

Democrats, unite

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Like millions of other Democrats, my angst over the suicidal presidential campaign has now reached a critical level. It seems clear that we are hell-bent on losing an election that couldn't possibly be lost. My personal solution would be to take Clinton and Obama into a small room, give them a coin, and force them to flip: The winner will be the presidential nominee, and the loser will be the "veep." No more bloodletting. No more putting your personal interests above those of the Democratic Party and the people of the United States.

But of course that isn't going to happen. We will instead be treated to a political fiasco in which the "winner" will emerge from the party convention so politically crippled as to have virtually no chance of ending the reign of horror, malfeasance and greed that has been visited upon us by the Republican Party.

There is only one hope left, and that is that the American people, despite their disgust with the Democratic primary process and the endless campaign, will realize that electing a Republican president is simply not an option; that policies, programs and the philosophy of governance have more to do with the party than the candidate; that in electing a Republican they will ensure four more years of digging the hole we are in even deeper.

I don't have a lot of hope that *any* candidate will be able to quickly repair the damage done to our country by the Bush Republican Party, but I am absolutely sure that the only chance of beginning that process is by electing a Democrat as president. I hope that Clinton and Obama come to that realization as well. And soon.

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