

Country's lack of civility has gone too far and must stop



Phillip L. Parker
 CAE, CCE president & CEO

Usually I will write about a business issue that affects employers or our economy ... or maybe write about a quality-of-life issue important to the well-being of our community. After all, I do represent the Chamber of Commerce and business interests in our region.

During the last three years, I penned my perspective several times on the lack of civility in Washington, D.C., or other communities – thank God not ours – as this mean-spirited decline in civil discourse among and between our leaders has driven a much larger and deeper wedge between those who are there to represent us and solve many of our national concerns. Your feedback has been mostly in

agreement.

But enough is enough! The continued rancor and downright nasty dialogue about our country's president is shameful. If the president or other past or present elected leaders have done something illegal, then let our judicial process resolve it. No matter who he or she is, they were elected by our long-standing electoral process. And now the recent shooting of Congressman Steve Scalise and injury to four others, including two police officers trying to stop the violence, has outraged many. The question now remains ... has it outraged enough leaders to take a position that will help calm the radical elements of both sides of our political spectrum? Maybe.

Our country has certainly experienced political ideology, partisan fighting and yes, bloodshed among our leaders and zealots since its founding – not just violence aimed at our presidents, but also at others who dared be disagreeable. But the shootings on June 14 show that some are using this national

deterioration of our civility among our people to justify their own horrific actions and treatment of others. Enough is enough.

So where are we – our little region of the Midwest – in all this? Thank God we don't try to emulate the behavior of some. Here in Ohio we may be insulated from some of this negative attitude, but we could easily fall prey to its trappings. It's bad enough the world has witnessed violence for more than 2,000 years because of religious differences, and we know that has worsened over the last 20 years. But now we are letting our partisan political ideologies separate us into a country that lacks unity, direction and a sense of purpose. Enough is enough.

We just can't stand by and let this continue. Our community never has. But it is a slippery slope if we the people don't speak out and condemn the intolerance, condemn those who encourage violence, condemn those who sit on the sidelines only to conveniently point their

nasty little fingers at others while they allow their own condescending attitudes to prevail.

Thank goodness we have some really good people and organizations in our community that are working each day so as to not let that occur in Dayton and the Miami Valley.

But what are we going to say or direct those other national leaders to do to stop this growing chasm of negativity? A chasm that if left unchecked could be the beginning of some level of anarchy and the downfall of one of the world's greatest experiments in not only democracy, but as the best culture and quality of life any nation has been blessed with since people gathered together. What kind of world or country will we leave our children and grandchildren?

This anger and lack of respect and civility have to stop. It starts with every town in America and every citizen. Maybe the tragedy that just occurred finally gets us to a tipping point where enough is finally enough!

BUSINESS



Dirk Siemon says he did not encounter any trouble on his trip to New York from Berlin this month. In the face of restrictions, proposed travel bans and terror threats, the tourist industry expects weaker growth. THE NEW YORK TIMES

Travel industry awaits eventual slowdown

However, so far worst fears have not been realized.

Micah Maidenberg
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The travel industry is voicing a common refrain: President Donald Trump's travel ban, terror attacks in Europe and a laptop ban represent a recipe for a potential sharp decline in visitors to and from the U.S.

"When you hear words like 'travel ban,' it puts a big chill" on travel and tourism, James J. Murren, chairman and chief executive of MGM Resorts, said at an industry conference last week in New York.

Some data is backing up those concerns. Nearly 20 percent fewer people are visiting this summer from the Middle East, the focus of Trump's travel ban, even though the policy has been blocked by U.S. courts. As of early June, overall advance airline bookings to the United States were down 3.4 percent for this year's summer travel season compared with the same time last year, according to ForwardKeys, a Spanish company that tracks air travel.

And NYC & Co., New York City's tourism marketing agency, said in early June that it expected a 2.4 percent decline this year in international visitors to the city, the top tourist destination for people visiting the United States.

But so far, the worst fears have not been realized. In June, the U.S. Travel Asso-

ciation predicted only a slight fall in the number of people visiting the United States this year. The number of international passengers at airports serving Orlando, Florida, San Francisco and Las Vegas, three of the country's top tourism hubs, rose in the early part of 2017. And travelers from North America using Heathrow Airport in London, as well as Charles de Gaulle and Orly airports in Paris, were also up, according to traffic counts from those airports.

Investors do not seem spooked, either. Shares in Wyndham Worldwide, the hotel company, are near their highest ever, as are shares of Marriott International, which merged last year with Starwood Hotels. A Bloomberg index of stocks for airlines based in the U.S. has risen 6.5 percent since the start of the year. Shares in United Airlines, which faced major public relations problems after the rough treatment of a passenger in April, are up 6.3 percent since the start of 2017.

J. Scott Kirby, president of United Airlines, was asked at a recent conference if the terrorist attacks in Britain had had any impact on demand for flights to that country. The short answer, he said, was no. "They're terrible, that these events happen," Kirby said. "And in a way, even worse is that they're happening with such regularity that there isn't much impact, that people are almost becoming numb, perhaps."

