arizona in Colorado.

382

00:43:25.050 --> 00:43:25.500

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

383

00:43:25.560 --> 00:43:36.720

Nia Rodgers: No and and it will be interesting, that will be interesting to see in a couple of yours if it, if it has a down ballot effect after she's ruled a few times.

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00:43:36.780 --> 00:43:38.400

Nia Rodgers: Well, yeah. What I mean like there may

385

00:43:38.400 --> 00:43:44.430

John Aughenbaugh: Be true, but according to the exit poll so far. Okay, if anything, the

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00:43:45.720 --> 00:43:57.030

John Aughenbaugh: Trump nominating you Amy coney BARRETT AND THE SENATE ACTUALLY voting on her mobilize Republican voters to actually turn out and vote for Trump.

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00:43:57.810 --> 00:43:59.880

John Aughenbaugh: Oh, that's the remarkable thing.

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00:44:00.390 --> 00:44:02.910

Nia Rodgers: So mobilize Democrats to vote again like

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00:44:02.940 --> 00:44:09.480

John Aughenbaugh: More okay but nevertheless, okay, you know, in an election where turnout was so important.

390

00:44:11.250 --> 00:44:12.510  
John Aughenbaugh: Um but anyways.

391  
00:44:12.570 --> 00:44:14.010  
John Aughenbaugh: Now, what, what, and then

392  
00:44:14.340 --> 00:44:16.860  
Nia Rodgers: Oh wait, I want to follow up on that real quick.

393  
00:44:16.980 --> 00:44:20.130  
Nia Rodgers: Yeah, Republicans didn't get more turnout.

394  
00:44:21.210 --> 00:44:34.530  
Nia Rodgers: So that's something they need to navel gaze, about one of the things that Republicans need to to navel gaze about is how is it that we, we, how can we raise the turnout on on the Republican side.

395  
00:44:34.770 --> 00:44:35.430  
Nia Rodgers: Well, yes.

396  
00:44:35.670 --> 00:44:41.460  
John Aughenbaugh: But but but Nia, then you're going for. Now you're moving into a discussion of

397  
00:44:44.250 --> 00:44:46.260  
John Aughenbaugh: Kind of sort of overall

398  
00:44:47.370 --> 00:44:49.650  
John Aughenbaugh: takeaway from this election. Okay.

399  
00:44:50.010 --> 00:44:51.360  
John Aughenbaugh: Right, and that is

400

00:44:53.820 --> 00:44:56.070

John Aughenbaugh: If you look at the two political parties today.

401

00:44:57.090 --> 00:44:59.610

John Aughenbaugh: The Republican Party has, if you will.

402

00:45:01.320 --> 00:45:04.890

John Aughenbaugh: To negative variables one

403

00:45:07.110 --> 00:45:11.730

John Aughenbaugh: They are the party of Trump now they are the party of drone. Okay.

404

00:45:12.510 --> 00:45:16.710

Nia Rodgers: And we never going to be Democrats are going to be running against Trump for years.

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00:45:16.740 --> 00:45:18.420

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, we know that

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00:45:19.980 --> 00:45:20.730

John Aughenbaugh: At least

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00:45:21.870 --> 00:45:30.990

John Aughenbaugh: 47 to 48% of the country who votes. Okay, will vote against them simply because it's the party of Trump

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00:45:32.580 --> 00:45:51.690

John Aughenbaugh: So the number of undecided voters that the Republican party could attempt to capture persuade okay to vote for them in a given election is narrow dramatically. The second negative variable for the Republican Party is if you look at who's affiliated with the Republican Party.

409

00:45:53.190 --> 00:45:54.120  
John Aughenbaugh: Over the last

410  
00:45:55.200 --> 00:45:56.700  
John Aughenbaugh: Three presidential elections.

411  
00:45:57.930 --> 00:46:03.300  
John Aughenbaugh: It is white males older

412  
00:46:04.410 --> 00:46:13.890  
John Aughenbaugh: Religious. Okay. And those are all populations. Okay, that don't have room for growth.

413  
00:46:15.300 --> 00:46:28.710  
John Aughenbaugh: They just don't. The number of Americans who are religious okay is less than 50% of the country. According to public opinion polls for the first time since we've been taking public opinion polls right

414  
00:46:29.910 --> 00:46:34.380  
John Aughenbaugh: Older white males. We know this and I'm not being morbid they die.

415  
00:46:35.130 --> 00:46:35.760  
John Aughenbaugh: Right, okay.

416  
00:46:36.870 --> 00:46:53.940  
John Aughenbaugh: They are closer to death than they are to having a long, if you will, in life. Okay. And by the way, older white males. Okay, um, their life expectancy is getting closer to the life expectancy of older males of color.

417  
00:46:55.860 --> 00:46:57.240  
Nia Rodgers: Really it's dropping

418  
00:46:57.330 --> 00:47:00.060

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, it has been dropping. OK.

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00:47:01.170 --> 00:47:01.650

John Aughenbaugh: So,

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00:47:01.800 --> 00:47:09.570

Nia Rodgers: The righteous, by the way, not a good thing. We don't want anybody's life expectancy to be dropping, we would like everybody's life expectancy to be getting better.

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00:47:10.170 --> 00:47:10.680

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

422

00:47:11.370 --> 00:47:16.380

Nia Rodgers: So we don't want. We don't wish that on any of our listeners or any of our folks in general.

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00:47:16.830 --> 00:47:21.750

John Aughenbaugh: On the other hand, the Democratic Party has this huge positive

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00:47:23.250 --> 00:47:26.580

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, it has a huge demographic advantage.

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00:47:26.820 --> 00:47:32.370

John Aughenbaugh: Right. Yes. Okay. Youth people of color. Okay. Okay.

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00:47:33.690 --> 00:47:43.500

John Aughenbaugh: However, okay, we see it already with who voted for Democrats. Okay. And who voted for republicans

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00:47:44.880 --> 00:47:56.310

John Aughenbaugh: The Democratic Party has a problem with minorities, because they appear to be lumping all the minorities together and assume that minorities all want the same thing.

