

BENICIA VIGIL
Keeping Watch over the Trump Presidency
March 20, 2017 – Vernal Equinox



Welcome to the Vigil

Larnie Fox

This Land Is Your Land *By Woody Guthrie*

Chorus: This land is your land, this land is my land,
From California to the New York island;
From the redwood forest
to the Gulf Stream waters
This land was made for you and me.

As I was walking that ribbon of highway,
I saw above me that endless skyway:
I saw below me that golden valley:
This land was made for you and me.

[Chorus]

Nobody living can ever stop me,
As I go walking that freedom highway;
Nobody living can ever make me turn back
This land was made for you and me.

[Chorus]

Eternal Vigilance Is the Price of Liberty

Beware the Autocrat: Six Rules, Masha Gessen

Rule #1: *Believe the autocrat.* He means what he says. Whenever you find yourself thinking, or hear others claiming, that he is exaggerating, that is our innate tendency to reach for a rationalization. This will happen often: humans seem to have evolved to practice denial when confronted publicly with the unacceptable.

Rule #2: *Do not be taken in by small signs of normality.*

Rule #3: *Institutions will not save you.*

Rule #4: *Be outraged.* If you follow Rule #1 and believe what the autocrat-elect is saying, you will not be surprised. But in the face of the impulse to normalize, it is essential to maintain one's capacity for shock. This will lead people to call you unreasonable and hysterical, and to accuse you of overreacting. It is no fun to be the only hysterical person in the room. Prepare yourself.

Rule #5: *Don't make compromises.* Ted Cruz made the journey from calling Trump "utterly amoral" and a "pathological liar" to endorsing him in late September, to praising his win as an "amazing victory for the American worker."
Don't make compromises!

Rule #6: *Remember the future.* Nothing lasts forever. Donald Trump certainly will not, and Trumpism, to the extent that it is centered on Trump's persona, will not either.

Local Actions Are US

Andrés Soto
Steve Young

Other Concerns, Other Actions...

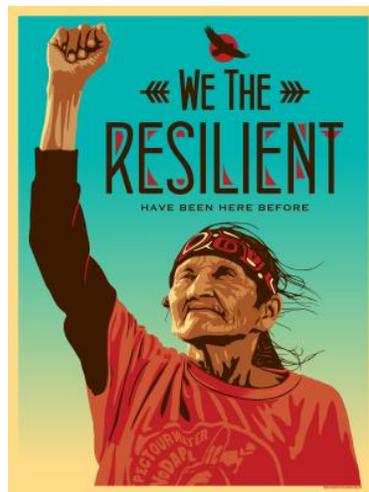
Everyone...

We must speak *(From Martin Luther King, Jr.)*

We must speak with all the humility that is appropriate to our limited vision,
But we must speak.
And we must rejoice as well,
On the high grounds of a firm dissent
Based upon the mandates of conscience
And the reading of history.
Perhaps a new spirit is rising among us.

We Shall Overcome

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome some day
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe that
We shall overcome some day.
We'll walk hand in hand . . .
We shall live in peace . . .
We are not afraid . . .



Let's stay in touch for future events — we will continue to support one another in keeping vigilant.
groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/benicia-resist/join
BeniciaIndependent.com, and on Facebook:
[BeniciaIndivisible4Justice](https://www.facebook.com/BeniciaIndivisible4Justice) & [VallejoBeniciaIndivisible](https://www.facebook.com/VallejoBeniciaIndivisible)
Thanks to us ALL, We are Resilient!