The Party of Contempt

From Ted Van Dyk at The Wall Street Journal, The Democrats' Biggest Problem Is Cultural:

> *Political scientist V.O. Key famously observed that "the voters are not fools." Millions of them, including traditional Democrats, driven by anger and frustration, abandoned their political roots last November to make Donald Trump president. Many probably sensed that chaos and fumbling would follow. By their lights, it was an acceptable price to pay to rid themselves of leaders who had forgotten them.*
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> *Congressional Democrats are right to begin construction of an alternative agenda. But as they do so, they must recognize that most Americans are not racist, sexist, ignorant or opposed to alternative lifestyles. Most largely accept the cultural and social changes of the past half-century. To recapture traditional Democratic voters, and attract new ones, Democrats must learn empathy for those who believe they are being mocked for working hard, going to church, serving in the military, and trying to instill moral standards in their children.*
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> *Back in the day we spoke admiringly of officeholders and candidates who were "for the people." Those same people now must come to feel again that there are Democrats who understand them, their values and their aspirations and do not view them as cultural inferiors to be manipulated in campaign years. President Trump is not our problem.*

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Van Dyk is an experienced Democratic strategist from the days of Hubert Humphrey and George McGovern. He learned his lesson in those campaigns. That his wisdom is being ignored indicates how far left of center the party has gone.

Their smugness and contempt is retarding their recovery and only enabling Trump.