428

00:47:58.080 --> 00:48:12.210

John Aughenbaugh: And quite clearly a whole bunch of them. Not a whole bunch, but a you know a statistically significant, you know, a minority percentage of minority voters were willing to vote for Trump.

429

00:48:12.840 --> 00:48:21.480

John Aughenbaugh: Right and other Republicans who never repudiated any of trumps behavior that's a problem for the Democratic Party.

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00:48:21.930 --> 00:48:22.320

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

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00:48:23.100 --> 00:48:24.060

John Aughenbaugh: The other is

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00:48:24.210 --> 00:48:29.850

Nia Rodgers: Well, the progressive side of the Democratic Party scares the snot out of those people

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00:48:30.540 --> 00:48:36.390

Nia Rodgers: Yes, because they feel like they're getting dragged way more left than they are interested in being

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00:48:37.170 --> 00:48:45.870

John Aughenbaugh: Yes. And that points to the second, if you will, negative that the Democratic Party is going to have to struggle with over the next 246 years. Okay.

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00:48:46.380 --> 00:49:00.450

John Aughenbaugh: And that is, unless the Democratic Party wants to basically write off lower middle class voters. Okay, no matter the race of those voters their policies need to change.

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00:49:01.080 --> 00:49:15.510

John Aughenbaugh: Okay. Um, and, you know, the most stark example of this is what public opinion polls were saying before the election and what exit polling of voters said on Tuesday, and that is this

437

00:49:15.960 --> 00:49:24.780

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, the percentage of whites, blacks and Latinos okay want the same amount or more police presence in their neighborhoods.

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00:49:26.910 --> 00:49:37.710

John Aughenbaugh: So defending the police. Okay, as a policy platform won't get the Democratic Party anywhere if they want to go ahead and actually win elections.

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00:49:37.980 --> 00:49:38.280

Right.

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00:49:40.380 --> 00:49:41.580

John Aughenbaugh: If they want to win elections.

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00:49:41.910 --> 00:50:00.030

Nia Rodgers: Okay, well that that what we're, I think. And you, I feel certain will correct me if I'm wrong, which is great. I think that we're starting to see what happens in Europe, where there are parties that are breaking off that are going to be

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00:50:01.650 --> 00:50:16.410

Nia Rodgers: I think a Green Party will get stronger. I think other parties will get stronger as the democrats say to the really super progressive wing of themselves. The Uber left like y'all are two left. You need to go make your own party because

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00:50:17.670 --> 00:50:22.950

Nia Rodgers: We can't be tied to that because we can't win with that, like, the thing is,

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00:50:23.100 --> 00:50:24.570

Nia Rodgers: Americans are

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00:50:24.990 --> 00:50:35.940

Nia Rodgers: Moderate like most Americans are moderate there in the middle. They're just sort of like yeah tapioca pudding is fine, it's not great but it's not terrible.

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00:50:36.060 --> 00:50:37.290

Nia Rodgers: It's just fine.

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00:50:37.440 --> 00:50:39.060

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, I'm leaving left

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00:50:39.810 --> 00:50:45.450

John Aughenbaugh: Some lean right but notice their feet is closer to the middle.

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00:50:45.510 --> 00:50:51.450

Nia Rodgers: Right, right. All they're doing is leaning, they're not actually taking a step to the left or a step to the right.

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00:50:51.480 --> 00:50:56.520

Nia Rodgers: Way. Okay, so these people who think I'm at the edge of my party either party.

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00:50:57.300 --> 00:51:12.240

Nia Rodgers: And I'm going to drag the party in those directions, you can, but what you're going to do is destroy the party, because who whoever comes along with moderate and builds a moderate party that's going to be the party that starts taking elections.

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00:51:12.330 --> 00:51:12.540

Nia Rodgers: And

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00:51:12.990 --> 00:51:16.770

Nia Rodgers: That's gonna be my new party. That's it. I just decided, I'm declaring a party.

454



00:51:17.430 --> 00:51:17.580

And

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00:51:18.900 --> 00:51:20.880

Nia Rodgers: I'm going to call us the middle

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00:51:21.900 --> 00:51:28.350

John Aughenbaugh: To your point, Mia. There are already press accounts of a very

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00:51:29.550 --> 00:51:44.760

John Aughenbaugh: Unpleasant awkward okay meeting that Nancy Pelosi had with Democrats who won their House of Representative elections that they had yesterday. Okay.

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00:51:46.020 --> 00:52:11.490

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, where the moderates in the Democratic Party okay were shouting at the progressions in the party you know you all you know you know policy proposals hurt days, you know, we lost seats okay in districts that either voted for Trump in 2016 okay orange.

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00:52:12.810 --> 00:52:21.720

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, we were able to go ahead and pick them off because they were moderates okay but they ended up losing this week.

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00:52:22.530 --> 00:52:30.360

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, and we want to grow the party. Okay, we need to go ahead and find, if you will, policies.

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00:52:31.350 --> 00:52:49.320

John Aughenbaugh: That both progressives and moderates in the party can get behind because right now what you are basically hanging around our necks light weights. Okay. Are these progressive proposals okay that allow our opponents to basically go ahead and say they're Socialists.

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00:52:49.950 --> 00:52:50.340

Nia Rodgers: Right.

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00:52:51.150 --> 00:52:57.960

John Aughenbaugh: And what gets you nowhere historically in United States if you want to win elections is to go ahead and say you were socialist

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00:52:59.910 --> 00:53:05.610

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, that doesn't did that's, I don't think anybody's one doing that, except Bernie Sanders.

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00:53:05.940 --> 00:53:08.550

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, right. Okay. He's the only one in

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00:53:09.000 --> 00:53:12.810

John Aughenbaugh: hinders packages with the Democratic Party in the Senate. So, I mean,

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00:53:12.810 --> 00:53:15.630

Nia Rodgers: Yellow and Bernie Sanders is from Vermont.

