Twitter Thread by Lindsey Simmons



Lindsey Simmons
@LynzforCongress

Joshua Hawley, Missouri's Junior Senator, is an autocrat in waiting.

His arrogance and ambition prohibit any allegiance to morality or character.

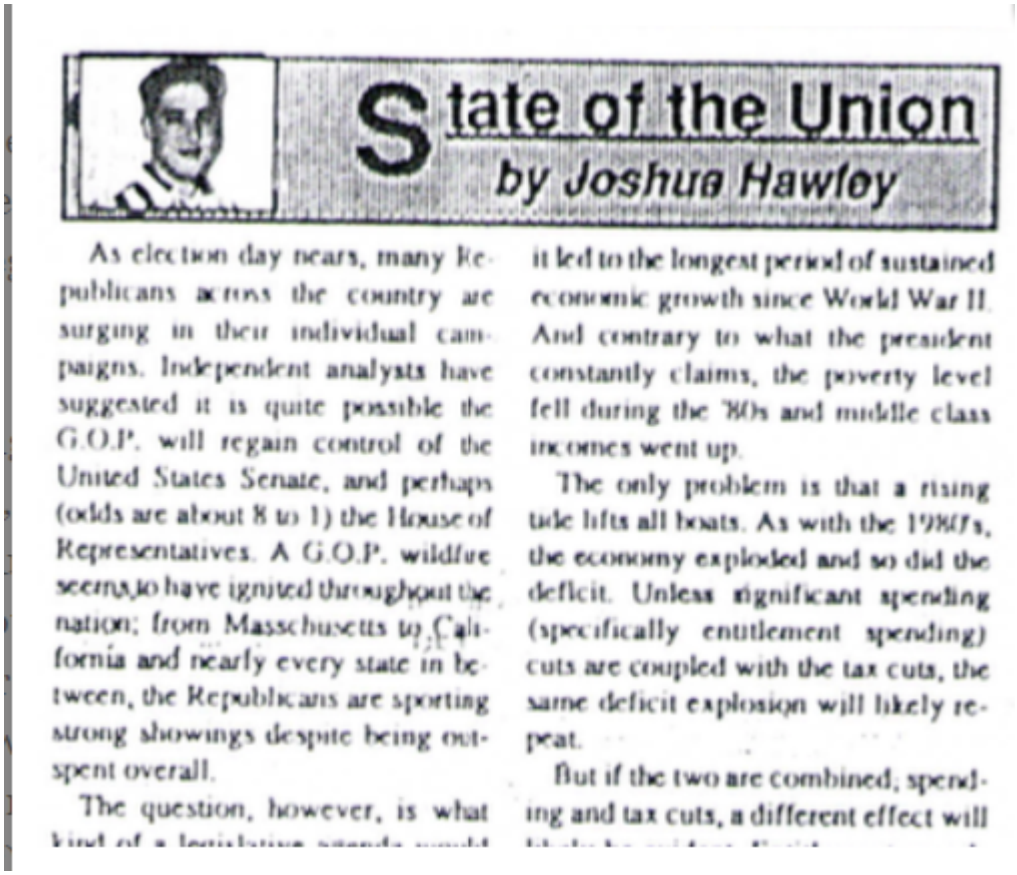
Thus far, his plan to seize the presidency has fallen into place.

An explanation in photographs.

■

Joshua grew up in the next town over from mine, in Lexington, Missouri. A a teenager he wrote a column for the local paper, where he perfected his political condescension.

2/



State of the Union

by Joshua Hawley

As election day nears, many Republicans across the country are surging in their individual campaigns. Independent analysts have suggested it is quite possible the G.O.P. will regain control of the United States Senate, and perhaps (odds are about 8 to 1) the House of Representatives. A G.O.P. wildfire seems to have ignited throughout the nation; from Massachusetts to California and nearly every state in between, the Republicans are sporting strong showings despite being outspent overall.

The question, however, is what

it led to the longest period of sustained economic growth since World War II. And contrary to what the president constantly claims, the poverty level fell during the '80s and middle class incomes went up.

The only problem is that a rising tide lifts all boats. As with the 1980's, the economy exploded and so did the deficit. Unless significant spending (specifically entitlement spending) cuts are coupled with the tax cuts, the same deficit explosion will likely repeat.

But if the two are combined; spending and tax cuts, a different effect will

By the time he reached high-school, however, he attended an elite private high-school 60 miles away in Kansas City.

This is a piece of his history he works to erase as he builds up his counterfeit image as a rural farm boy from a small town who grew up farming.

