Twitter Thread by Lauren Camera



Lauren Camera
@laurenonthehill

A very personal thread about this story and why I increasingly believe addressing the rot caused by QAnon will be one of the Biden administration's most important and most difficult tasks.

There are thousands of meme queens across the country. Let me introduce you to another one – my former best friend.

We grew up together, were inseparable throughout high school, drove to school together every morning, went on vacations with each other's families. Sometimes i went to church with her family and sometimes she came to church with mine. We were in each other's weddings.

She graduated from a good college and went into finance. She didn't like it much. She moved to California with her husband, went to nursing school and became a delivery nurse. She loved it.

She had a baby, and then had two more. But she had a difficult time finding reliable childcare, and not being near any family, she found it increasingly impossible to juggle work and children.

She left her job and began selling women's clothing through LulaRoe – one of those pyramid scheme-like companies that's very good at duping SAHMs into opening their own online boutique.

As often happens with childhood friends, we drifted apart. This happened increasingly quickly after she moved to California. But as is also the case with childhood best friends, we stayed in touch via text, especially for birthdays and at holidays.

She has never been active politically, but the 2016 election stirred something in her. She proudly posted that she was part of the "Never Clinton" cabal. But she never posted about being pro-Trump. In fact, I don't think she liked him much at the time, or even voted for him.

It happened very slowly at first. The Facebook and Instagram posts were only semi-offensive and far and few between. I had the privilege of being able to shrug it off. Besides, I had a lot going on too – a new baby and demanding job, thousands of miles away.