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00:53:15.780 --> 00:53:19.260

Nia Rodgers: Yes, right. Like, that's not going to play in

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00:53:19.470 --> 00:53:23.040

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, that's not going to play in any of the flyover states.

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00:53:23.280 --> 00:53:24.210

John Aughenbaugh: Oh my goodness, no.

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00:53:24.450 --> 00:53:26.610

Nia Rodgers: Right, no state that has an edge.

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00:53:27.240 --> 00:53:29.130

Nia Rodgers: Right, that's in any way square

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00:53:30.090 --> 00:53:45.150

Nia Rodgers: You're going to find that acceptable if your, if your state has an edge, you're not, that's not your thing. And the other thing, too. I wanted to ask you about was so it seems to me that both parties are struggling with bench.

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00:53:45.900 --> 00:53:46.680

Nia Rodgers: Bench depth.

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00:53:47.190 --> 00:53:49.800

Nia Rodgers: Right, like, who the heck comes next.

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00:53:50.880 --> 00:53:51.210

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah.

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00:53:51.240 --> 00:53:55.680

Nia Rodgers: That seems to be a real problem, not just for one side or the other but like for both sides.

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00:53:55.710 --> 00:54:12.390

John Aughenbaugh: Because in the Republican Party unless you basically go ahead and swear an oath a David that you support Donald Trump. Okay, you're not going to win a primary, you're not going to win a primary so I mean your bench strength is basically trippers

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00:54:13.710 --> 00:54:27.810

John Aughenbaugh: Okay. And again, you just talked about how socialist socialist policies. Policies okay don't resonate in the flyover States and United States. Okay, thank you. If you're a trooper okay on the coasts.

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00:54:28.800 --> 00:54:29.550

Nia Rodgers: Oh yeah, no.

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00:54:29.610 --> 00:54:30.600

John Aughenbaugh: You're not going to win.

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00:54:30.780 --> 00:54:32.700

John Aughenbaugh: Now, you're not gonna win.

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00:54:32.790 --> 00:54:36.540

Nia Rodgers: You're not gonna even you may not even get invited to the debate.

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00:54:36.690 --> 00:54:39.870

Nia Rodgers: Yes. I mean, it's that it's bad, it's that bad.

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00:54:40.140 --> 00:54:51.240

John Aughenbaugh: On the other hand, typically bench strength. Okay, the next wave of, if you will, national government elected officials come from the states.

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00:54:52.200 --> 00:55:06.390

John Aughenbaugh: And the Democratic Party though they've made gains in the States are still in the minority in most states in this country in regards to control state legislatures and governorships

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00:55:06.720 --> 00:55:11.940

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, they're way behind the democrats are way behind and the Republicans have been playing the long game on that.

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00:55:12.210 --> 00:55:13.830

John Aughenbaugh: And you talked about

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00:55:13.860 --> 00:55:16.590

Nia Rodgers: Although the republicans don't have a huge bench.

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00:55:16.890 --> 00:55:25.950

Nia Rodgers: Well all their long game Trump came along and said, What's this game thing mango, mango, mango, mango toss but but again Nia. Okay.

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00:55:26.340 --> 00:55:32.670

John Aughenbaugh: We're talking about two different if you will feed her systems in regards to bench strength. Okay.

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00:55:32.910 --> 00:55:34.650

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, here's a lease right now.

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00:55:35.160 --> 00:55:39.600

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, the Democratic Party has a huge problem at the state level.

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00:55:40.170 --> 00:55:40.500

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

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00:55:40.860 --> 00:55:50.010

John Aughenbaugh: A huge problem at the state level and you talk about one of the most immediate consequences of the fact that Democrats. There was not a Blue Wave.

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00:55:51.780 --> 00:55:55.380

John Aughenbaugh: At the state level and that is next year.

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00:55:57.900 --> 00:56:03.780

John Aughenbaugh: What what important, if you will, legislative process begins.

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00:56:04.530 --> 00:56:09.390

Nia Rodgers: Well, I know that it's called redistricting, but in my world, it's just called gerrymandering

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00:56:09.780 --> 00:56:12.000

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, okay. But again, okay.

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00:56:12.180 --> 00:56:17.400

Nia Rodgers: redistricting off of the census is going to be huge. And that's a huge problem for the Democrats.

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00:56:17.640 --> 00:56:18.720

Nia Rodgers: Going forward, because

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00:56:18.720 --> 00:56:20.700

Nia Rodgers: They don't have enough strength in the states to

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00:56:21.180 --> 00:56:22.230

Nia Rodgers: Okay head off.

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00:56:22.620 --> 00:56:24.480

Nia Rodgers: Some pretty serious distracting.

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00:56:24.840 --> 00:56:26.910

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, so after this election.

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00:56:28.050 --> 00:56:46.380

John Aughenbaugh: And our state, the Commonwealth of Virginia deciding to go with a quote unquote non partisan Redistricting Commission right now there are 10 states where redistricting is not in the hands of the state legislature and or the governor

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00:56:47.580 --> 00:56:56.520

John Aughenbaugh: So that means 40 out of 50 states okay redistricting is done primarily by state legislatures.

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00:56:57.690 --> 00:57:07.260

John Aughenbaugh: Across the country, okay. Republicans have control of both houses of the state legislature in 26 states.

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00:57:08.100 --> 00:57:09.960

Nia Rodgers: It says after this election.

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00:57:10.050 --> 00:57:11.040

John Aughenbaugh: After this election.

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00:57:11.100 --> 00:57:28.860

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, okay. In fact, Republicans actually picked up a state, New Hampshire. Okay. New Hampshire state legislature and the governor are controlled by the Republican Party. Now they don't do a lot of redistricting there because new again sir. It's a small state.