3/

Rockhurst High School
July 28, 2015 ·

Josh is a member of the great Class of 1998 from Rockhurst High School...AMDG



Greene County GOP is at Doling Park and Family Center.
July 25, 2015 · · Springfield, MO ·
Josh Hawley, candidate for Attorney General.

After graduating from Rockhurst High School, he attended Stanford University where he wrote for the Stanford Review--a libertarian publication founded by Peter Thiel..

4/

(Full Link: https://t.co/zixs1HazLk)



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Volume XXVII, Issue 2 October 24, 2001

Campus Focus

Freedom Forum Examines IHUM

by Josh Hawley
President, Freedom Forum

As a Stanford freshman, Rachel Scarlett-Trotter felt her required Introduction to the Humanities class included few of the great works of literature and philosophy. Today, Ms. Scarlett-Trotter, Joshua Hawley, and Grey Baker, all seniors in history, are heading The Freedom Forum, a new student organization which has formed a commission to examine the Introduction to the Humanities (IHUM) curriculum and make suggestions for reform.

Ms. Scarlett-Trotter explained, "I felt like my freshman IHUM class might have had interesting points, but it did not meet the goals of IHUM to give me a strong background in the humanities. Unless students examine the ideas and thinkers that have shaped western civilization, universities become places for sameness rather than places where ideas can be explored."

Hawley's writing during his early 20s reveals that he wished for the curriculum at Stanford and other "liberal institutions" to change and to incorporate more conservative moral values.

This led him to create the "Freedom Forum."

5/

The Freedom Forum is a new conservative student group that aims to "bring a perspective of human liberty and individual responsibility to Stanford," according to its mission statement. Although the IHUM commission will be the main focus for the Freedom Forum this year, the organization also plans to host speakers and informal discussions throughout the year.

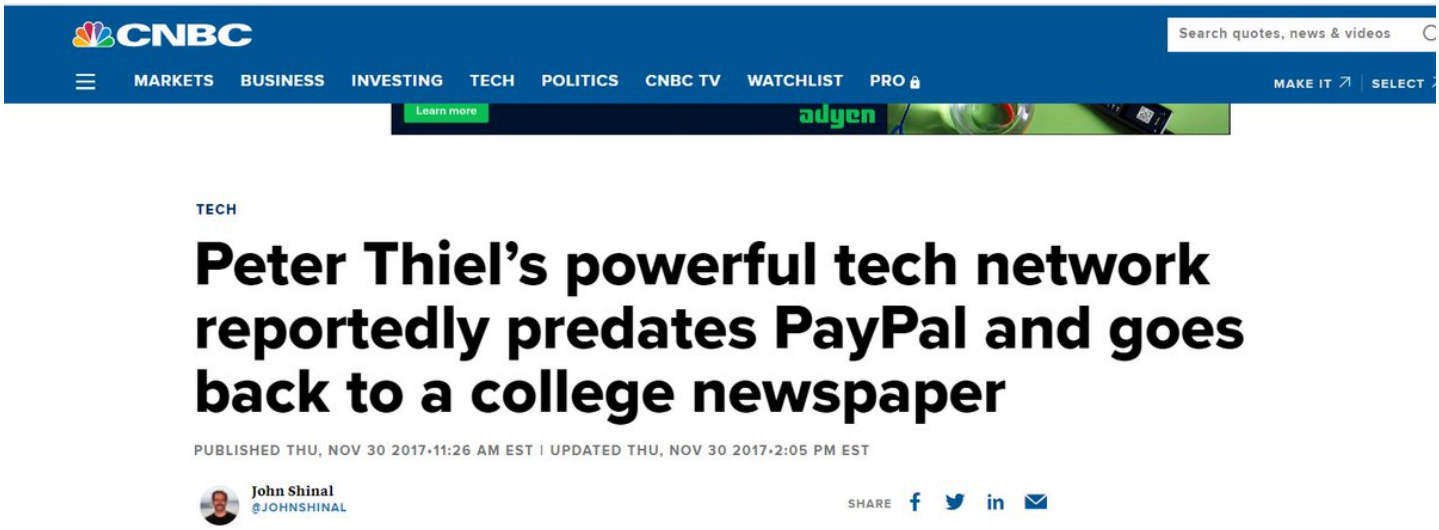
The student commission, to be launched this fall, will be open to all interested students. Commission members will meet throughout the year to study Stanford's core curriculum -- focusing on the IHUM classes -- and to examine the core classes of other universities that have successfully implemented curriculum reform. In addition, Mr. Hawley, the group's president, said, "We envision going to dorms and other student forums to speak with and hear the ideas of other students. We also plan to seek advice from faculty members." In April, the commission will present a specific list of recommended reforms to the University.

