

USA

Preemptive pardons for family members proves Biden's corruption in office

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January 20, 2025. Finally, a much-needed change in government arrived for the United States with the swearing in of President Donald Trump at noon. BUT...a few minutes before midday, came an astounding news bulletin that outgoing President Joe Biden had

just issued another pardon for more family members and a few others. Donald Trump was delivering his acceptance speech and did not learn about Biden's pardon until later.

On December 1, 2024, Biden had pardoned his son Hunter, a convicted felon for illegal gun possession and nonpayment of federal income taxes, despite an earlier promise that he would never do such a thing. Biden's pardon included any crime Hunter may have committed since the beginning of 2014. It was worded in such a manner that Biden himself was also pardoned.

In the remaining minutes of his mandate, Biden added insult to injury by pardoning his siblings and their spouses: James B. Biden, Sara Jones Biden, Valerie Biden Owens, John T. Owens, and Francis W. Biden. (Biden also pardoned former Representative Liz Cheney and the January 6 investigators, General Mark Milley a critic of Trump, and Dr. Anthony Fauci the former top health official during Covid.)

The pardons came as a total surprise. So why did Biden do this? These were preemptive pardons since none of the persons have been formally charged with breaking any laws despite investigations. It likely reflects an incipient fear of the future, namely that under a Republican Administration there might be a Congressional investigation to formally bring to light the entire panoply of the Biden family members' unprecedented financial dealings that enriched them. As Lord Acton once said: "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Biden no doubt carries with him memories of the years long political prosecution of Donald Trump in more than one indictment. These efforts proved fruitless in preventing Donald Trump from winning the presidential election in 2024 in a stunning victory that included electoral votes, the popular vote and all seven so-called swing states in what was a carefully monitored election, observed by specially appointed legal monitors by Republicans to prevent any potential wrongdoing by Democrats.

Some of President Trump's financial and other actions may have been questionable but not illegal whereas influence peddling by Biden and his son Hunter has been already amply researched. Indeed, three books on the matter were published recently.

In October 2024, former New York City mayor and federal prosecutor (also private lawyer to President Trump in his first term) Rudy Giuliani published *The Biden Crime Family: The Blueprint for Their Prosecution*. It is a carefully researched book by someone who was a very effective prosecutor as Assistant Attorney General in the Reagan Administration and was responsible for the conviction of hundreds of mafiosi. More recently a congressman, James Comer, who led investigations into the Biden

family's nefarious activities, published *All the President's Money: Investigating the Secret Foreign Schemes That Made the Biden Family Rich*. Upon learning of Biden's last pardon "Rep. James Comer, the Kentucky Republican who chairs the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, said **in a statement** that the "preemptive pardons for the Biden Crime Family serve as a confession of their corruption as they sold out the American people to enrich themselves."

A third book written by an investigative reporter of the conservative newspaper New York Post, Miranda Devine, was entitled *The Big Guy: How a President and His Son Sold Out America*. (Big Guy was a code name used by Hunter Biden supposedly in referring to his father.)

Mindful of the prosecutions launched against President Trump – they were more like persecutions – during the Biden Administration, both Biden pardons smack of "I've done it to you, but you can't do it to me!" There is no question that Biden abused his office especially as Vice President in the Obama Administration by enabling his son Hunter to establish highly lucrative business links that allowed father, son and siblings to pocket millions of dollars.

The unprecedented last-minute pardons highlight the deep corruption that has characterized the second half of Biden's 50-year career as a politician: county council in his home state of Delaware, senator, vice president, president. There may or may not be further investigations of Biden's extensive world of corruption, but history will trump any political pardon.