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00:57:28.860 --> 00:57:30.690

Nia Rodgers: But I was gonna say there's like

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00:57:30.720 --> 00:57:33.330

Nia Rodgers: 20 people, they're not going to read district in New Hampshire.

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00:57:33.360 --> 00:57:36.480

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, the studies that I've seen is that

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00:57:37.800 --> 00:57:56.040

John Aughenbaugh: States controlled by the Republican Party in regards to the state legislature and the governor. Okay, there are 177 congressional districts. Okay, that they will get to affect with whatever redistricting plan they come up with

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00:57:57.180 --> 00:58:03.030

John Aughenbaugh: States controlled by Democrats. It's like 130 to 135

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00:58:04.560 --> 00:58:06.510

John Aughenbaugh: I'm just saying okay

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00:58:06.750 --> 00:58:10.290

Nia Rodgers: So what you're telling me is, there's about three 300 lawsuits.

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00:58:11.430 --> 00:58:13.200

Nia Rodgers: Filed about district thing.

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00:58:14.520 --> 00:58:25.050

John Aughenbaugh: But again, remember because of a Supreme Court ruling two years ago. Okay. Federal courts won't look at partisan gerrymandering cases.

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00:58:25.470 --> 00:58:41.130

John Aughenbaugh: They will only look at racial ones. Okay, so unless state courts are willing to wait into this. Okay. A lot of partners in gerrymandering will continue throughout the decade of the 2020s.

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00:58:41.700 --> 00:58:49.440

Nia Rodgers: But in fairness to that. That's been the case for years and years and years and years and years.

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00:58:49.620 --> 00:58:51.420

Nia Rodgers: Whoever is in charge.

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00:58:51.510 --> 00:58:53.430

Nia Rodgers: Yes, Jerry managers, the

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00:58:53.610 --> 00:58:55.470

John Aughenbaugh: district's yeah i mean

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00:58:56.130 --> 00:58:59.190

John Aughenbaugh: I mean we we talked about this in regards to Virginia

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00:58:59.520 --> 00:59:00.780

Nia Rodgers: All sides are equally.



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00:59:00.780 --> 00:59:02.520

John Aughenbaugh: Criminal, yes. Yeah, right.

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00:59:02.700 --> 00:59:03.960

Nia Rodgers: In this behavior.

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00:59:03.990 --> 00:59:22.410

John Aughenbaugh: You know, the Democratic Party in Virginia. After reconstruction okay gerrymandered state and congressional districts state legislative and congressional districts for well over a century. Yeah, then the Republican Party went ahead and did it for a couple of decades.

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00:59:23.940 --> 00:59:25.860

Nia Rodgers: So yeah, that's a thing.

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00:59:26.280 --> 00:59:36.510

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, okay. Um, but, but, by the way. Okay. Um, you're not seeing any significant changes at the state level, simply because okay

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00:59:36.990 --> 00:59:51.480

John Aughenbaugh: Um, there wasn't a huge shift one way or the other. Okay. States controlled by the Democratic Party okay will do their thing states controlled by the Republican Party will do their thing. Okay.

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00:59:52.710 --> 01:00:03.300

John Aughenbaugh: By the way, in regards to state ballot referendums and initiatives another handful of states decriminalized marijuana

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01:00:03.570 --> 01:00:05.370

John Aughenbaugh: Okay. Yes, they did.

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01:00:05.400 --> 01:00:07.680

Nia Rodgers: So are we more than half now.

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01:00:08.460 --> 01:00:28.050

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, if you combine America medicinal use of marijuana and or making it legal or decriminalizing the punishment okay um well over a majority in the States make it easier. Okay.

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01:00:28.080 --> 01:00:29.880

Nia Rodgers: Make it nice good question about that.

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01:00:29.940 --> 01:00:43.050

Nia Rodgers: Yeah. Um, so at some point will the federal government be forced to follow. Do you think like right cuz this point it's silly legal is a federal crime, is it not.

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01:00:43.500 --> 01:00:46.200

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, it's still a

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01:00:46.290 --> 01:00:47.970

Nia Rodgers: Hence why people who

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01:00:48.330 --> 01:00:54.630

Nia Rodgers: Who want to start those farms in various states can't get loans from federal government. I mean, from federal banks and

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01:00:55.110 --> 01:00:57.870

Nia Rodgers: Blah, blah, blah, because there's all this other stuff so

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01:00:59.310 --> 01:01:09.810

Nia Rodgers: Is there a precedent for that for policy sort of following the states of Oh no. Whole bunch of us made something legal so y'all need to just fix it at the federal level. Yeah.

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01:01:09.840 --> 01:01:15.390

John Aughenbaugh: Good example that is welfare reform that occurred in the mid 90s during the Clinton administration.

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01:01:17.940 --> 01:01:27.030

John Aughenbaugh: A couple states most prominently Wisconsin got permission by the feds to reform their welfare system and

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01:01:28.290 --> 01:01:40.140

John Aughenbaugh: It appeared to work. So that's how you get welfare reform at the federal level. Yeah, I mean states are the laboratories of democracy. I mean, that's one of the justifications for federalism. Yeah.

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01:01:40.590 --> 01:01:41.700

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, okay.

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01:01:42.000 --> 01:01:44.730

Nia Rodgers: we're likely to see at some point, a shin, okay.

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01:01:45.330 --> 01:01:47.160

John Aughenbaugh: Um, by the way.

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01:01:48.540 --> 01:01:55.320

John Aughenbaugh: Since we're kind of sort of coming close to ending the podcast episode. There are a few other things I want to go ahead and point out

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01:01:57.540 --> 01:01:58.200

John Aughenbaugh: And and

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01:02:00.570 --> 01:02:10.650

John Aughenbaugh: And if they appear to be drive bys. I apologize. And we can probably go ahead and explore some of these in greater depth and future podcast episodes.

