Election 2016

Postelection reactions include anger and hope.

January 9, 2017 By Joe Mejía

What the election of Donald Trump as the United States' 45th president will mean for those of us living with and affected by HIV is unknown. Neither President-elect Trump nor the Republican Party platform has outlined any specific policies regarding the epidemic, but the Republican silence on the matter suggests that HIV will not be a priority. We do know, however, that the Affordable Care Act is under siege; if dismantled, it could mean the end of care and treatment for many people living with HIV. Postelection, HIV activists, advocates and service providers took to social media to vent their anger, but because we are a resilient community, flashes of hopeful resistance soon arose from the rage. Right now, the future may not look bright, but we will continue to fight.





Peter Staley

November 9 at 6:34am · Cambridge, MA ·

I can't find any words of hope. The more I ponder this, the darker it seems. I'm going to spend the next few days telling those close to me that I love them. Please do the same. And then I will join what now becomes the mass opposition.

I will block armchair progressives that use this moment to attack each other. I only want to fight with those who are unified in pushing back against our real enemies -- and they are not us.

Almost thirty years ago, I thought I only had a few years left and made a decision to spend them fighting back, while feeling the love of those willing to do the same. Seems like the only path now as well.

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