

TELL IT LIKE IT IS Community Comment: September 10th, 2015 Mike Goldsby

A phrase that I've heard to describe Donald Trump: "He tells it like it is."

Conservative Presidential Candidate Rand Paul explained the attraction of Donald Trump. He said "Voters have a hunger for candidates who will **tell it like it is** and who aren't career politicians. People are startled when they hear someone with strong opinions. Many politicians won't ever say anything. They talk on both sides of every issue. Their success is really in standing for nothing."

I agree with that statement. A definition of **Tell it like it is**: To tell the truth no matter who is criticized or how much it hurts, to speak the truth no matter how unpleasant, to describe a situation honestly. I think people are mistaking Trump's rudeness for brutal honesty, and mistaking his opinions for fact.

Listen to this quote: "Let us begin by committing ourselves to the truth, to see it like it is and **tell it like it is.**" That quote is from President Richard Nixon.

At the Republican debate, Fox News reporter Megyn Kelly asked Trump about his use of sexist language, with direct quotes that he has called specific women "Fat Pigs", "Dogs" and "Disgusting Animals." Trump said the question was unfair and never answered. He later told CNN that the female reporter wasn't rationale because she "Had blood coming out of her whatever." End of quote. He backtracked and said she was angry, and meant she had blood coming out of her nose and her eyes. Do you really buy that explanation? He was trying to invalidate her as a woman by saying she must be having her period. Politically correct? Nope. Spewing hateful stupidity? Yep. Hey, I'm just **Telling it like it is.**

His comments about illegal immigrants from Mexico seemed to resonate with conservatives. He stated the United States has over "Thirty three million illegals." I looked up both conservative and liberal sources. I ^{also} looked at Homeland Security statistics and the Pew Research Center. The agreed upon number is closer to eleven million, using a one million margin of error. So exaggerating a number by ~~300~~ per cent is hardly **telling it like it is.**

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Donald Trump has completely reversed many of his political opinions prior to becoming a conservative candidate. For example, he used to be pro-choice and a strong supporter of universal health care. So is Trump **Telling it like it is?** Or is he saying whatever it takes to get elected?

Republican Candidate Jeb Bush recently told the Washington Post “Trump personalizes everything. If you are not totally in agreement with him, you are an idiot.” By the way, Jeb spoke that quote in Spanish. He is bilingual.

So I think we can raise our expectations when a person declares their candidacy for President. I don't care if Donald Trump the host of Celebrity Apprentice has a nasty feud with Rosie O'Donnell. I kind of think they deserve each other. But I would be embarrassed by a President who called any woman “a fat slob.”

I found another great quote from an anonymous source: “If you have to keep telling people how real you are, it is probably because you are a fake.”

Hey, sorry. I'm just **Telling it like it is.**

This is Mike Goldsby for Community Comment.