

America Remains Divided on What Happened at Capitol One Year Ago

One year ago Thursday, a mob stormed the U.S. Capitol in what's been described as the worst attack on American democracy since the Civil War.

Although we've seen numerous investigations, security improvements and prison for some of those involved, the country remains divided.

"If you look at other incidents 9/11, school shootings—we've been brought together as Americans, this is the first incident this hasn't happened," said Donell Harvin, Homeland Security expert for RAND Corporation.

Harvin served as the Washington, D.C. Chief of Homeland Security and Intelligence, which allowed him to observe, firsthand, a dangerous increase in online chatter from armed militias and known radical groups prior to the events of Jan. 6. His office helped prepare the local response.

"I will go to my grave knowing that had it not been for the local authorities, the Capitol would have fallen," Harvin told CBN News.

While security breakdowns on the federal level remain under investigation, Harvin says it's important that looking back doesn't distract from moving forward.

"The radical elements that really want to tear apart this country are still there," he said.

Security experts like Harvin worry that our divisive political environment will continue to provide a foothold for those radical elements.

“The violence that we experienced on Jan. 6 is decentralized and will go back to the states and we see evidence of that already with election officials being threatened, public health officials being threatened, school officials being threatened,” Harvin claimed.

This leads him to believe that instead of targeting the nation’s Capitol, the next threat will be directed at the state and local levels. {eo}

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