7.

Last but not least, cultural shifts (the decline of the churches, gay marriage, Black Lives Matter, the sustained "attack" on whiteness (leading to a siege mentality), cultural and academic "elites" who deny the possibility of "truth," and the rise of "culture warriors" who critique valued waypoints, icons, and symbols

1.

Radical Libertarians usurped control of a GOP that lost its way, allowing them to implement a years-long plan to "dismantle the administrative state"

2.

Secularist and religious conservatives saw the success of the radical libertarians as the opportunity to "get in line" in order to shrink government, install originalist judges, roll-back regulations, and cut taxes, despite their disagreements with some of the radical libertarian agenda.

6.

Obama's presidency
"superactivated" racist and
nativist/anti-immigrant
elements of the electorate,
who were used to garner
votes against the
Democrats.

How We Got Trump

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Democrats, not seeing what was coming, allowed the GOP to win the ground game during the Obama years, seizing governors' mansions and state houses, paving the way for aggressive gerrymandering.

5.

The 40+ years of erosions of real wages, unaddressed by either party and exacerbated by the financial crisis of 2008, was seized as both a wedge and cudgel by Trump, with promises of remediation. 4

The GOP, whose cultural commitments were weakend, had only its "freedom" agenda remaining. This dovetailed well with radical libertarianism.