

EYE ON MIAMI

Sunday, September 11, 2016

Unless Florida voters vote out Trump and Rubio, we are cooked ... by gimleteye

If Marco Rubio and Donald Trump win Florida in November, you might as well be locked in a barrel going over Niagara Falls.

Bottom line: the United States cannot afford Marco Rubio as a senator or Donald Trump as a president. Rubio, who spurned the office of senate only to reverse course and run again, hangs by a thread overshadowed by the GOP presidential candidate who belittled him.

It is up to Miami-Dade County voters in November to show that Rubio's 15% statewide showing in the presidential primary was no fluke. No Rubio, no Trump.

What has Rubio accomplished in the Senate, other than to be a blocking agent for large corporate financiers? What has Trump done except to perfect the political campaign as a variety show, an entertainment devoid of substance?

When facts interfere with preconceived notions, as they do on global warming, Trump plays make believe and Rubio dodges and denies.

Donald Trump and Marco Rubio, if they win in November, have no plan except bluster, no policies except those that can't work for the American people, and no vision except to "kick the can down the road".

Read Nicolas Kristof in the Saturday NY Times:

SundayReview | OP-ED COLUMNIST
Temperatures Rise, and We're Cooked
Nicholas Kristof
SEPT. 10, 2016

When the mercury surges, people die. A heat wave in 2015 melted asphalt in New Delhi, India, and caused the deaths of at least 2,500 people. ONE of Donald Trump's 100 wackiest ideas is that climate change is a hoax fabricated by China to harm America.

"The concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing uncompetitive," Trump once tweeted.

He later said, unconvincingly, that he had been kidding about China, but he has emphasized that he does not believe in climate change and would end serious efforts to prevent it.

That obstinacy confronts a new wave of research showing that climate change is much more harmful than we had imagined.

Until now, the focus has been on rising seas, more intense hurricanes, acidification of oceans, drought and crop failures. But new studies are finding that some of the most important effects will be directly on our bodies and minds.

A clever new working paper by Jisung Park, a Ph.D. student in economics at Harvard, compared the performances of New York City students on 4.6 million exams with the day's temperature. He found that students taking a New York State Regents exam on a 90-degree day have a 12 percent greater chance of failing than when the temperature is 72 degrees.

The Regents exams help determine whether a student graduates and goes to college, and Park finds that when a student has the bad luck to have Regents exams fall on very hot days, he or she is slightly less likely to graduate on time.

Likewise, Park finds that when a school year has an unusual number of hot days, students do worse at the end of the year on their Regents exams, presumably because they've learned less. A school year with five extra days above 80 degrees leads students to perform significantly worse on Regents exams.

The New York City students in Park's study do poorly on hot days even though the majority of city schools are air-conditioned (perhaps in part because the air-conditioning often barely works). Imagine the consequences in hotter climates with less air-conditioning: The average Indian now endures about 33 days a year above 90 degrees, and that is forecast to increase by as many as 100 days by 2100.

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"If students in New York public schools are being affected by heat stress, one can only imagine what it's like for a student in Delhi," Park notes.

Heat affects our bodies as well as our minds: As temperatures rise, people die. In India, a rise of 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit in average daily temperatures leads to a 10 percent increase in the annual mortality rate. Even a single extra hot day leads to a noticeable jump in mortality.

Even in the U.S., heat kills. A single day above 90 degrees increases the monthly mortality rate by more than 1 percent, according to research by Olivier Deschenes and other economists.

We just don't function as well when the mercury goes up. When the temperature rises above 85 degrees, Americans who work outside cut their time in the heat by about an hour. Even in auto factories, most presumably air-conditioned, a week of six days above 90 degrees reduces production by 8 percent.

Perhaps more startling, rising temperatures seem to cause more violence.

"The relationship is really clear," said Edward Miguel, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley, who has studied the issue. "Extremes in climate lead to more violence, more killing, more war, more land riots in Brazil, more sectarian violence in India. It's pretty stunning how the relationship between climate and violence holds across the globe."

The starting point is that heat makes people irritable. Researchers have found hot days linked to more angry honking in Arizona, and more road rage and car accidents in Spain. Scholars have done the math and found that on hot days a major-league baseball pitcher is more likely to retaliate for a perceived offense and deliberately hit a batter.

"High temperatures," that study finds, are "lowering inhibitions against retaliation."

On hot days, property crimes aren't more common, but murders go up with the temperature. Likewise, researchers find that police officers are more likely to draw and fire their weapons during a training session conducted on a hot day.

In Tanzania in any season, elderly women are sometimes accused of witchcraft and hacked or beaten to death. Professor Miguel has found that unusual weather linked to climate change — either drought or heavy rainfall — is associated with a doubling in the number of these "witch" killings.

It appears that 2016 will be the hottest year in recorded history, and each of the first six months of this year set a record as the hottest ever — the hottest January, the hottest February, and so on. But it's not just that the mercury is going up; fundamentally, we are creating a hotter world for which we humans are poorly adapted.