Mr. Hawley believes that Stanford has yet to see the '[illegible]renaissance in education' that President John Hennessy spoke of in his May 12 Alumni Day speech. "Smaller classes, greater student contact with tenured faculty, and higher grades were a few of the claims Hennessy listed as proof of a budding [illegible]renaissance,'" Mr. Hawley said. "Let's be frank -- if liberal learning is to be a real and relevant concept for this generation of Stanford students, more than fundraisers and structural adjustments will be necessary. It is time to consider what we, as an intellectual community, are teaching and what students are learning -- and why."

And that libertarian newspaper? A few years ago it was reported that the Stanford Review is the origin of Peter Thiel's powerful network.

He donated $300,000 to Josh Hawley's Attorney General run, and later donated the maximum to Josh Hawley's Senate bid.

6/



And 4 days after that max-out donation, Hawley--then the Attorney General for MO--launched an antitrust investigation into Google.

While it's unclear how much contact Hawley had with Thiel as a student, it is clear that he created a valuable political network while there.

7/



While at Stanford, Hawley's network grew. Later, there were reports from his peers noting his ambition to run for office. As a student, he vocalized his desire to be President of the United States.

That ambition led him to his next stepping stone--Yale Law School.

8/

Hawley as an Undergraduate

People who knew Hawley at Stanford spoke well of him, though not all Review members at that time remembered him. Brooke Eisele (Stanford '02) (then Brooke Brody-Waite), a former editor-in-chief of the Stanford Review who overlapped with Hawley, described Hawley as a "very serious, ambitious, smart guy."

Leo Feler (Stanford '02), who also attended Stanford at the same time, said, "he was a great guy and I always knew that he would run for office at some point in time…I think he always wanted to become President. That was always very clear. I think he actually mentioned it at some point that he wanted to become President, that was his ambition…he's an intellectual, he had academic backing and academic rigor to the way that he thinks." A Hawley spokesperson declined to comment on whether Hawley currently aspires to the Presidency.

While at Yale, Josh was president of the Federalist Society, and supportive of Alito's appointment to SCOTUS.

His conservative credentials earned him a Blackstone fellowship and federal clerkship with appellate Judge Michael W. McConnell + Chief Justice John Roberts.

9/

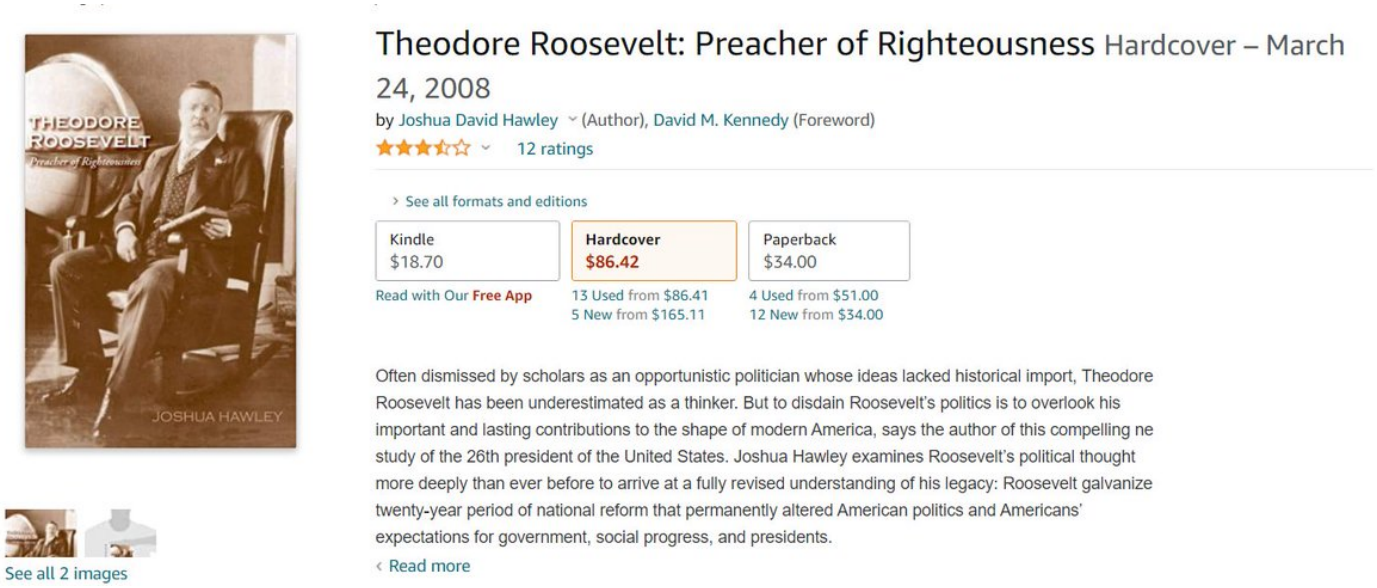
According to Yale Federalist Society president Joshua Hawley LAW '06, Alito's record demonstrates a clear adherence to Supreme Court precedents, and criticisms leveled at Alito have been partisan.

