Twitter Thread by Julian Zelizer



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Before everyone raises glasses to make their “the system worked” toasts, let’s remember…./1

The racism, nativism, sexism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, and vicious social hatred/2

The lawlessness and disorder, the disinformation and lies, the vanishing norms of governance/3

The corruption and cronyism, the toxic rhetoric from the presidential bully pulpit, the dysfunctional and brutal public policies/4

The politicization of basic public health and the dismissal of science and expertise/5

Two impeachments, one insurrection, and Washington, D.C. locked down because of realistic fears of domestic right-wing terrorism/6

All the times that the president "went there" and there was no turning point, there was no backlash, and there were no profiles in courage from a radicalized Republican Party/7

No. The system didn’t work. It survived, and just barely. This could easily have gone a different way/8

Over 400,000 Americans didn’t have to die/9

Anybody who has studied our history—and not the kind put forward in the propaganda contained in the “1776 Report”—should not be surprised. The last four years have been a long time in the making. But we still should feel shocked and upset. Otherwise, we are dangerously numb/10

Now is not the time to forget. Now is the time for our leaders to acknowledge what went down and to start the long process of finally dealing with the roots of our nation’s problems/end