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01:02:11.670 --> 01:02:22.920

John Aughenbaugh: But these are kind of, sort of, you know, all these random thoughts about the elections as I've been going out on my, you know, daily runs. Okay, so please forgive me. First of all,

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01:02:23.370 --> 01:02:30.000

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, we've already talked about how both political parties need to do some soul searching for the rest of the decade.

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01:02:31.410 --> 01:02:32.160

John Aughenbaugh: pollsters

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01:02:33.540 --> 01:02:34.110

John Aughenbaugh: Wow.

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01:02:35.220 --> 01:02:37.980

John Aughenbaugh: The day to day look bad.

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01:02:39.630 --> 01:02:46.740

John Aughenbaugh: We are talking now about two consecutive presidential elections, where the pollsters

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01:02:47.760 --> 01:03:04.050

John Aughenbaugh: Were off. I mean, they were off. Okay. Um, now as me and I've discussed in particular Nia let's let's be very clear human behavior is nearly impossible to forecast. Okay.

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01:03:04.980 --> 01:03:16.980

John Aughenbaugh: And remember polls give us probability of human behavior. So do people change their mind when they go to vote yes okay to

562

01:03:17.340 --> 01:03:18.390

Nia Rodgers: lie about voting.

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01:03:18.660 --> 01:03:31.830

John Aughenbaugh: Yes, and that's another that's the other part. Okay. Um, there are people who lie when they fill out surveys or answer following questions.

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01:03:32.340 --> 01:03:44.040

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, and they do it for various reasons. Okay. The other thing here is the media does a poor job reporting poll results. And as my colleague Amanda winter sec

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01:03:44.880 --> 01:04:06.870

John Aughenbaugh: You know, points out most polls have what's known as a competence interval the infamous plus minus. Okay. MANY POLLS okay suggested that by was easily in the lead, and the number of states, but their plus minus was like 5% or 7% or in some cases 9%

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01:04:08.400 --> 01:04:31.980

John Aughenbaugh: A good rule of thumb, folks, is any poll that has a plus minus of greater than 3% you should probably not have very much confidence in the results because think about it. If a poll says that buying is up 52 to 47 but the plus minus 7%

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01:04:33.090 --> 01:04:36.090

John Aughenbaugh: Well, Trump could win the state.

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01:04:36.810 --> 01:04:38.040

John Aughenbaugh: Easily easily

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01:04:38.310 --> 01:04:39.930

John Aughenbaugh: Right, very easily.

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01:04:40.710 --> 01:04:43.260

Nia Rodgers: They don't explain those polls very well.

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01:04:43.320 --> 01:04:43.650

John Aughenbaugh: When they

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01:04:43.830 --> 01:04:44.730

Nia Rodgers: When they talk about

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01:04:45.990 --> 01:04:58.740

John Aughenbaugh: The media. Okay. Now, in my estimation doesn't look all that good, but okay um and I hate to jump on the media bias bandwagon. Okay.

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01:04:59.250 --> 01:05:20.070

John Aughenbaugh: But it's getting to a point to where both sides of the ideological spectrum frequently use the media as a punch line to jokes. Okay, it is getting to the point to where I'm just going to sort of like, huh, okay. Um, and, in particular,

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01:05:21.300 --> 01:05:31.320

John Aughenbaugh: I think the media needs to figure out how they are going to cover outsiders, they do a tear. They did a terrible job covering Trump

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01:05:31.950 --> 01:05:48.630

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, and a lot of different ways. I think the media also did a very does a very terrible job covering the extreme wings of both political parties, the character chairs for instance of the progressive in the Democratic Party okay or shameful.

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01:05:49.830 --> 01:06:03.000

John Aughenbaugh: I mean, that's just one example. That's just one example. Right. So the media needs to go ahead and get better, and in particular the media okay should actually

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01:06:04.500 --> 01:06:15.900

John Aughenbaugh: Not give Americans what so many Americans wanted on election night, which was calling states immediately for one candidate or the other.

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01:06:16.680 --> 01:06:30.660

John Aughenbaugh: And it was really egregious I think on Tuesday night, how quickly the media called states were buying but then they would slow walk, how quickly they would call states that, quite honestly, we're going to go for Trump. Okay.

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01:06:30.900 --> 01:06:40.470

John Aughenbaugh: Right before it was noticeable. Okay. And it leads to one side or the other, saying, say the media's bias.

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01:06:40.950 --> 01:06:47.670

John Aughenbaugh: Right, if you guys if the if the folks in the media. Okay. Want to get out of this.

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01:06:48.720 --> 01:06:59.010

John Aughenbaugh: Constant Battle of, you know, is the media biased. Oh, no, we're not. Well, then do a better job do a better job.

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01:06:59.610 --> 01:07:01.650

Nia Rodgers: Okay. Can I say something about that.

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01:07:01.800 --> 01:07:09.420

Nia Rodgers: Yes, so the night of the election. I'm watching online because I don't own a TV.

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01:07:11.220 --> 01:07:11.730

John Aughenbaugh: Or you

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01:07:12.210 --> 01:07:19.020

Nia Rodgers: Well, if I own a TV and I stay up way too late. Watching Stephen and I buy things in the middle of the night and that never ends well.

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01:07:20.880 --> 01:07:30.480

Nia Rodgers: You should not buy anything from anybody who's selling you something at 2:30am because you're not making good decisions and they're lying about whatever it is but

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01:07:30.870 --> 01:07:34.860

John Aughenbaugh: By the way, near the number of times I've said that to my mother and my grandmother

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01:07:36.060 --> 01:07:37.050

Nia Rodgers: I'm just saying.

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01:07:37.890 --> 01:07:40.980

Nia Rodgers: It's great to watch the infomercials. But don't buy anything

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01:07:42.780 --> 01:07:43.350

Nia Rodgers: But

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01:07:43.530 --> 01:07:52.590

Nia Rodgers: What I noticed was that the place where I was getting the best information was the AP

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01:07:53.580 --> 01:07:54.990

Nia Rodgers: Right. The Associated Press.

