

LUCKY PEACH



EDIBLE TRUMP

What's at Steak?

It's time to render the fat from this #edibletrump.

By LAUREN GARFINKEL

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This is the second installment in a new, weekly visual meditation from Lauren Garfinkel of Edible Government on the hatemongering circus peanut running for president of the United States.

On March 8, 2016, fresh off primary wins, Donald Trump held a press conference to defend Trump Wine, Trump Water, and Trump Steaks—products that Mitt Romney had called failures. Flanked by loose slabs of beef, as well as packaged ones with Bush Brothers labels, Trump asked his staff, “Do we have steaks?” He was referring to a defunct product once sold at The

Sharper Image.

But that's yesterday's news. Today, this Trump steak has locked up the presumptive Republican nomination, and he's made no mystery meat of his intentions should he become the leader of the free world. He has called for a ban on all Muslims entering the U.S.; he has called for the deportation of 11 million illegal immigrants and a massive wall along the Mexican border; he's called for huge tax cuts for the wealthy that would bleed the economy. He denies man-made climate change.

His supporters argue that Trump will be compliant, tone down his rhetoric, and help enact their will. But Donald Trump, for better, or, let's be real, worse, answers to no one. He won the nomination on a xenophobic, racist, conspiracy theory-riddled campaign.

There are so many things at stake if Trump actually becomes president. First and foremost, there's the Supreme Court. With the Senate's refusal to hold hearings for Judge Merrick Garland, President Obama's pick, Trump could have one, if not two, seats on the bench to fill. Voting rights, LGBT rights, Obamacare, and a woman's right to choose all hang in the balance.

As commander in chief, Trump will be able to decide where troops are stationed, where ships are sent, and what weapons are deployed. Trump has praised waterboarding ("I love it. I think it's great."), and thinks that families of terrorists should be targeted. Former CIA director Michael Hayden has said these proposals are "in violation of all international laws of armed conflict."

World leaders are more than a little concerned. Peter Mandelson, the former EU trade commissioner says this: "However much people recoiled from George W. Bush or have been disappointed by Obama, they see Trump as off the Richter scale. The reason for that is not that he must be stupid—nobody thinks that—but that he's disdainful, unscrupulous, prepared to say anything to harvest the populist vote. And that makes people frightened."

It seems there's a lot of red meat on our collective butcher block. It's up to voters to render the fat.

EDIBLE GOVERNMENT, STEAK, TRUMP