So it's time for Trump — and all Americans — to re-evaluate. Climate change isn't a hoax, and it certainly isn't a Chinese conspiracy. Unless we act, we're cooked!

at 7:57 AM Labels: Gimleteye, Global Warming +2 Recommend this on Google

4 comments:

Geniusofdespair said... I will vote them out and a lot of other dead wood. September 11, 2016

Anonymous said... Marco Rubio promised many times he would not run for reelection to the Senate. Of course, he expected to be President or a high paid lobbyist. His Presidential campaign blew up and it appears no one in the private sector wanted to give him a job. Hence, he reneged on his promise NOT to run. Too bad his opponent is such a lightweight. Nonetheless, Rubio deserves to lose. September 11, 2016

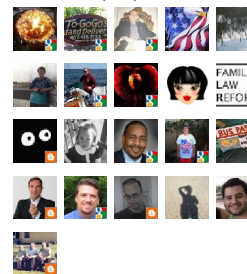
Anonymous said... How much more of a lightweight can Rubio be? He doesn't show up for work if it is an odd day, even day or a day with 24 hours in it. He will probably abandon the position to run for President regardless of who wins this year. Except for not working in the private sector, Rubio is a miniature version of Trump. September 11, 2016

Anonymous said...

- Miami Beach 411
- Miami Mirror
- Miami New Times - Riptide
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The scary thing to me is not so much Roboto or Shrumf, it's the wide eyed supporters out there, from all walks of live!

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Jonathon Dunlop of Australia about the Miami Airport:
 "This is the most disorganized shambles of an airport that exists on this earth."
April 01, 2007 Eye on Miami Comment on Post

On "Colony Collapse Disorder":
 Anonymous said...
 I say lets wait till the last tree is going to be cut down, the last bit of oil used, the last lowland coastal areas flooded before we make any rash decisions that might effect the economy.
April 21, 2007 Eye on Miami Comment

On Bee "Colony Collapse Disorder" being blamed on cell phones:
 Anonymous said...
 Hmm. What are bees doing with cell phones, anyhow?
April 20, 2007 Eye on Miami Comment

On South Florida Water Supply:
 Ron Littlepage said...
 Unfortunately, we know who would win when it comes to allowing development to run amok and it's not the wildlife.
April 20, 2007 Eye on Miami Comment Post

Lesley Blackner said:
 In Florida, the sad reality is that government exists to serve the

development machine, not the citizenry. That's why it's proper to say that in Florida we have government of the developer, by the developer and for the developer.

April 22, 2007 Eye on Miami Post

On City of Miami and Miami Dade County giving \$1,000,000 each to Jorge Perez's Related Group (The Group's 2005 revenues were \$3.25 billion.): "It makes as much sense as me donating half my paycheck to Warren Buffett."

May 6, 2007 Miami Herald Columnist Ana Menendez

On the FCAT Test:

"Florida is a serial mis-user of test scores."

Bob Schaeffer, director for Massachusetts-based FairTest.

May 25, 2007 Miami Herald

Clifford Schulman (Greenberg Traurig Lobbyist):

"This is the first time in 33 years that any one has accused me of fraud." *June 28, 2007 Miami Herald*

I say: hmm.

Max Rameau, Homeless Activist:

"I respect Ron Book for his work with the Homeless Trust, but the Liberty City community and others have given broad support to this idea. I don't know that a big-time millionaire lobbyist can tell us what is best for Liberty City and the black community." *July 28, 2007 Miami Herald*

"After years of mismanagement under a board of political appointees and neighborhood activists, Miami-Dade County administrators have proposed a new way to run the troubled empowerment zone program. The plan: Bring in new political appointees and neighborhood activists."

November 6, 2007 Miami Herald: Reporter Scott Hiaasen

"Saying 'Greater Everglades' and 'Northern Everglades' is not saying Everglades -- other places are deserving of being protected too, but there is only one Everglades. The main thing is to keep the 'Main Thing' the main thing -- which, lately, has not been the main thing." *Bob Mooney - on Listserve "Everglades Commons"*

"Does anyone in their right mind believe that Florida could conduct postal balloting without a major screw-up or scandal? Heavens, no! The whole country is keenly aware that our state is a sump hole of incompetence and corruption."

Carl Hiaasen - March 16, 2008 Miami Herald

On the Charter Review: "Commissioners want us to vote on their own pet changes, ideas the review team explicitly rejected. And, they're throwing their blatantly self-serving ballot questions at us at the same time. What a slap in the face to the charter review team — and to all of us!" *Michael Lewis of Miami Today - April 10, 2008*

On the Miami Dade County

Commission:

"Unfortunately, this is a commission that would build a cyanide factory next to a playground if you hired the right 12 lobbyists," *Miami Lakes Councilman Michael Pizzi - May 14, 2008*

"The days where we're just building sprawl forever, those days are over. I think that Republicans, Democrats, everybody recognizes that that's not a smart way to build communities." *President Barack Obama in Fort Meyers - February 10, 2009*

"So."

Dick Cheney's response when told that two thirds of Americans did not support the war in Iraq. - *Time Magazine 2008*

"It seems like a bad idea can always find a home in the Florida Legislature." - *Howard Simon - Executive Director of Florida ACLU - March 24, 2010*

Complete this sentence: South Florida really needs a..."
Regional plan for controlled growth (before it becomes a concrete jungle similar to Houston), and a completely new set of elected officials that make decisions based on what's good for the future of South Florida instead of what's good for their wallets. - *Jack McCabe, Real Estate expert who predicted the housing boom's end. - August 29, 2011 Miami Herald*

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