"Judge Alito has a very consistent record of being a faithful jurist as opposed to a legislator," Hawley said. "He is a very circumspect, careful judge and not one that is liable to go into policymaking."

In 2008, he published a book, "Theodore Roosevelt: Preacher of Righteousness" based on his undergraduate thesis at Stanford.

Hawley argues that Roosevelt's philosophy centered around "righteousness" and "warrior republicanism."

10/



In continuing his writings on righteousness and morality that have followed Hawley from middle school student to Yale Law grad, Josh wrote another article on the matter in 2010.

It lays out his view of what the goals of America should be.

11/
https://t.co/Tpr0OJ2j9z

The next year, Hawley left the ivory tower of the east coast, packed up, and moved back to Missouri where he took a position as a law professor at the University of Missouri.

He continued his moralistic writings.

12/

A Christian Vision for Kingdom Politics

*By **Joshua D. Hawley***

Eric Voegelin was a German-American émigré who wrote several volumes of high-toned philosophy in the 1950s which were read by approximately zero members of the American public—save a certain William F. Buckley, Jr. When the irrepressible founder and editor of *National Review* happened upon Voegelin's first monograph, *The New Science of Politics*, he discovered a condemnation of utopian ambition in politics that delighted him. Politics turns totalitarian, Voegelin explained, "when a Christian transcendental fulfillment becomes immanentized. Such an immanentist hypostasis of the eschaton, however, is a theoretical fallacy." Right. In short order, Buckley had converted that jumble of theory-speak into a whimsical political slogan: "Don't let them immanentize the eschaton!" Or, broadly: Beware of all political programs that aim to create utopias.

This is where Hawley rights one of his most informative paragraphs. He explains that scripture says God rules over an "earthly government." And therefore, "Christians' purpose in politics" should be making the kingdom of God "more real."

Full Link: https://t.co/rqEcPEHFld

13/

But here's the thing. The New Testament teaches that this long-looked-for kingdom has dawned *now*, in the death and resurrection of Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Christ has become king and, as Scripture says, presently rules over the world *and over earthly government*. That last point is central. Scripture teaches that political government is mandated by God for his service and is one means by which the enthroned Christ carries out his rule.

These things together tell us something quite important about what government is for, and what Christians should be trying to do with it and with politics. Government serves Christ's kingdom rule; this is its purpose. And Christians' purpose in politics should be to advance the kingdom of God—to make it more real, more tangible, more present. Or should I say, to immanentize the eschaton.

By 2014, Hawley launched the "Missouri Liberty Project" formed to "fight government overreach, defend the U.S. Constitution, and inform citizens about the need for limited government."

In reality, he used the organization to travel around Missouri and discuss court cases.

14/



In particular, he discussed his involvement in the Hobby Lobby case.

Depending on which speaking event you were at, you'd think Josh Hawley argued the Hobby Lobby case before the Supreme Court.

He made Missourians think he was *the* "Hobby Lobby" lawyer.

15/

> Hawley said the Hobby Lobby case is just one example of the kind of issue Missouri Liberty Project will emphasize. A litigator in the case, Hawley is representing Hobby Lobby in its challenge to the Obama Administration's mandate that requires businesses to pay for abortion-inducing drugs as part of their health care coverage. Hobby Lobby's owners, the Green family, object to funding these drugs on religious grounds.

In reality, Joshua Hawley never spoke one word before the Supreme Court.

A former Republican State Rep. confirmed his shock after learning that Josh Hawley lied straight to his face about his involvement in the Hobby Lobby case.

Full Link: https://t.co/EqbZOLA9cN

16/

> “My wife and I have heard Josh Hawley speak multiple times and is my recollection and hers that he argued the Hobby Lobby case before the U.S. Supreme Court,” Rep. Rocky Miller, R-Miller County, said. “When we both found out he was not admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court bar until after the case and, therefore could not argue before them, we were shocked.”