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01:07:55.290 --> 01:08:04.260

Nia Rodgers: And the reason for that is because the AP would explain why they call the state like they had a big long paragraph under each one

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01:08:04.560 --> 01:08:16.860

Nia Rodgers: Why we called it this way so that you could follow their methodology and I would put two people that that is what you should. That's the judgment, you should use about any media when any person.

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01:08:17.460 --> 01:08:28.200

Nia Rodgers: That you see on TV says anything you should yell at your TV or you should pick up your phone and call them and yell cite your source right what

597

01:08:29.340 --> 01:08:41.760



Nia Rodgers: Why are you saying that that's the thing. It's like this argument about vote voter fraud, show me where there's extensive voter fraud. Can you show me two or three and a million voting yes

598

01:08:42.270 --> 01:08:50.310

Nia Rodgers: And I'm going to say that that is statistically non existent. Show me where it's hundreds of thousands of votes that have been miscast

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01:08:50.700 --> 01:09:04.830

Nia Rodgers: If that is the case, or that have been thrown away or burned or whatever. If that's the case, show me and I will believe you, but we we seem to be having this problem where we're just taking the word of people because we like what they're saying.

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01:09:05.280 --> 01:09:06.900

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, and and I'm

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01:09:07.110 --> 01:09:09.300

Nia Rodgers: That is a terrible way.

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01:09:09.630 --> 01:09:13.140

Nia Rodgers: For you to pick who to believe on any topic.

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01:09:13.500 --> 01:09:24.240

John Aughenbaugh: And that's why in your comments right there Nia are not only applicable to the media, but also Americans, but they're also applicable to for instance.

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01:09:25.260 --> 01:09:40.560

John Aughenbaugh: You know, the, the president, claiming that there is voter fraud. Okay, merely saying that because a state once had you up. But now, as they continue to count votes.

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01:09:42.090 --> 01:09:51.600

John Aughenbaugh: And they're following state law and state regulations and you don't like the outcome. Well that's voter fraud. Okay. Well, that is fully unpersuasive

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01:09:52.080 --> 01:10:03.690

John Aughenbaugh: Okay, what is your source. Okay, okay, what is the behavior. What is the observed behavior. Okay. That leads to that conclusion.

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01:10:04.350 --> 01:10:17.490

John Aughenbaugh: And that's my next if you will point okay I'm the President looks bad here. Okay. The President looks bad. And even if he wins, I would still go ahead and offer this criticism.

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01:10:18.300 --> 01:10:31.140

John Aughenbaugh: Just because you don't like the outcome. I mean this so much reminds me of so many conversations I've had with my daughter. Okay, just because you don't like the outcome, doesn't mean that I'm being mean.

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01:10:31.950 --> 01:10:39.090

John Aughenbaugh: Right, just because you don't like the outcome, doesn't mean that voter fraud occurred. Okay, you know what I mean me

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01:10:39.750 --> 01:10:54.990

John Aughenbaugh: Is that a whole bunch of state officials took their job seriously. They took their time they got it right in. Oh, yeah. By the way, guess what, Mr President, you lost that state. Get over it. Get over it. Okay.

611

01:10:56.430 --> 01:11:16.620

John Aughenbaugh: You know, Allison looks bad, and you just kind of sort of briefly touched upon it. The United States Postal Service as of this morning, the United States Postal Service has acknowledged that over 150,000 mail ballots never got delivered to local or state voting officials.

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01:11:17.250 --> 01:11:17.940

Nia Rodgers: Where are they

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01:11:19.050 --> 01:11:23.130

John Aughenbaugh: In various post offices and post office.

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01:11:28.590 --> 01:11:30.660

John Aughenbaugh: Warehouse facilities. Yes.

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01:11:31.800 --> 01:11:33.540

Nia Rodgers: They're going to get delivered right

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01:11:33.690 --> 01:11:45.510

John Aughenbaugh: They will get delivered. But nevertheless, if you don't want to go ahead and be part of some sort of grand conspiracy discussion then do your job.

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01:11:46.350 --> 01:11:46.710

Nia Rodgers: Right.

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01:11:47.070 --> 01:11:49.980

John Aughenbaugh: Your job is to go ahead and deliver the mail.

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01:11:50.130 --> 01:11:51.390

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, you should do that.

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01:11:52.290 --> 01:11:57.150

Nia Rodgers: If you're the post office, you should deliver the mail, because, pretty much. That's what it says on the tin.

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01:11:58.740 --> 01:11:59.130

Nia Rodgers: Right.

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01:12:00.420 --> 01:12:01.590

Nia Rodgers: Like when you pick up

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01:12:01.680 --> 01:12:05.310

Nia Rodgers: A can of spam, you shouldn't expect for it to be.

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01:12:05.790 --> 01:12:06.420

Nia Rodgers: A container.

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01:12:07.710 --> 01:12:10.380

Nia Rodgers: It's a can of spam. It's not, you know,

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01:12:10.500 --> 01:12:13.080

John Aughenbaugh: It's no beluga caviar.

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01:12:13.140 --> 01:12:13.440

John Aughenbaugh: Right.

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01:12:14.430 --> 01:12:18.360

Nia Rodgers: It is what it is on the 10 and if you're the US Postal Service.

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01:12:19.650 --> 01:12:23.160

Nia Rodgers: Do you should post stuff, which means you should mail thing. Okay.

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01:12:23.580 --> 01:12:26.190

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah but me. Yes.

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01:12:26.790 --> 01:12:34.980

Nia Rodgers: I think the. The other thing that we have to that that I've been thinking about a lot is

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01:12:38.880 --> 01:12:41.220

Nia Rodgers: Americans are so

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01:12:42.510 --> 01:12:45.060

Nia Rodgers: Anxious to assume

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01:12:47.790 --> 01:13:04.320

Nia Rodgers: Americans broadly are so anxious to assume that there is a conspiracy that there's that there's lying, that there's cheating, right, and that's just, there's just no evidence for that being long term like being widespread.

