Twitter Thread by Jessica Calefati



Jessica Calefati
@Calefati

It wasn't @ConorLambPA comment about race and the light treatment of the insurrectionists who stormed the Capitol that angered House Rs early this morning. It was his comment about LIES 1/

> WATCH: Tempers flare in the US House chamber as Republican lawmakers shout over Rep. Conor Lamb, temporarily causing benches to empty, for accusing Republicans of lying about why President Trump lost Pennsylvania. pic.twitter.com/WsOQJtyiUb
>
> — NBC News (@NBCNews) January 7, 2021

"Enough has been done here today already to try to strip this Congress of its dignity & these objectors don't need to do anymore. We know that attack today, it didn't materialize out of nowhere, it was inspired by lies, the same lies that you're hearing in this room tonight." 2/

My @PhillyInquirer colleagues and I have spent months speaking to Pennsylvania voters who support the president and deeply believe in a perceived political reality that is Not. Based. In. Fact. The social media echo chamber where these voters often get their news reinforces it 3/

Before Nov. 3, I met a kind, well-meaning man in PA's rural Cambria County who told me earnestly that Joe Biden was being controlled by Bernie Sanders through an ear piece. He knew so bc he'd read it online. He deeply believed what he'd read. Should I have told him the truth? 4/

As reporters, we're trained to lay out the facts. But a huge portion of the electorate doesn't understand anymore how to distinguish truth from lies. Our profession is built around truth and accountability. And some of the people who are most misinformed call us their enemy 5/

So when House Rs objected to Lamb's statement last night, I thought. Do they know? Can THEY distinguish truth from lies? Or has this cancer of misinformation infected our elected officials, too? There was almost a fist fight over which reality America should believe 6/

Here are the FACTS. The deeply reported, researched, verified facts about Pennsylvania's presidential election. Let's start by debunking the lies Trump told yesterday at the rally where he incited a mob of his supporters to attack the Capitol 7/

False Claim: “Pennsylvania had 205,000 more votes than you had voters.” No. The claim comes from a flawed analysis done by PA Rs who relied on incomplete data and a misunderstanding of how those data are collected. @Elaijuh 8/ https://t.co/OgibSZ3L82

False Claim: “More than 10,000 votes in Pennsylvania were illegally counted even though they were received after Election Day.” Wrong. They literally weren’t counted. PA didn’t include those contested ballots in its certified vote total. @Elaijuh 9/ https://t.co/IVNbWPDhgX