

fair;” which was much worse than George Bush’s involvement in the Watergate Scandal, should have led to his impeachment. He was a “**hands-off**” president: lazy, disconnected, disinterested, spending most of his time watching movies on TV; he approved the disastrous policies of his notorious Secretary of State **Henry Kissinger**, who directed the CIA to side with and finance the Central American bloody dictators and their para-military gangs that led to the flood of refugees who are still today seeking asylum in the United States. His “**Reagonomics**” (10% tax cuts across the border), which I call “**Lazarus Economics**,” gave millions to the wealthiest while leaving only crumbs and scraps for the majority of Americans.

No caring American could have imagined the kind of illegal, law-breaking actions and behavior, including their spread of the “Big Lie” and cooperation in what turned into the assault on the Capitol. Incredibly enough, many of those who set the stage for the Capitol invasion, including republican congressmen, have been getting away with their crimes. During the National Gun Violence Survivors Week (February 1-7), some GOP members of Congress displayed their AR-15 lapel pins that hail their opposition to arms control. The pins remind me of the MAGA slogans and even of the Nazi swastikas. After the terrorist attack on the Capitol, GOP Rep. **Marjorie Taylor Greene** accused President Biden of building walls on the grounds of the Capitol in order to prevent Americans from visiting. Rep **Lauren**



Representative Jim Jordan, Republican of Ohio, will lead the Select Committee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government. Credit... Kenny Holston/The New York Times

Boebert even came up with the following tirade against the defenders of women’s rights to abortion: “The Satanic Temple is now opening abortion clinics that will perform abortion as a satanic ritual.” The hypocrisy of the GOP was also displayed on January 5, when House republicans issued a condemnation of Socialism (which they wrongfully equate with Marxist totalitarianism) while fully benefiting from all kinds of federal stimuli and other subsidies.

Finally, the behavior of the republican congressmen and congresswomen during President Biden’s February 7 “**State of the Union Address**” once more revealed the destructive mindset of many republican leaders who still cannot accept his election. Perhaps the most revealing presidential address of all time about the improvements of American life and economy and about how the central government must care for the rights of the majority of citizens and for the democratic ideals, it was received with little applause by the republicans and even by uncivilized yelling by some of them, especially by Marjorie Taylor Greene. Incredibly enough, the GOP chose none else than **Sarah Huckabee Sanders**, Governor of Arkansas, to give the response to Biden’s address. Here you have a GOP governor who has been friendly with none else than the leader of the **Proud Boys** that played a central role in the terrorist attack on the Capitol. Her address was a disaster. She denied practically all that President Biden presented as achievements of his Administration,

even though some of his remarks received the applause of the House Majority leader **Kevin McCarthy**, especially when Biden spoke of the need for political dialogue for the best of America’s present and future. Hopefully, the **MAGA** gang which, at the moment keeps the republican-controlled Chamber utterly divided, will be defeated in the next elections and American democracy will again continue to be the best example of the world. It is more than time, however, that Trump and all his supporters, who broke the law over and over and have manipulated the legal system to the hilt, be brought to justice and that the courts, especially the Supreme Court, regain their role as upholders of the Constitution.

BIO: *Tarcisio Beal is professor Emeritus of History at the University of the Incarnate Word.*

Jesse Treviño

December 24, 1946-February 13, 2023

Iconic American artist, muralist, cultural worker & preservationist, Vietnam veteran, patriot, visionary, survivor, mentor, San Antonio born and bred, Westsider, documentarian, Chicano artist. Jesse Treviño ¡Siempre presente!



La Veladora of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a 40-foot mixed media mural from 2003 adorning the plaza of the Guadalupe Center of Cultural Arts.