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01:13:05.880 --> 01:13:06.510

John Aughenbaugh: You're correct.

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01:13:06.780 --> 01:13:07.200

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, okay.

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01:13:08.010 --> 01:13:12.000

Nia Rodgers: You know, but we have this weird thing where we like to believe

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01:13:13.290 --> 01:13:16.830

Nia Rodgers: I'm going to say it, pardon my language crazy stuff.

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01:13:17.220 --> 01:13:21.300

Nia Rodgers: Yes. And we just need to say no people

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01:13:22.470 --> 01:13:35.790

Nia Rodgers: Okay, the post office looks bad. And yeah 150,000 ballots not delivered is terrible, but I doubt that that was a conspiracy of people saying, I'm going to put these over here in the warehouse and not deliver them because I'm hoping to jack with the election.

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01:13:36.960 --> 01:13:39.300

Nia Rodgers: Do what I mean like, I don't think that that's

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01:13:39.450 --> 01:13:40.020

Nia Rodgers: No.

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01:13:40.350 --> 01:13:42.630  
Nia Rodgers: It don't think that's likely

644  
01:13:42.870 --> 01:13:50.460  
John Aughenbaugh: No, I agree with you now. You know what I think may have happened in many post offices across the country.

645  
01:13:51.660 --> 01:13:58.050  
John Aughenbaugh: They just didn't have the capacity to go ahead and deal with the increased volume.

646  
01:13:59.580 --> 01:14:03.420  
John Aughenbaugh: But that's a that's your standard bureaucratic problem.

647  
01:14:03.900 --> 01:14:10.350  
John Aughenbaugh: Right. It doesn't necessarily happen because there are a bunch of postal workers who are like hey let's screw with the election.

648  
01:14:10.890 --> 01:14:20.820  
John Aughenbaugh: Okay, or I just picked up a whole bunch of balance from this post office box in this neighborhood that I think is either liberal or conservative

649  
01:14:21.300 --> 01:14:41.670  
John Aughenbaugh: And let's make sure they don't get delivered because then that means my candidate me when no okay you know what happened all bunch of post offices where I was like, Oh my goodness. We just got thousands of pieces of mail. It's not Christmas. What do we do with all of this.

650  
01:14:42.510 --> 01:14:45.240  
Nia Rodgers: Kick him in a box and put them over there, we'll get to them in a little while.

651  
01:14:45.330 --> 01:14:46.290  
John Aughenbaugh: Yes, right.

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01:14:46.560 --> 01:14:47.490

Nia Rodgers: That's what happened.

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01:14:47.580 --> 01:14:51.480

John Aughenbaugh: That that what that yeah that's what happens. Right. Okay.

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01:14:51.990 --> 01:14:55.560

Nia Rodgers: You know, and then somebody on Wednesday morning, oh crap.

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01:14:55.980 --> 01:14:56.520

Yes.

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01:14:58.530 --> 01:14:58.920

John Aughenbaugh: Actually

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01:14:59.700 --> 01:15:01.530

John Aughenbaugh: He said, Oh, crap.

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01:15:02.010 --> 01:15:06.450

Nia Rodgers: Right. Any better, we better call somebody and tell them we got some balance over here.

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01:15:07.890 --> 01:15:08.370

John Aughenbaugh: Okay.

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01:15:09.720 --> 01:15:15.810

John Aughenbaugh: Hey we got an extra truck. They can go ahead and deliver this to you know the state, you know, booty registered

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01:15:16.740 --> 01:15:20.760

Nia Rodgers: Thing is, if and I'm assuming they were spread out over multiple yeah

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01:15:20.910 --> 01:15:21.750

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, that's

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01:15:21.930 --> 01:15:25.500

Nia Rodgers: Probably what happened is they didn't get postmarked in time.

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01:15:25.830 --> 01:15:28.980

Nia Rodgers: Yes, because a lot of states they had to be postmarked by

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01:15:29.310 --> 01:15:39.150

Nia Rodgers: Cerner weren't so if you found them Wednesday morning, you're like, well, we can't retroactively postmark them. However, they were here before then. But we can't

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01:15:39.150 --> 01:15:49.560

Nia Rodgers: Prove it. So now we have this whole question of, well, if you can't prove it, then how do we know that they were there ahead of time, and blah, blah, blah, blah. Yeah, that's going to be tough. I mean, he was going to

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01:15:50.130 --> 01:15:58.770

Nia Rodgers: That that decision is going to be tough about whether you count them or don't count them. I imagine that will end up in court. Oh, shocking. Another thing to sue about

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01:15:59.040 --> 01:16:02.580

Nia Rodgers: Yes. You know who's going to make a lot of money off of this election.

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01:16:02.850 --> 01:16:03.540

Lawyers

670

01:16:07.320 --> 01:16:10.080

Nia Rodgers: If I had gone to law school for election law.

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01:16:10.710 --> 01:16:14.340



Nia Rodgers: Right now I could be making a killing. I'm just saying.

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01:16:15.780 --> 01:16:18.150

John Aughenbaugh: To conclude our podcast Nia

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01:16:19.530 --> 01:16:29.700

John Aughenbaugh: To that point. The last thing that my mom said to me as I spoke with her on Saturday. Okay, was, you know, son. I'm proud of you, but

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01:16:30.900 --> 01:16:33.120

John Aughenbaugh: He probably should have went and got your law degree.

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01:16:38.190 --> 01:16:39.390

Nia Rodgers: Okay. Thanks, Mom.

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01:16:40.650 --> 01:16:44.130

Nia Rodgers: All those years in the classroom wasted. You should have gotten your law degree.

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01:16:44.670 --> 01:16:52.140

John Aughenbaugh: She goes, just think about how much money you would you would be making every time we have elections. I'm like,

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01:16:52.650 --> 01:17:00.630

John Aughenbaugh: You know, mom, kind of sort of happy being a college teacher. She goes, Oh, no, no, no, don't, don't get me wrong, I'm proud of you, but she goes, you probably should have went to law school. Oh.