Undeterred, Josh Hawley officially launched his campaign to be Missouri's Attorney General for the 2016 elections.

He claims to have "fought Obama at the Supreme Court" even though, as discussed, he wasn't even admitted to SCOTUS when Hobby Lobby was argued.

17/



But that lie sat in the rearview as he faced ethics complaints against him during his Attorney General race.

The group he founded the "Missouri Liberty Project"--he was using it to campaign before officially forming a campaign committee--a serious violation.

18/

Hawley focus of new ethics complaint

BY TIM CURTIS ON JUNE 6, 2016

IS YOUR CALENDAR **UP TO DATE**?
CHECK OUT THE NEW CAPITOL CALENDAR. Missouri Times Capitol Calendar

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo — Attorney general candidate Josh Hawley's campaign encountered more legal issues last week when an ethics complaint was filed with the Missouri Ethics Commission by Stoddard County Prosecuting Attorney Russell D. Oliver.

The complaint centers on Hawley's creation of two nonprofits prior to officially forming a campaign committee. The complaint alleges that Hawley used these nonprofits to campaign while still employed as a law professor at the University of Missouri, a position he would have had to leave as soon as he was officially campaigning.

Within weeks of being sworn in as AG, Hawley went back on his campaign pledge to not climb political ladders to the next job, and began exploring his United States Senate run.

He hired out-of-state political consultants to run his AG office + help with his Senate campaign.

19/

The Missouri Attorney General's office under Republican Josh Hawley may have misused state resources to boost his successful campaign for the U.S. Senate, according to an audit released Thursday by Democratic State Auditor Nicole Galloway.

At the core of the possible misuse was Hawley's decision, within weeks of his January 2017 swearing-in as attorney general, to import out-of state political consultants to help direct his office — and raise his national profile. Those same advisers would go on to run his 2018 campaign that unseated Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill.

Whether Hawley or his staff broke the the law is unclear, the report concludes, because they regularly conducted state business off government servers through use of private email and text messaging.

Those campaign consultants would ultimately run his 2018 US Senate campaign. The ethics issue he faced was conducting state business on private emails and texts.

(He continues to blur the lines between government + political while a US Senator).

https://t.co/eNr0ue5lZ4

20/

Almost as immediately as deciding to ditch Jefferson City for DC, Hawley met with the Seminar Network in California--a group of donors, chaired by Charles Koch.

There, he laid out a plan to help the new Trump Administration--file lawsuits.

https://t.co/ZjT5cnkREz

21/

Hawley contended that the federal gov't moved too slowly--but that conservative AGs could speed up deregulation by filing suits themselves.

This plan is what we've seem come to fruition with the ACA suit + more recently the election suit against Pennsylvania.

22/

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. — Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley has a plan for helping the new administration: Sue the government.

The government needs to move quickly, he told a large gathering of wealthy conservative and libertarian donors gathered in California, to send power back to the states and deregulate the economy. The problem is how slowly Washington, D.C. moves, and how the administration is tied up in bureaucracy. But if states, which know which regulations affect them hardest, sue, that would give the feds the power to simply settle and withdraw the reg.

"If a state would bring a suit against a regulation, it gives the federal government the opportunity to withdraw that regulation."

This, he told donors and reporters, "will give the government the ability to move quickly on deregulation."

So it's no surprise then that Josh Hawley was one of the ringleaders in the lawsuit to dismantle the Affordable Care Act and strip care away from individual with pre-existing conditions.

23/

https://t.co/iR1XNy8NqS

For his efforts, with fewer than 8 months on the job, Josh Hawley earned the support from the Koch Family who pledged $10M to his eventual Senate run (even prior to him announcing his official Senate bid).

24/

Missouri's $10M man

By **DANIEL STRAUSS** | 08/14/2017 10:00 AM EDT

With Scott Bland

The following newsletter is an abridged version of Campaign Pro's Morning Score. For an earlier morning read on exponentially more races — and for a more comprehensive aggregation of the day's most important campaign news — sign up for Campaign Pro today. (https://subscriber.politicopro.com/proinfo)

CAMPAIGN IN WAITING — "Sources: Club for Growth raises $10M for Hawley," by Campaign Pro's Kevin Robillard: "The Club for Growth has raised $10 million to support a Senate run by Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley, two Republicans with knowledge of the group's fundraising said. The 37-year-old Hawley, who has formed an exploratory committee but has not yet officially entered the race against Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill, is the establishment Republican pick for the race. The Club for Growth and other prominent Republican outside groups have expressed excitement about his candidacy, and McCaskill is considered one of the Senate's most vulnerable Democrats. One major donor pledged to match millions of dollars in donations earmarked for Hawley, and the Club has been collecting donations against that pledge, the two Republican sources said."