Economic Indicators

Sales Tax Collections

County	Current Rate	Mar 2017	Mar 2016	12 Mos Change	YTD 2017	YTD 2016	YTD Change
Butler	0.75%	\$ 3,459,043	\$ 3,570,065	-3.11%	\$ 11,195,755	\$ 10,938,137	2.36%
Clark	1.50%	\$ 2,074,075	\$ 1,973,267	5.11%	\$ 6,593,491	\$ 6,330,148	4.16%
Darke	1.50%	\$ 701,931	\$ 717,830	-2.21%	\$ 2,215,926	\$ 2,190,399	1.17%
Greene	1.00%	\$ 2,039,079	\$ 2,044,074	-0.24%	\$ 7,025,687	\$ 6,822,242	2.98%
Miami	1.25%	\$ 1,390,097	\$ 1,396,052	-0.43%	\$ 4,577,283	\$ 4,390,651	4.25%
Montgomery	1.00%	\$ 6,374,132	\$ 6,277,145	1.55%	\$ 20,546,963	\$ 20,255,455	1.44%
Preble	1.50%	\$ 455,348	\$ 438,974	3.73%	\$ 1,486,350	\$ 1,363,114	9.04%
Warren	1.00%	\$ 3,022,747	\$ 2,741,619	10.25%	\$ 9,828,023	\$ 9,376,149	4.82%
Region Total		\$ 19,516,453	\$ 19,159,026	1.87%	\$ 63,469,478	\$ 61,666,295	2.92%

Source: http://www.tax.ohio.gov/tax_analysis/tax_data_series/sales_and_use/publications_tds_sales/51M0116.aspx

Residential Home Sales

	Mar '17	Mar '16	%Change	YTD '17	YTD '16	%Change
Number of Homes Sold	1301	1148	13.33%	3020	2823	6.98%
Total Home Sales	\$194,785,740	\$163,941,377	18.81%	\$436,996,761	\$371,495,995	17.63%
Average Sale Price (\$)	\$149,720	\$143,808	4.11%	\$144,701	\$132,725	9.02%

Source: Dayton Area Board of Realtors, Dayton Area Home Sales for March 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Register for all events at DaytonChamber.org.

■ **Safety Council Group Rating 2-Hour Training**, June 28, 7:30 to 10 a.m., Crowne Plaza Dayton, 33 E. Fifth St., Dayton. Topic: ADA/FMLA and ■ **Safety Council Information Meeting**,

June 29, 8 to 9 a.m., Crowne Plaza Dayton, 33 E. Fifth St., Dayton. Topic: Learn about the benefits of Dayton/Miami Valley Safety Council membership

■ **Ribbon Cutting for Willis Acquisition Enterprise LLC**, June 30, 1 to 2:30 p.m., 714 E. Monument Ave., Suite 212 (TechTown), Dayton

■ **Breakfast Briefing**, July 14, 7:15 to 9 a.m., Dayton Racquet Club, 40 N. Main St., Dayton. Speaker: Larry Dillin, president, VisCap Development; topic: What's in store for Austin Landing's Phase II?

■ **Safety Breakfast with the Experts**, July 21, 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., Crowne Plaza

Dayton, 33 E. Fifth St., Dayton. Topic: Common OSHA problems and their costs

■ **Ribbon Cutting for Principal Financial Group**, July 21, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 7625 Paragon Rd., Suite B, Centerville.

AVIATION INDUSTRY

Boeing sees future without iconic 747

Planemaker predicts airlines will want efficiency.

By Julie Johnsonson
 Bloomberg

Boeing sees the future, and it doesn't include jumbo passenger jets. Not its own iconic 747. Not the Airbus A380.

The U.S. planemaker has dropped the category reserved for four-engine

behemoths from its annual forecast for the commercial-aircraft market. Instead, Boeing predicts that airlines will use more efficient twin-engine jets for long-range flights – like its 787 Dreamliner and 777X, or a mid-market plane that's on the drawing board.

By leaving so-called very large aircraft off its two-decade projection for a \$6.05 trillion jetliner market, Boeing said it was reflecting a

market reality: There is little to no chance of reviving sales of those models. The Chicago-based company and Airbus already had pared production of their biggest aircraft as orders dwindled, and Boeing has warned it may stop making the 747's passenger version.

"We don't see much demand for really big aircraft going forward," Randy Tinseth, Boeing's vice president for marketing, said

ahead of the Paris Air Show, which began Monday. "We find it hard to believe that Airbus will deliver the rest of their A380s in backlog."

Airbus still sees a long-term market for the planes although it didn't log a single A380 sale last year. The Toulouse, France-based manufacturer says airlines will need larger jets as passenger traffic doubles and congestion limits the number of flights into megahubs.

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Saturday, July 1, 2017

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10:00pm - Fireworks at the dam
 Live radio broadcast on WETT 90.5FM

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