

An Open Letter to Donald Trump

I know who Hillary Clinton is so I will never vote for her. That leaves you. But because I am a real card-carrying patriot your denigration of John McCain and others has seriously hurt my ability to think of you as our Commander-In-Chief.

I know how fortunate I am to have been born and raised in the greatest country in human history and how profoundly important it is to elect good, solid, capable people to lead us – especially our president. But for the first time in 63 years I may not vote. If I do, I will vote for you. But it will be a vote against Hillary Clinton, and I will hold my nose when I vote.

The truth is I have been disgusted with both parties for a long time. For decades I've watched them run up our debt at the expense of hard-working men and women. Far too many of them are corrupt, self-serving professional politicians whose only purpose is to get reelected and to leave office much wealthier than when they arrived. I hoped for a day of reckoning when a strong and capable outsider would rise to the challenge and bring real change to Washington, but it has not happened.

Millions of Americans thought Barack Obama was the one, though I never did, and I was right. Now, millions of Americans think you are the one, though I'm not one of them. Of course, unless you make some changes to your public persona and show us that you truly care about we the people instead of yourself – the great Donald J. Trump – I don't think we will ever know if I am right or wrong about you because I don't think you will be elected.

So, here's the deal: You still have time to convince me and

the millions of other Americans who are still open minded enough to listen to you. You need to convince us that you can do the job – that you really do care about the future of our country and that you have the skills, the wisdom, and the character to lead us out of the mess we are in and that you can restore the founding principles that made us great in the first place. This includes a healthy free market economy; a small yet smart government; adherence to our laws, including immigration laws; peace through strength; and a Supreme Court that simply and honestly interprets the Constitution.

Finally, grow a thick skin and get some good fact checkers. You should answer important false charges against you but do it with class and with hard facts. Otherwise, dismiss petty criticisms and move on. Remember, the larger issue should be what is best for our country. That should always be held above your own personal feelings. If you convince me that you are sincerely running for the office of President of the United States of America because you love your country and because you will work tirelessly to Make America Great Again you will get my vote. And show some humility and compassion while you're at it.