

## Andrew Bolt: Left's response to Trump is to trash democracy

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THE protests against Donald Trump are so extreme that it's clear what's got many on the Left so mad. It's democracy. They hate it. This is the most frightening thing about the campaign to stop the new US President from doing just what voters elected him to do.

We already know the modern Left hates free speech. Now we see it's not keen on a free vote, either — if the "wrong" person gets elected. The Left is becoming not just more violent but more totalitarian, and Trump has exposed that.



It's perfectly fine for people to protest against what Trump is doing, and many Trump haters are doing no more than that, but there is undeniably more going on.

Even before he formally took over as President, there were protests against Trump's election in many American cities, including some in which police were bashed. These were, in fact, protests against the result of a free and fair election. Now, after just his first week as president, Left-wing publications are already discussing ways to remove this duly elected leader from office.

The Washington-based Foreign Policy magazine published a guide: "3 Ways to Get Rid of President Trump Before 2020". The Sydney Morning Herald contributed "Four Ways they can get rid of Donald Trump sooner rather than later", which included this astonishing line: "The fourth possibility is one that until recently I would have said was unthinkable in the United States of America: a military coup

..." RootsAction.org has 500,000 signatures on a petition to impeach Trump. Change.org has 200,000.

Meanwhile, Democrats in the US Senate vowed to reject any judge Trump nominated to sit on the Supreme Court, and are now considering a mass boycott of Trump's address to a joint session of Congress on February 28 in an attempt to delegitimise him.

Not in living memory has a president faced such a concerted attempt to stop him — even sack him — even before his first week is out.

Yes, it's perfectly fine for people to protest against what Trump is doing, and many Trump haters are doing no more than that. But there is undeniably more going on. That is clear from the hysterical reaction against Trump's decision to temporarily ban visitors from seven jihadist-plagued countries.

What Trump has done is what he promised to do before the election. It is almost certainly lawful and makes sense, even if it was implemented chaotically.

All that Trump has said is that travellers from those countries — Syria, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Sudan, Libya and Somalia — are banned for 90 days until his administration works out better ways to vet them.



The Left simply refuses to accept that Trump won the election and has a right — even duty — to put in place the policies he promised. Picture: AP

Most of those countries are on a list drawn up by the Obama administration of failed states battling jihadism or are led, in the case of Iran, by jihadists. The US struggles with each one to get the information it needs to check the background of people coming to the US.

It is not surprising then that a Rasmussen poll last week found that Trump's plan had overwhelming support from Americans — 56 per cent in favour to 32 per cent against.

Yet see how the Left — and its media allies — reacted to a policy that was reasonable, popular, an election promise and almost certainly legal. Thousands of protesters choked the airports and demanded authorities free any travellers detained.

The acting attorney-general, an appointment of former president Barack Obama, defied her new boss and ordered staff not to defend Trump's law in the courts.

More than 200 US diplomats, meant to represent their government, signed a protest against Trump's order. These were government officials refusing to carry out government policy, as required by their elected president.

Aren't the voters meant to be sovereign in a democracy?



The Left is revealing itself as not just bad losers but bullies with a dangerous totalitarian itch. Picture: AFP

It got worse. Hillary Clinton, the Democrat defeated in the election, sent a tweet saying “I stand with the people” demonstrating against Trump. Obama issued a statement, just a week after leaving the presidency, saying he “fundamentally disagrees” with Trump's ban. Here are a former president and presidential candidate offering, in effect, a rival leadership to that of the president. This is getting ugly.

The big picture is that the Left simply refuses to accept that Trump won the election and has a right — even duty — to put in place the policies he promised. There is a dangerous intolerance at work, as well as a sneering contempt for the kind of people who voted for Trump.

The result is that democracy is being trashed.

The Left is revealing itself as not just bad losers but bullies with a dangerous totalitarian itch — exactly what had so many voters support Trump in the first place.

Given that, bet on this: Trump will win out in the end.

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