

The Huffington Post

Friday, July 22, 2016

[The Huffington Post referenced David Brooks' New York Times 'THE DARK KNIGHT' article in its on-line newspaper. My response was posted on-line.]

David Brooks superb analysis of the Republican presidential nominee's acceptance speech brings great relief to the millions of disenchanting voters for its searingly accurate perspective. But it also will leave many with a sense of great sadness that someone of Brook's quality is not standing in the place of this "Dark Knight" "candidate who radiates conflict and disorder." ([The Dark Knight](#), [July 22 , New York Times](#)).

With his usual scholarship, Brooks notes that Trump's "humorless shouting" displays the same "argument of nearly every demagogue since the dawn of time." History indeed can instruct us regarding the errors of the past as a means of guiding policy for the future. In a distorted form, history can serve as an arsenal of attack to supply the means of keeping alive and reviving dissensions and animosities among different economic and racial groups and those feeling dispossessed. Trump's demagogic vision of a "blood-drenched world" distorts our American experience for personal ideological gain. If this vigilante billionaire were hung for telling the truth, he would die innocent.

Thank you David Brooks for such clarity in cleaning up the mess created in Cleveland this week.

--Robert F. Lyons, Kennebunkport, Maine