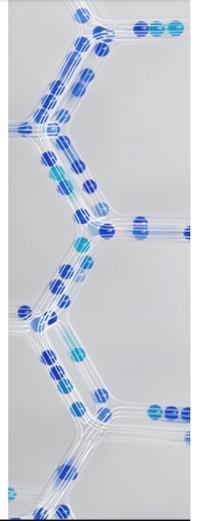




IBM Cloud. The most open and secure public cloud for business.

[Learn about the free tier →](#)



ADVERTISEMENT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't trust Jeb Bush with the power of the presidency



Terry Schiavo in a portrait provided by her family.

I was disappointed by Michael Putney's Feb. 6 Other Views column about the legacy of Jeb Bush (*First round goes to Jeb*, Feb. 4). Putney writes that it was "doctrinaire liberals" who opposed Bush's involvement in the tragic case of Terri Schiavo — my then-wife.

Who is Putney referring to as the "doctrinaire liberals" who were horrified by the former governor's intervention in my family's trauma? The Republican Attorney General Charlie Crist, who refused to take up the governor's crusade? Republican Senate President Jim King, who fought Bush on passage of "Terri's Law?" Pinellas County Judge George Greer, a Republican and Southern Baptist, who looked at the evidence of my wife's case before having his rulings tossed aside by a governor who never met her?

Does he mean me, a registered Republican?



Miami-Dade's first death from coronavirus. Florida's total hits 2,900 as positives rise

The truth about Jeb Bush is that he used my wife for his own personal political gain. You don't have to be a doctrinaire liberal to be angry about that. In fact many conservatives were also horrified by Bush's zealous intervention.

Local news has never been more important

Subscribe for unlimited digital access to the news that matters to your community.

#READLOCAL

What Bush did was disgraceful and hurtful. He abused the power of government to impose his personal religious beliefs on me and my family. He made life miserable for my family, the doctors and staff at the nursing home, the police — all because he wanted to involve himself in something that both the law and common human decency told him that no government official should have gotten involved in.

And every time he should have stopped, he went further: signing unconstitutional laws; sending state law enforcement to seize my wife; using his brother, the president, to get Congress involved; and making me out to be a monster.

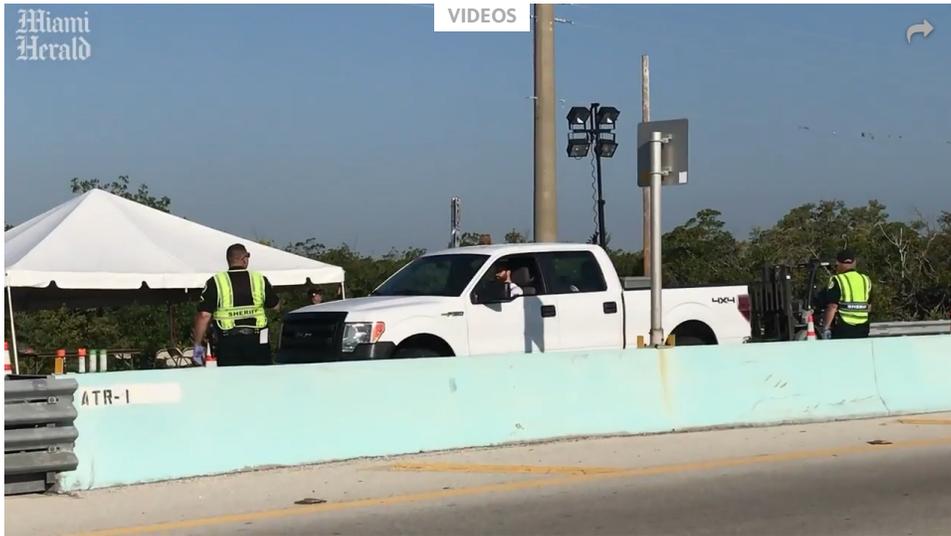
When his own family came under scrutiny, when his daughter was charged with illegally purchasing Xanax, he pleaded for privacy for his family — privacy that he never considered my family to be worthy of.

Jeb Bush had no right to do what he did, and voters should consider what someone who used the power of government to hurt so many would do with the power of the presidency.

Not trusting an elected leader who behaved like Jeb Bush doesn't make you a conservative or a "doctrinaire liberal." It makes you a compassionate human being.

Michael Schiavo, Clearwater

COMMENTS ▾



Checkpoint opens in Florida Keys



Roberts talks about his decision to join the Dolphins

[VIEW MORE VIDEO →](#)

TRENDING STORIES

[Desperate shoppers not desperate enough for odd foods on picked-over grocery shelves](#)

MARCH 26, 2020 12:22 PM

[Feds charge Venezuelan President Maduro, other top officials with narco-terrorism](#)

MARCH 26, 2020 9:40 AM

[Miami-Dade, Broward issue new orders urging residents to stay home amid COVID-19](#)

MARCH 26, 2020 3:41 PM

SPONSORED CONTENT

[5 Things You Need To Know About Ethical AI](#)

BY KPMG



[What happens when condo neighbors test positive for coronavirus? Miami is finding out](#)

MARCH 25, 2020 8:00 PM

[Florida's Rick Scott demands reduced unemployment benefits in coronavirus relief bill](#)

READ NEXT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter: Travel industry: Trump's speech caused confusion

BY DOUG KOSTOWSKI

MARCH 14, 2020 06:00 AM



The travel agency community, as well as the European Union, were broadsided by the President Trump's travel ban, [which he announced during his Oval Office address on March 11].

The ban, to take effect at midnight on the March 13, is directed at foreign nationals and not all travelers. It sounded as if all flights [from Europe] were canceled for one month, from Europe and affecting passengers, cargo and trade.

KEEP READING →

Local news has never been more important

#ReadLocal

Subscribe for unlimited digital access to the news that matters to your community.

#READLOCAL

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter: Youth Fair is more than fun and games

MARCH 12, 2020 6:00 AM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter: Florida's public schools are no place for Bible classes

MARCH 10, 2020 6:00 AM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter: U.S. Congress is clueless on fixing nation's budget

MARCH 05, 2020 6:00 AM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter: Miami Beach alcohol sales idea may brew trouble

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter: Our democracy is a perpetual work in progress

SPONSORED CONTENT

FEBRUARY 26, 2020 6:00 AM

FEBRUARY 25, 2020 6:00 AM

Credit Score Under 700? Make These 5 Moves ASAP [↗](#)

BY THE PENNY HOARDER

Take Us With You

Real-time updates and all local stories you want right in the palm of your hand.



[MIAMI HERALD APP →](#)

[VIEW NEWSLETTERS →](#)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

[Start a Subscription](#)

[Customer Service](#)

[eEdition](#)

[Vacation Hold](#)

[Pay Your Bill](#)

LEARN MORE

[About Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Newsletters](#)

[News in Education](#)

[Public Insight Network](#)

[Reader Panel](#)

[Archives](#)

ADVERTISING

[Place a Classified](#)

[Media Kit](#)

[Public Notices](#)

COPYRIGHT

COMMENTING POLICY

PRIVACY POLICY

TERMS OF SERVICE