



IN THE NEWS

by sophomore Tara Jochumson



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illustrations by Kacie Herring

Americans torn on Trump tweets

Should Trump stop tweeting?

"I think he should go back to school because he does not sound intelligent through his tweets or his speeches."

- senior Emma Yoder

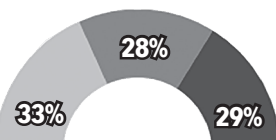
33% said YES

"He, just like all Americans, is entitled to freedom of speech, and restricting someone's views just because you dislike them is hypocrisy and objectively wrong."

- senior Tyler Staker

28% said NO

29% had NO OPINION



Hudson High students unsure of Russian meddling

Do you think Russia impacted the 2016 Presidential Election?

"There is evidence with the Trump campaign [of possible corruption]."

- senior Alex Klingfus

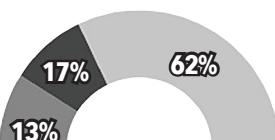
13% said YES

"...people who already disliked Trump a lot created mass hysteria just because they were upset with the outcome."

- senior Grace Jorgensen

17% said NO

62% had NO OPINION



Rumors of corruption in the 2016 election

Do you think there was any corruption or foul play in the 2016 Presidential Election?

"They worked with Russia."

- senior Reese Larson

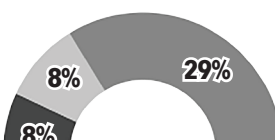
8% said TRUMP

"Her organization shut down after the election, there really is no better proof."

- freshman Naomi Henderson

8% said CLINTON

29% said BOTH



Quips & Quandaries

by senior Caleb McCullough

Corruption in the United States

Every morning, I get up at 6:30 a.m., stumble out of bed half-asleep, and turn on *Morning Joe* on MSNBC. And every morning, I hear the same type of headlines: Trump's campaign advisor makes millions playing dirty politics in Russia. DNC official confirms that the party favored Clinton in the primary. Different parties, same story: corruption.

At this point I've become so accustomed to it that I'm not even surprised anymore. Of course Trump's campaign conspired with Russia. Of course Clinton got debate questions from CNN workers. That's what politicians do.

But it's not what they're supposed to do. Politicians are supposed to look out for the people they represent, not themselves. The moment they stop doing their job, they no longer deserve the power that we give them.

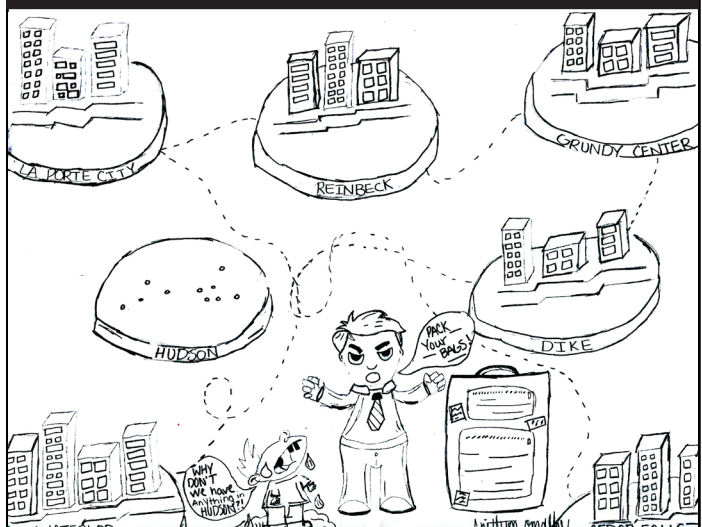
In 2016, Transparency International, an organization that ranks countries based on levels of government corruption, ranked the United States 18th on their Corruption Perception Index. That's worse than Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, and nearly half of the European Union. That should be alarming to everyone.

This is America. When we thought the King of England was acting unfairly, we didn't just sit idly by. We banded together and created a whole new country, just to "stick it to the man". That country, this country, was founded on the principle that our elected officials work for the people, not for themselves. America and its leaders are supposed to be the shining city on a hill, the standard for developed nations. But when we can't even trust the people in charge, what message are we sending to the world?

The most depressing part of this is that there seems to be nothing that we, as citizens, can do about it. Trump was elected in desperate protest against the status quo. He was exciting to some because he claimed to be incorruptible. He promised to "drain the swamp," but all he has seemed to do since he took office is bury himself in the mud and set the swamp on fire.

But I have not lost hope. We do have two powerful weapons against corruption: our votes and our voice. We must continue to vote for candidates who have our best interest at heart. And we must be vigilant, calling out corruption whenever and wherever it is found.

Nothing In Hudson | by freshman Caitlyn O'Malley



the pirate press | the pirate

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National High School Press Association

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