But there was somewhat of a roadblock--or opportunity depending on how you view Eric Greitens.

Greitens was Missouri's Trumpian Governor who raped and sexually assaulted a woman. Hawley had to make a decision about how, as Missouri's AG, to handle the situation.

25/

POLITICS

Missouri AG Hawley — Claire McCaskill's likely challenger — calls o GOP Gov. Greitens to resign after explosive sex report

PUBLISHED THU, APR 12 2018•9:43 AM EDT | UPDATED THU, APR 12 2018•9:43 AM EDT



Jacob Pramuk
@JACOBPRAMUK

SHARE

Ultimately, Hawley decided to come down against Greitens. Few have discussed this point, but there's considerable evidence that Eric Greitens--a Navy SEAL and Rhodes Scholar--with a similar conservative populist bent was Hawley's most serious competition for higher office.

26/

JEFFERSON CITY — An ongoing investigation into the charity Gov. Eric Greitens is accused of stealing from should continue despite Attorney General Josh Hawley's call for the governor to resign, the attorney general's office says.

A brief filed by Hawley's attorneys pushes back on Greitens' request last week for a court order. Greitens is asking for a Cole County judge to block investigations of himself and any entity he's associated with by Hawley, a fellow Republican.

More: Greitens asks for court order to block Hawley from investigating him



Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens speaks at a news conference about allegations related to his extramarital affair with his hairdresser, in Jefferson City, Mo.

So Hawley investigated him, suggested that he resign from office, and although he thought Greitens committed impeachable offenses--he didn't want to "put Missouri through" such an ordeal.

27/

Greitens was never convicted of any crime. Earlier this year after help from Pence's office he was reinstated in the US Navy.

Greitens is the pre-Trump. He's looking for a comeback. He is what happens when you don't hold corrupt politicians accountable for their crimes.

28/

But Hawley faced legal problems of his own as Attorney General.

State law required Hawley to live in Jefferson City as AG--but he never moved there. This would be the beginning of a long line of "where does he actually live" questions for Hawley.

29/

https://t.co/WNcKxpapir

And he'd start to turn those railing against him for breaking the law and for dismantling social programs as "elites" who just didn't understand an "everyman" like himself.

And in that, he began echoing Donald Trump.

30/

https://t.co/p1c5Uj3SUS

But, Hawley struggled.

It's unclear whether he knows what a flatbed truck is in 2020--but this sent a clear message to many in rural Missouri that Joshua Hawley is counterfeit.

31/



Needing to convince rural Missourians of his credibility as a working man from a farming family, Hawley dropped images of his in-laws' ranch in New Mexico--knowing full well that many would assume he was in Missouri--and allowing them to believe the lie that benefited him.

32/



Hawley rarely showed up for events when he ran for US Senate. And he rarely answered questions from the public--even of Republicans.

Long-time GOP operatives in the state were turned off by Hawley acting as the heir-apparent, entitled to the seat.

33/

https://t.co/iwzbkvgOM6

His arrogance was on display for all to see--by not showing up to events he should have--and by forcing his "righteousness" and "Christian principles" on others....like his assertion that the sexual revolution led to sex trafficking.

