

Community Comment  
September 13, 2016

This is Erin Dunn of the Fortuna Chamber of Commerce with a Community Comment.

How many of us could have our minds changed today about which candidate we support for President?

What I've noticed myself doing is tuning out the negatives about the candidate I support and hanging on every negative word that's against the opponent. And the opposite is true too—I believe the positives about my candidate and am skeptical—if not scoffing—about the opposition.

Whatever is said between now and November 8 is of no consequence to me. There is nothing that can be written or spoken that will change my mind. I don't care if you rant on facebook (except you will unfriend you if you rant against my candidate, unless I really like you and then I'll just ignore it), it won't change my mind.

The upcoming debates will just make me nervous. I want my candidate to do well and I will probably yell back at the tv when the opponent or moderators say something ridiculous.

And as different as the two candidates are, I know that whomever your candidate is, you feel the exact same way. The OTHER candidate is ridiculous, the OPPONENT is not worthy to be President. So while we might see things exactly the opposite, we also see them the same. Weird, huh?

I think you could take a written transcript from Fox News and MSNBC, take out the candidates' names and black out the source, and you wouldn't know for sure which candidate was being talked about. The exact same thing is being said about both.

I'm curious about undecideds. I can't remember ever being undecided this close to an election. What does it take to persuade someone to like a candidate? Policy issues? Speaking style? Experience? Background? What?

What I really don't understand are people who don't vote at all.

Going with the "I don't like either candidate" is just plain lazy. It's too easy of an out. Read up on both, and pick one, because one candidate is going to be your President.

I'll be very upset if the other candidate wins. Honestly. But then I have to think—how does the President affect my day-to-day life? I can get all up in arms about decisions made, and not made, by the President and Congress, but how does that impact me directly? I'm an over-50 woman. I don't need Planned Parenthood anymore and I'm not going to be drafted. I don't have any skin in the game with the stock market. I don't care if they raise the age limit of Social Security because I'm going to be working until I'm 75 anyway. Health care decisions absolutely impact me, and of course Medicare decisions touch me. I'm counting on the big senior voting block to help me out with those issues.

We're getting down to the wire. Conventional wisdom has been debased and debunked. Eight weeks from today we will have a chance to vote our conscience and our convictions. Unless you are vote by mail, then you can cast your vote any time. Every election we think it's the worst campaign for President that has taken place in our Country's history. It's not—it just feels like it.

This has been Erin Dunn with a Community Comment.