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01:17:04.380 --> 01:17:06.150

Nia Rodgers: My goodness, I'm going to just say,

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01:17:06.780 --> 01:17:09.000

Nia Rodgers: And I, and I say this sincerely.

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01:17:10.290 --> 01:17:17.100

Nia Rodgers: I wish all the best for all the lawyers and all the judges who have to make decisions about all of this right now.

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01:17:17.280 --> 01:17:32.520

Nia Rodgers: Yeah, because there are people who still hate Scalia and he's been dead now for what, three, four years still hate him over the 2000 election because they perceive that he was cavalier

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01:17:32.880 --> 01:17:36.270

Nia Rodgers: Yes, about the Supreme Court's position in that. Yeah.

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01:17:36.330 --> 01:17:53.610

Nia Rodgers: And so to Jay Robb and crew and to all of the crews below that, who are going to have to deal with all this stuff. I wish you all the best because this is going to be hard. It's going to be hard to make these decisions and make them fairly and honestly and transparently.

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01:17:54.360 --> 01:17:57.030

Nia Rodgers: And especially with a litigious president

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01:17:59.220 --> 01:18:03.420

John Aughenbaugh: And also going forward in the spirit of your remarks.

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01:18:03.870 --> 01:18:12.090

John Aughenbaugh: About what you wish for the various judges, you will have to hear these cases and the lawyers who will be arguing those cases in front of those judges.

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01:18:16.050 --> 01:18:18.420

John Aughenbaugh: Those who want elections. Okay.

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01:18:19.560 --> 01:18:20.040

John Aughenbaugh: You know,

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01:18:22.020 --> 01:18:22.260

John Aughenbaugh: I

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01:18:23.490 --> 01:18:24.480

John Aughenbaugh: I hope that

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01:18:28.140 --> 01:18:29.010

John Aughenbaugh: They

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01:18:30.600 --> 01:18:36.660

John Aughenbaugh: I wish them the best because governing is difficult. Okay, governing is difficult.

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01:18:37.950 --> 01:18:47.370

John Aughenbaugh: Governance particularly difficult in a country in an era where partisanship and polarization is so acute.

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01:18:48.750 --> 01:19:08.310

John Aughenbaugh: So no matter if their policy positions are different than mine or not. I wish them the best because governing even in the best of times is hard work. But it's particularly difficult when we have a pandemic that is raging again. Okay.

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01:19:09.600 --> 01:19:13.200

John Aughenbaugh: We have a country that's polarized and economy that

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01:19:15.420 --> 01:19:16.740

John Aughenbaugh: is in shambles.

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01:19:18.780 --> 01:19:19.350

John Aughenbaugh: So,

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01:19:20.610 --> 01:19:38.700

John Aughenbaugh: And I know we've kind of sort of done the very standard American Political Science thing of hyper analyzing elections. Okay, before the results are even counted okay but elections pick folks to govern and I

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01:19:39.780 --> 01:19:42.960

John Aughenbaugh: I wish them the best in that difficult task.

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01:19:44.010 --> 01:19:52.020

Nia Rodgers: Agree. Yes. And this is time now when we put all of this society because we got big problems we shake hands and we come together.

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01:19:52.770 --> 01:20:04.050

Nia Rodgers: Yes, we need to come together as much as we can to solve something like coven which does not care which party you belong to and doesn't care who won the election and can't hit the refresh button so

703

01:20:06.660 --> 01:20:10.560

Nia Rodgers: You know what I mean. Like it doesn't care about the election, it cares about

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01:20:11.340 --> 01:20:23.160

Nia Rodgers: What happens next to a lot of folks who are getting sick and a lot of folks are, you know, like you said, struggling so now's the time and we just need to support people as much as we can.

705

01:20:24.330 --> 01:20:27.060

Nia Rodgers: We don't have to love people. But we have to respect them.

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01:20:27.990 --> 01:20:28.830

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, it's what

707

01:20:29.910 --> 01:20:43.260

John Aughenbaugh: The scholars love it scans the black who wrote for me, one of the most influential books of the past five or six years not democracies die. It's what they call mutual toleration.

708

01:20:43.860 --> 01:20:44.520

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, right.

709

01:20:45.960 --> 01:20:54.180

John Aughenbaugh: You understand that you lost and you tolerate the opposition, because they want, and you give them respect.

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01:20:55.230 --> 01:20:57.930

John Aughenbaugh: Because now they have to actually govern

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01:20:58.560 --> 01:20:59.970

John Aughenbaugh: Right, okay.

712

01:21:00.600 --> 01:21:12.690

Nia Rodgers: Okay. Hey, thanks. I'll get any if we're wrong if we're completely wrong. And in two hours, President Trump is reelected will come, will delete this episode. And we'll do it all over again and pretend we were right, the whole time.

713

01:21:14.430 --> 01:21:22.320

John Aughenbaugh: I just totally not what we're going to do, we'll come back, we'll talk about what we got writing what we got wrong and will apologize for being wrong. And we'll move it.

714

01:21:22.560 --> 01:21:24.660

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah, we'll go ahead and do what

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01:21:25.620 --> 01:21:26.580

Nia Rodgers: What adults do.

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01:21:26.910 --> 01:21:30.330

John Aughenbaugh: What adults do and what I think more people should say is

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01:21:31.770 --> 01:21:46.140

John Aughenbaugh: I didn't know where I was wrong. Um, and, you know, and be sincere about it because both me and and i or shall we say very realistic about the things we actually do know and how often we are wrong.

718

01:21:48.780 --> 01:21:49.650

Nia Rodgers: Yes, we are.

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01:21:51.000 --> 01:21:51.540

John Aughenbaugh: Yeah.

720

01:21:51.840 --> 01:21:52.770

Nia Rodgers: Thanks Auggie

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