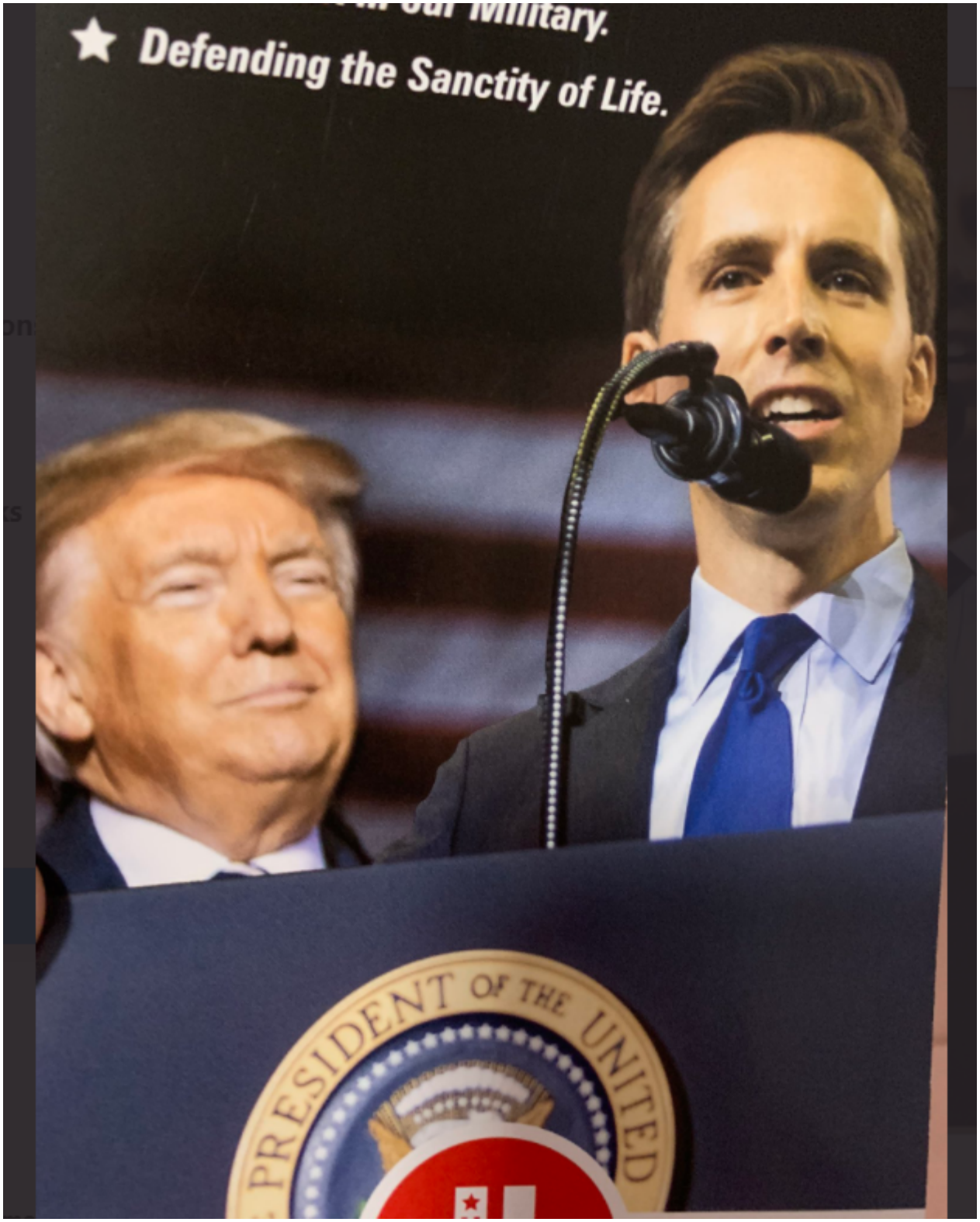
34/

https://t.co/2L1qhUofY0

In fact, he abandoned much of what a *typical* Missouri Republican successful (think Danforth, Bond, Blunt, Ashcroft, etc.) and instead chose to embrace the principles of Donald Trump.

Nothing made that more clear than his campaign literature. This is predominant photo.

35/



And when it became obvious during the Kavanaugh hearings the kind of threat Josh Hawley posed as a United States Senator, his classmates from Yale Law School spoke out and drafted a letter to the citizens of Missouri.

36/

https://t.co/E6DWZVQrlo

In the letter, his former peers pointed out his hypocrisy in railing against the coastal elite class of which he is a part.

They note that his dishonesty goes beyond simply the phony story he is telling about himself on the campaign trail--that he abandoned his principles.

37/

> The Josh many of us knew at Yale is not the politician we see campaigning in Missouri. Back then, he was every bit the "coastal elite" that he now rails against. Similarly to us, he had the privilege of attending Stanford University, then Yale Law School. Through those elite institutions, he climbed the ladder into ever-more elite circles, hobnobbing with DC power players as the Yale Law School President of the Federalist Society, and then taking a job at a Washington D.C. law firm that represents some of the biggest corporate interests in the country —not the working families Josh claims to represent.

They write that Josh Hawley should know how despicable Donald Trump is--and that perhaps he know he cannot speak out against him if he hopes to win election.

Sadly, we know now that Hawley does not find Trump reprehensible, but representative of future politicking.

38/

Our hope is that perhaps Josh finds Donald Trump's immorality and corruption to be completely unacceptable, but knows that to win he couldn't say that and instead made up the story he has told. Perhaps he's simply saying what he thinks he needs to say to get elected so that he can then oppose Donald Trump and try to return the Republican Party to a place of decent, honest, conservatism. We hope so. That would be more in keeping with the person many of us knew him to be.

