Bill's 'bimbo eruptions' haunt Hillary's campaign

Michael Costello/Lewiston Tribune

I love irony.

A culture of victimhood serves as the bedrock upon which the Democratic Party raises its foundation. The Democrats' central purpose is to convince as many people as possible that they are victims and that only Democrats will serve as their champions.

A New York Times story earlier this week described the misgivings of one of Hillary Clinton's most visible supporters, Lena Dunham. I know little of Dunham other than she made a false accusation of rape against a male student who attended Oberlin College with her.

While Dunham remains a visible public advocate, in private she is uneasy about Hillary's role in smearing the reputations of a number of women who accused Bill Clinton of sexual assault and harassment.

And she must be squeamish about Hillary Clinton's role in trashing the reputation of a 12-yearold rape victim. She represented the man accused of the crime and won by besmirching the young girl. Afterward, Clinton admitted her client's guilt and laughed about the damage she inflicted on the victim.

The sexual adventurism of Clinton's husband, the 42nd president of the United States, was so well known that his 1992 campaign staff included a division devoted to tamping down "bimbo eruptions." That's not my terminology. That was the expression coined by the staffer who managed the operation.

The bimbo Gestapo managed to keep all but one of Bill Clinton's paramours quiet prior to the election. The exception was Gennifer Flowers. And she had audiotapes. Bill went on television and confessed to moral weaknesses. Hillary humiliated herself on national television and forgave him. That was supposed to be the end of it.

Bill, who placed second in the New Hampshire Democratic primary with 25 percent of the vote, declared himself "the Comeback Kid," and the rest is squalid history.

Shortly after the election, a Newsweek investigative reporter discovered Paula Jones, an Arkansas woman who accused then-Gov. Clinton of attempting to use his Arkansas State Police bodyguards to arrange an unwelcome peccadillo.

What followed birthed the alternative press. Newsweek suppressed the story, but someone tipped off the Drudge Report. The American Spectator, a conservative opinion journal, then published its own investigation using the testimony of the bodyguards. The Los Angeles Times soon followed.

Team Clinton's character assassins attacked Jones' credibility and her character. Clinton's campaign manager declared that Jones was what one should expect when a \$100 bill is dragged through a trailer park. Hillary joined in the smears.

Bill ultimately settled Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit for \$850,000.

Other women followed.

Kathleen Willey accused Clinton of pinning her against a wall in the Oval Office and forcibly groping her.

And Juanita Broaddrick leveled the most serious accusation of all, that Clinton had raped her. Because she never filed a formal complaint, no forensic evidence was ever collected. But Broaddrick did tell her friends about the incident, and they all corroborate her story.

<u>Vox.com</u>, the left-leaning web magazine, recounted the history of the event earlier this month, and no honest reader could doubt that the author and the editors of Vox found Broaddrick's accusation credible.

This matters because today's Democratic Party has spent the last few years creating an atmosphere of hysteria around sexual assault. The Obama administration exploited a miserably conducted survey of women on two college campuses to push the narrative that one in five coeds can expect to be raped before graduation. Obama also forced colleges and universities to suspend due process whenever an accusation is made.

The results of this feminist jihad bore predictable fruit. A Columbia University woman, who claimed to have been raped, made her "victimhood" into performance art after an investigation exonerated the man she accused. She remains a hero with feminist extremists in Congress.

A University of Virginia woman told Rolling Stone that she had been gang raped at a fraternity and mistreated by the UVA administration when she complained. The left, including the mainstream news media, made her story a cause célèbre.

That story was also false.

Earlier this month, Hillary jumped on the radical feminist bandwagon and declared to any woman who makes an accusation of sexual assault: "You have a right to be heard and you have a right to be believed."

Hillary placed a great deal of trust in her news media bodyguard. And they performed as expected. But Dunham (whoever that is) wasn't fooled.

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