

IS LIFE A PENDULUM?

My husband, Dick, and I were married at a young age by today's standards. We were in California, where Dick had a year left in college.

At the time, there was a Republican named Ronald Reagan who was the governor of California. People asked, "What's an actor doing as governor?" I thought he was pretty good. He spoke well and didn't seem afraid to do so.

This was remarkable for me because politically, I was very liberal in those days.

Ronald Reagan went on, as everyone knows, to become President. What is memorable is how different things were then compared to now. He had strong beliefs and policies.



President Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy
CA Governor 1967-1975, President 1981-1989

SAY NO TO DRUGS

Nancy Reagan championed the "Just Say No" campaign, leading to zero tolerance drug policies and educational programs like D.A.R.E. taught in schools throughout America. Today, twenty-one states have legalized recreational marijuana use.

Pot, homelessness and crime are everywhere.



3 STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT

Ronald Reagan's staunch support of tough-on-crime policies led to "Three Strikes and You're Out" laws adopted in the nineties. Twenty-four states kept repeat violent offenders in prison.

Crime plummeted and cities thrived.

NO CASH BAIL

Today, legislators in states like California, New York and Illinois are passing "No Cash Bail" laws to release dangerous criminals back on the streets, free to re-offend. **Crime is skyrocketing**, and many people are upset and leaving cities. Almost 44% of criminals released return to prison within the first year.



Liz Uihlein

The fashion industry is known for trends coming in and out of vogue. Ronald and Nancy Reagan had solid, unwavering Midwestern values. Can the pendulum swing back?

Photo adapted from and courtesy of Wikimedia Commons: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nancy_Reagan_hugs_President_Reagan_as_he_makes_an_address_to_the_nation_announcing_the_Reagan-Bush_candidacies_for_Re-election.jpg

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