Because the one we're seeing on the trail is just dishonest. In 2016, Josh ran an ad slamming "ladder-climbing politicians," and opened his campaign by slamming the "coastal elites" who live on opposite ends of the country and, according to him, view Missouri as "flyover country." For nearly all of the 15 years many of us have known Josh, if such a thing exists it is also exactly who he has been: a coastal elite climbing a political ladder.

But despite the truth coming out, Josh Hawley climbed that political ladder that only two years ago he disavowed--and he went to Washington, D.C.

And during his first speech on the Senate floor he rails against elites + notes the loss of family and church in ppl's lives.

39/

Most shockingly, the young are the hope of our society, but in America today they are taking their lives in numbers never seen in our history. The well-off frequently note that our nation has never been richer, but the tragedy of youth suicide betrays a profound poverty of hope.

And is that really so surprising? Today's youth must make their way in a society increasingly defined not by the genuine and personal love of family and church, but by the cold and judgmental world of social media.

The typical young person is bombarded by video games and violence and the relentless status-seeking imposed and modeled by our cultural elite.

There is no more shocking illustration of our cultural poverty, no more damning indictment of our cultural leaders, than these lost lives.

And the sum of it all is that too many Americans are losing their standing as citizens. They are losing their voice in the life of this nation. And with that, they are losing their liberty.

Because to be free is to have a voice, it is to have a say, it is to have the power of self-government.

These are the same themes you see in his Lexington newspaper days--the same concerns he wrote about at Stanford--solutions he found in Teddy Roosevelt--and line up with his belief that scripture mandates that he as a Christian use politics to make a Christian kingdom real.

40/

This is one reason why he makes statements about only appointing jurists on the Supreme Court who will overturn Roe v. Wade.

41/



It's why he discusses "judicial imperialism" and "judicial activism" as if Justices like Coney Barrett haven't attempted to rewrite the law from the bench.

(Wrote a full thread on this here: https://t.co/wZHtTcdaoW)

42/

> I let this go yesterday because I\u2019m trying to ignore the blithering nonsense that rolls out of this counterfeit senator\u2019s mouth.
>
> But I want us to take a few minutes and understand what Joshua means when he talks about \u201cjudicial imperialism.\u201d
>
> \U0001f9f5 https://t.co/hxMdvFwych
>
> — Lindsey Simmons (@LynzforCongress) July 30, 2020

When speaking to Evangelicals--he turns up the religion and "earthly government' bit. When speaking to MAGA--he turns up the populism.

He always point the finger at "the elites" --the group into which he was born and from whom he wants respect.

43/
https://t.co/Ensygj2nO7

That's one of the reasons he's writing another book. So people know he's more than a talking head on Fox New or OANN.

And to begin his pre-campaign tour across America--similar to what he did with the Missouri Liberty Project, sans illegality.

44/

https://t.co/aRJZiMGUrw

Speaking of legal issues, Hawley has faced hard residency questions since taking office in the Senate.

He sold his Missouri home--and then used his father's address in Springfield on his voter registration--despite not living there.

45/

https://t.co/27N8cR9swq

In 2020 he faced more questions when he changed his voter reg to his sister's address, while owning a home in Virginia.

He + his extended family are building a vacation home at the Lake of the Ozarks which he'll use to pretend he lives in MO.

46/

https://t.co/s0GIQxBhtw

He also violated Senate rules when his office received an email to its official inbox + he took that correspondence to post on his personal Twitter.

You might remember his big fight to help Missourians by attacking the NBA.

I wrote about it here (https://t.co/4zHcv3cdlS)

47/

> Let's get this story right:
>
> Senator Hawley violated Senate rules when he blasted a @wojespn's email on his campaign Twitter account.
>
> He did it to silence his own constituents--a display of muscle that if he can end Woj's job, he can end yours too. #FreeWoj
>
> A THREAD
>
> — Lindsey Simmons (@LynzforCongress) July 12, 2020

He stages useless meaningless fights like this all the time. He does it for attention. He does it to put in fundraising emails. He does it to score segments on Fox and OANN.

He does it to increase his profile, while decreasing the legitimacy of the US Senate.

48/



Of course, when one of his plans falls carefully into place--like installing his former General Counsel to the Federal Elections Commission--to make sure he has protection across agencies.

Like Trump--the chaos masks the crime.

49/



Joshua Hawley violates the law. He lies as easily as breathing. And he has positioned himself as the much more effective heir to Trump.

This vote against the election is a test of his influence + leadership over the GOP.

He is an autocrat.

And we must defeat him.

50/50