

Greetings!

A Closer Look



Lawrence O'Donnell is host of *The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell*, an MSNBC opinion and news program that airs on weeknights. I've never watched his program. This 27 minute piece was part of a post I received from one of my regular news sources and I found it fascinating, informative and energizing.

There's a lot of talk about getting another Democratic candidate to replace Joe Biden. O'Donnell makes a powerful case for Joe Biden's re-election. He also tells us about the process of putting together a campaign, which most of us don't know about. He speaks about past Democratic Conventions, especially the violence at the Chicago Convention in 1968, and how it is relevant to this year's presidential election.

Speaking from experience he presents a clear picture of what the White House press corps does and doesn't do. They are not allowed to film governing decisions, as much of that process cannot be made public. The press is primarily focussed on what makes compelling TV and headlines.

Lastly he describes the final months of FDR's presidency which is particularly fascinating. [This program](#), broadcast on 2/21, is well worth your 27 minutes.



Stories, insights and action for a world that works for all of us

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Justice is what love looks like in public.

Jim Hightower

~ ~ ~

Favorite Resources

[Fix the News](#)
(Future Crunch)

[Reasons to be Cheerful](#)
[Chop Wood, Carry](#)

[Water](#)
[350.org](#)
[Climate Reality](#)

[Project](#)
[Local Futures](#)

[Desert Rose Press](#)
[VirginiaMudd.com](#)

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Being aware and taking action

"Welcome to the End of Democracy"

The goals of the Conservative Political Action Convention

At the end of February CPAC held their annual convention. One speaker,

THE END OF DEMOCRACY

Jack Posoblec said, "I just wanted to say, welcome to the end of democracy. We are here to overthrow it completely. We didn't get all the way there on January 6, but we will endeavor to get rid of it." It doesn't get much clearer than that does it? [Read more of CPAC goals in Dan Rather's post on 2/23.](#)

Another excellent post by Rather is here: "[Wake-up call to the end of democracy.](#)"



Action Sites for Climate and Democracy

Given the threats to our democracy and our Earth, I am leaving this resource guide in until the election in November. **Everyone is needed to do whatever they can!**

Climate Action

[100 Things You Can Do to Help in the Climate Crisis](#)

[15 Actions to Make a Difference](#)

Protect Our Democracy

[Chop Wood, Carry Water](#): Provides daily actions for our democracy.

[thecivicscenter.org](#) : Mobilizing the youth vote in America.

[civicinfluencers.org](#): Also working to register young voters.

[vote.org](#): Everything you need to know to vote.

[steady.substack.com](#): Dan Rather's excellent commentary on current affairs.

[RobertHubbell.substack.com](#): Reflections on and summary of today's news.

[guides.vote](#): Non-partisan guide to how candidates stand on issues.

[commoncause.org](#): An organization working for all aspects of democracy.

[votefwd.org](#): Write letters to encourage folks to vote.

[postcardstovoters.org](#): Here you can write postcards to encourage voters.

[citizen.org](#): Public Citizen is another organization working for democracy.

[statesproject.org](#): A pro-democracy organization working at the state level.

[VoteRiders](#) will tell you what you need to know in order to ensure you can vote.

Remember, as Dr. Seuss says, "[Every Voice Counts!](#)"

All Kinds of Good News



Composting is now mandatory in France

"**Compost Obligatoire**" rules require households and businesses to sort out bio-waste such as food scraps and garden waste. Organic waste from food and gardens accounts for almost one-third of household waste. When it is mixed with other rubbish, it typically ends up in landfills or incinerators, where it produces heat-trapping greenhouse gases like methane and CO₂. Food waste is responsible for about 16 per cent of the total emissions from the EU food system, according to the European Commission. Globally, food loss and waste generates



Comparable to Ecocide

The European Union has become the first international body to criminalize the most serious cases of environmental damage that are "comparable to ecocide." Ecosystem destruction, including habitat loss and illegal logging, will be punished with tougher penalties and prison sentences under the EU's updated environmental crime directive. "The new directive opens a

around 8 per cent of all human-caused emissions annually, the UN says.

[Read more here.](#)

California is also making progress in cutting food waste. [Read this article.](#)



Turn wastewater into snow

The Yellowstone Club in Montana

wants to set an example of how ski resorts can use recycled water to make snow. They already use it to irrigate their golf course. A representative of the resort said, “We hope that we can show other ski areas in the state what is possible,” We might be the first, but I hope we aren’t the last.”

[Here's the article.](#)

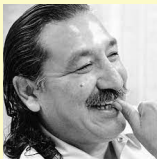
new page in the history of Europe, protecting against those who harm ecosystems and, through them, human health. It means putting an end to environmental impunity in Europe, which is crucial and urgent,” [The article and short video are here.](#)



Hotels for the homeless

Baltimore leaders approved an \$18.4 million deal to buy two downtown hotels to serve as emergency shelter for homeless residents, sites they intend to eventually convert into long-term housing. [Read more.](#)

Wisdom for Our Time



We need each other. Each of us is responsible for what happens on this earth. We are each absolutely essential, each totally irreplaceable. Each of us is the swing vote in the bitter election battle now being waged between our best and our worst possibilities. —Leonard Peltier

Scary Things Spotted in Nature



Pictured above is the Dead Man Finger Fungus!
Who wouldn't freak out if they saw that?
Be brave and enjoy [a few more](#) startling images!
*May the month of April uplift you
and put a spring in your step and pep in your stride.
Virginia / Gibi*



My Column

Is the media providing us with straightforward news? Dan Rather, a journalist for 74 years, offers his perspective and six principles journalists might do well to follow. Excerpts and link to full text in my column.

