



February 14, 2017

**Chris**—Thank you for your time and your professionalism on Saturday. We got some amazing footage and we are in the process of editing it to give our potential viewers a taste of what a DoPE45 show would offer them. The plan is then to take this show to Kickstarter or IndieGoGo to raise funds for a weekly show. After that, which we hope will get us back filming on Saturday March 4, we will be a week-to-week entity. It's important to please give Melanie your Saturday availability through the next 90 days so we can plan appropriately. All the Deal Memo's signed by cast are contracted to pay on first airing of the original episode, but if that drags out too long we'll go ahead and modify that. Hopefully you are interested in a long-term gig vs. a one-off, as we certainly are.

I wanted to address something that came up while we were shooting on Saturday that I didn't have the time to go into fully at the time but which needs to be addressed as it should be part of your reference material for making a decision about continuing on with the show.

This country is under attack. If you're not acutely aware of this or think that statement is hyperbole, you have not been paying attention. The United States, if it proceeds down this current path, will be unrecognizable in a year. How do I know this? Because I have spent time behind the Iron Curtain in the 70s, I have walked the streets of the former Czechoslovakia when it was under communist rule, I have looked over the wall at Checkpoint Charlie into what was then Berlin from East Berlin, and I have immediate family who were forced to hide in their basement while the Nazi's lived in their home, sneaking out only after dark to find food. The erosion of the standards and practices that exist in a legitimate democracy are more than well on their way with this administration.

The abuse of the press, the abuse of reality, and the abuse of almost every standard and practice that has existed for 50 years, if left unchecked, will murder this country. Period.

As I type this, the National Security Director has been forced to resign because of his connections to the Russians. *THE RUSSIANS*. We have a Secretary of State who is best friends with the proven, murderous leader of that same Russia. The current President's closest advisors, Paul Manafort and Carter Page, have deep, deep ties to Russia. His chief advisor Steve Bannon is a full-blown, avowed white nationalist (that's a *Nazi*, in case you don't do alt-right speak), his WH spokesman is a serial liar, his other chief counselor, Kellyanne Conway, is not only a serial liar but also exhibits signs of mental illness. THESE ARE THE PEOPLE THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES has put in charge of your welfare and the welfare of your family and loved ones. If you think this is acceptable, you might want to think again. If you think this is hyperbole, you have not been paying attention.

So when there is a suggestion (and I have no idea nor desire to know from whence it came) that the word "shit-gibbon," which appeared on a meme in the background of our filming, and was an actual quote from a sitting Congressman of the United States, might not be appropriate, I have to assume that people have not been paying attention; and that's fine. But please, if you are going to sign up to continue down this path with this show, you MUST become educated, not only for your own good, but because participation in this show is going to require you to know what you're talking about and then to answer questions about what you're talking about. These questions can only be answered intelligently and accurately if you are educated and up to date about the goings-on in your country. So again, if you are going to remain as part of this cast, I would ask to that you commit to remaining/getting educated and involved in the future of this country (what this involvement looks like is completely up to you).

If this sounds like too much to ask, I totally understand. We all have our lives to tend to and remaining vigilant about the state of our nation is time-consuming and can be frustrating. All of that frustration and time-consumption will however, pale in comparison to what the current government has in store for you if they are not stopped dead in their tracks. The best case scenario at this point is that we're going to lose only 20 years of progress. The longer we wait to investigate and implicate, the more recessive the United States will have become. The dismantling of the EPA, the denigration of the Dept of Education, the relaxing of gun laws, the attack on women's rights, the attack on due-process, the religious tests, the removal of financial rules and regulations enacted to protect consumers, the installation of completely unqualified personnel to oversee critically important roles in running the government, the vilification of the free press, the unabashed lying that comes out of anyone associated with this administration, and on and on and on. These are all happening so quickly that while we're debating whether it's polite to use the word "shit" in describing

someone who is not even worthy of *that* word, you will lose another 50 rights, right from under your nose. **The only way to defeat people who consider you expendable and worthless is to step on their throats and not let up until you know they're not going to get up.** There is no room for nuance, there is no room for subtlety, and there is no room for pulling punches. There certainly is no room for self-editing the word "shit."

It should be said that I don't need to take up this fight. I have a Canadian passport that is more than suitable to get me to a place where all this mess is but noise and inconvenience. And perhaps because of that I find strength. After all, if this country turns into a full-blown totalitarian state I can hop on a plane to safety and security at any time. But that would mean abandoning the country that I have loved my entire life and lived in for 30 years. I am trying to help a situation as best I know how; with humor and facts. I would love for you to continue along with me, but I need you to know this will be full of turmoil and lots of attention. If you're up for it, then the rewards can be life-altering, and I don't know about you, but I like rewards that are life-altering.

So the first step on this journey occurred this past Saturday. The crew cleaned up for 3 hours after the cast left (there was a lot of stuff and dust!) and we were all exhausted after a whirlwind week, but in that exhaustion we felt sated, if only for a minute. We knew we had achieved the first of many steps in entertaining and educating our fellow Americans, and even those around the world, and now we take the next step: *we do it all over again.* And again. And again. And again.

Thank you again for your dedication thus far to something I feel very deeply and passionately about. If this is the end of the road for you, then I totally understand, and I thank you. If this is just the beginning of a new journey for you, then I welcome you aboard and I thank you.

With admiration and my deepest respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Drew". The letter "D" is large and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke that loops back under the "r". The "e" and "w" are written in a cursive, connected style.