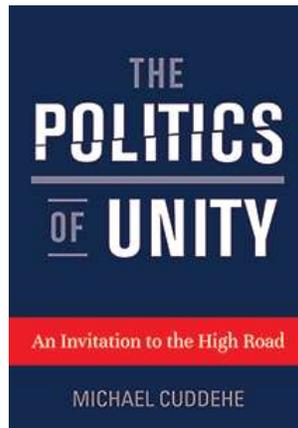


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Healing the Partisan Divide

On the eve of Donald Trump's inauguration, the wounds from the nastiest presidential campaign in modern history show no signs of healing.

A recent Pew Research survey documents the most extreme partisan divide in 150 years. The last time it was this bad, roughly 2% of the population was killed in the Civil War. That equates to 6.5 million people today.

If there is one thing that all Americans might possibly agree on, it's that we don't want this kind of violence; for ourselves, for our families, or for the country we all love in our own disparate ways.

Iowa author Michael Cuddehe has been thinking and writing about the issues surrounding toxic partisanship for 25 years.

He thought things were pretty bad in 1990, when he wrote an early draft of his recent publication, ***The Politics of Unity: An Invitation to the High Road***. The issues addressed in this book have only become more relevant since then.

Mr. Cuddehe's prescription for healing what ails us is to focus on *process*. "Good process creates good product. If we can heal our political process, policy will take care of itself over time."

The Politics of Unity is a small book that covers a lot of ground...philosophy, technology, economics, politics – the spiritual and secular, all oriented to practical application.

A core theme is that our political divisions are a reflection of primitive patterns and instincts, inevitably leading us to conflict, and eventually to war; and that we can no longer afford to indulge in these primitive habits. "Our technology is giving us the power to create a vastly better world, or to destroy ourselves utterly."

Informed by a long career in financial management and active participation in our political process, Mr. Cuddehe identifies the perverse incentives and political dynamics that keep us divided, distracted and stuck on the low road of endless conflict, and offers the steps to needed to disarm these negative forces, enabling a transition to a more enlightened politics.

Well written and delivered in bite sized chapters, *The Politics of Unity* is a stimulating blueprint for a sane, honorable, productive political process.

"We need to learn how to transcend conflict, seek a broader context, and find the common ground," said Mr. Cuddehe. "We don't really have any un-resolvable issues."

About the Author

Michael Cuddehe is a veteran market analyst, trader and fund manager, and is the President of Strategic Global Advisors, LLC. Since 2001 he has published *Risk & Opportunity*, a quarterly political and economic newsletter, and is the author of *Chronicle of Catastrophe: A Contemporaneous History of the Bush Years*. He has been active in politics as a candidate for U.S. Representative, and as a member of the Platform and Executive Committees of the Natural Law Party.

The Politics of Unity: An Invitation to the High Road

150 Pages

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