



Qualifications to be president apparently have changed

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Yes, Virginia, you can grow up to be President of the United States.

How you get there, however, has changed somewhat over the years. So, if you aspire to the highest office in the land, here are a few tips you might want to consider.

Make stuff up. And then repeat it over and over, with increasing sound and fury. Eventually you will start to believe it's true. And so will a lot of other people.

Take everything personally. Remember, it's not about the country. It's about you. If someone disagrees with you, use the power of your position to put them in their place.

Promise the impossible. For example, if you are speaking to out-of-work VCR repairmen, tell them to get their soldering irons warmed up because VCRs are coming back.

Be immoral. Touch people inappropriately. Have an affair. This one may seem counterintuitive, but trust me. Apparently evangelicals are drawn to depravity.

Call people names. Even though most of us outgrew this during middle school, it turns out we were wrong. It's important to denigrate other human beings as often as possible.

Mention the flag. Do this often. Everyone knows the symbol is more important than what it supposedly represents.

Hold rallies. And the more they remind you of Germany in the late 1930s, the better. Very few things excite a crowd more than staged idolization.

Curse. A lot. What could be more presidential than calling someone a SOB on national television?

Make vague threats. Nothing scares our adversaries around the world more than ambiguous sword rattling.

Never take advice. Ever. You got the votes. It follows that you must be the smartest person in the room.

Virginia, I hope this gives you some sense of what it takes to be President of the United States. Good luck.

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