

Biden has to go

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Ageing comes to us all. It is to me, although since I am still in good health and very active at 66, I am reluctant to admit it.

However, I do appreciate that I am finite and that I have many more years behind me now than there are to come. It makes me think about how I want to use my time more carefully.

I also know that this whole process of ageing inevitably means that, at some point, I will slow down, and my energy and mental acuity will decline. Only a fool would deny the fact.

The USA is currently afflicted by two such fools. One is Trump. The other is Biden.

Questions about whether Trump has the mental capacity to be President could have been asked for a long time. It would seem from his speeches that his capacity to concentrate is declining, and the level of his rambling incoherence is growing. Why this is not the subject of a lot of debate is hard to work out.

Biden is subject to that debate. It is clear that he still has the mastery of detail on many issues. It is also clear that all the signs of ageing are becoming more apparent. We all make mistakes and forget names or just what we went upstairs for. That's life. But Biden is doing it too often to ignore.

I do not want to be ageist, but being President of the USA in your 80s is not a good idea, either for the person holding office or for that country. It is physically too much to ask. It is mentally too much to ask. And the risks are too big for the country to take.

The US has an appalling choice in the coming election, but there is at least a chance that Biden might stand down. He should. He is already not up to the job he is doing, and it would be absurd to ask him to do it for another four years.

The trouble is, the Republicans also need to recognise this with Trump. They probably will not, but the Democrats should. Biden has to go. He is simply no longer able to do

the job.