

President James Buchanan, that wasn't a peaceful transition of power. The South seceded.

Goodwin points out that it took nearly two centuries to happen again, though.

"The only time it didn't happen again was in 2020. And that's the feeling we have, that that election was lost," Goodwin recalled. "There's echoes of the past, always."

I'm not asking how we got here. I know how we got here, at least in my mind, which you might disagree with. We got here from our leaders' bad behavior, enabling intolerance, cruelty and even

for a while, the men started making videos as to why the women were wrong," Huber said.

It continued when a Black woman joined the conversation and asked would you rather be in a conference room at work with a white man or a white woman?

"And then all of these Black women came into her TikTok; the discussion of how white women are not good allies," said Huber, who is white. "So just this one bear versus man conversation has been a microcosm of our politics in this country."

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### People power

Kansans remember the government acknowledging hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing relief checks. This reminds me of Proverbs 19:17: "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done."

Many companies faced cutbacks, despite employing many essential Kansas workers. Yet special interests seem to hold more sway during our toughest times. These powerful interests, who held more power in government than the people, received government pandemic assistance while also cutting people's jobs.

Organizing unions and protesting businesses isn't enough. We deserve better. We shouldn't have to work into our 80s. Low birth rates reflect economic anxieties. It's time to prioritize people, not corporations.

I look forward to lower food costs as Kansas eliminates the grocery sales tax. I look forward to a president uniting us, and not

dividing us. Join

RepresentUs, the largest nonpartisan, nonprofit organization in the United States devoted to combating political corruption, to fight for fair representation and a secure future for all. We need a stronger federal government.

- Ryan Service, Overland Park

### For the children

June 21 was national Asking Saves Kids, or ASK, Day, encouraging parents to ask whether homes their children visit have firearms stored safely. It's an important step in solving a gigantic problem.

Some 4.6 million children live in homes with unlocked, loaded guns. Studies confirm keeping kids safe relies on safe gun storage, but a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found nearly half of gun owners surveyed fail to do so. Children are not only victims. Last year, children unintentionally shot and killed 157 people while injuring another 270, according to Everytown for

Gun Safety.

Each year, guns in the U.S. account for some 45,000 deaths. Father's Day weekend alone, at least 50 people were shot and killed in nearly 200 shootings, according to the national Gun Violence Archive. Yet in the past 10 years, little meaningful gun-reform legislation has passed Congress. In Kansas and Missouri, laws that have passed make owning a gun even easier.

Real change will happen only when a majority of us supporting gun reform elect like-minded candidates. In this election year, we have to vote as though our lives and those of our children depend on it. Because they do.

- Judy Sherry, Grandparents for Gun Safety, Kansas City

### Taxpayers' due

The fuss over building new stadiums for the Kansas City football and baseball teams raises the old adage: Socialize the cost and privatize the profit. Yes, soak the taxpayers for building costs while the team owners take home the profits.

What about making a

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