

## Trump: “The Greatest President the U.S. Has Ever Had”?

I have heard some people describe Donald Trump as “the greatest president the U.S. has ever had.” I was frankly surprised at this assessment, since Abraham Lincoln is usually afforded this distinction. I decided to take another, closer look at Trump, and decide for myself how to rank him. Since honesty, fairness, and selflessness are qualities I think most people expect to find in a leader, I decided to look at Trump’s entire life searching for evidence of these characteristics.

I share my findings in the following pages.



## Contents

His Pre-Presidency Days.....	3
“Humble” Origins(?).....	3
Education .....	4
Business Practices .....	5
The Central Park Five .....	5
Tax Returns .....	6
Birtherism.....	6
Disrespecting and Assaulting Women .....	7
Bigotry.....	8
Fraud, Coercion, and Payoffs .....	8
Obstruction of Justice .....	9
“Lock her up!” Pointing the finger at Clinton.....	10
Inciting Violence.....	10
His Days as President .....	12
Lying, Firing, Appointing the Unqualified & Conflicted, and Destroying the Environment.....	12
Caging Children; Separating Families.....	13
The Border Wall .....	14
Tax Cuts Benefiting the 1% and Corporations While Cutting Social Security, etc. ....	16
Foreign Affairs.....	16
“Sharpiegate”: Politicizing the Weather to Soothe an Ego.....	18
Blackmailing the Ukraine to Manufacture Dirt on a Political Rival.....	19
Mishandling the Covid-19 Coronavirus Pandemic.....	21
Inciting Violence Against Peaceful U.S. Citizens .....	28
Conclusion.....	29
Notes.....	31

## His Pre-Presidency Days

### “Humble” Origins(?)

We know that Lincoln was born poor: in a log-cabin. He made his way to the top through hard work and integrity: studying hard to become a lawyer, and then a politician.

Trump, in stark contrast, was born rich. Though he has proclaimed himself a self-made billionaire, and has long insisted that his father, Fred, provided almost no financial help, in reality he inherited \$413 million from his father’s businesses by participating in dubious tax schemes during the 1990s, including instances of outright fraud, as an investigation by The New York Times has found.<sup>1</sup>

“He and his siblings set up a sham corporation to disguise millions of dollars in gifts from their parents. ... Records indicate that Mr. Trump helped his father take improper tax deductions worth millions more.”<sup>2</sup>

Much of this he subsequently lost in numerous failed ventures and six bankruptcies [he lied in a presidential debate when he claimed there were only four bankruptcies].<sup>3</sup>

According to multiple reports from The New York Times and the Boston Globe and a biography, Trump's father repeatedly sought to conceal the fact that he was the son of German immigrants. He told people he had come from Sweden.

In his book, "The Art of the Deal," Trump perpetuated the lie regarding his family's origins, writing that his father's father came to America "from Sweden as a child."

In reality, Fred Trump's father, Friedrich Trump, immigrated to the United States from the German city of Kallstadt as a teenager in 1885. Blair writes in her biography that Friedrich Trump went on to establish several saloons and hotels that doubled as brothels.

Donald Trump eventually acknowledged his German heritage, serving as the grand marshal of the annual German-American Steuben Parade in New York City in 1999. Declaring himself a “proud German-American,” despite having denied this heritage up to the age of 53.<sup>4</sup>

Yes, this is a small thing. We might brush it aside as inconsequential. Yet, if someone can’t be honest about the little things that don’t matter much, how could we trust them to be honest when it comes to the big things that matter a great deal, especially when they personally stand to gain by lying?

## Education

Lincoln was self-taught. He did this so well that he was admitted to the bar, and became a practicing lawyer.

In Trump's case, little is known about his abilities as a student. But we do have this account of his behavior from his own words in his book *The Art of the Deal*:

*"In the second grade I actually gave a teacher a black eye — I punched my music teacher because I didn't think he knew anything about music and I almost got expelled."*<sup>6</sup>

It is revealing that even in second grade Trump believed he knew more than his teacher. Even today he thinks he knows as much or more about the Covid-19 virus than the medical experts advising him, as he said on March 6, 2020:

*"I like this stuff. I really get it. People are surprised that I understand it. Every one of these doctors said, 'How do you know so much about this?' Maybe I have a natural ability. Maybe I should have done that instead of running for president."*<sup>6</sup>

This is his mind-set. In tweets from January 5, 2018 he boasted about being a "stable genius.":

*"Actually, throughout my life, my two greatest assets have been mental stability and being, like, really smart... a very stable genius at that!"*<sup>7</sup>

However, he must've had trouble not only in music class, but also in geography. As president, he said he was building his Mexican border wall in Colorado<sup>8</sup>, and has placed Kansas City Missouri in the state of Kansas.<sup>9</sup>

Based on his recorded statements, he clearly believes that he knows more about nearly everything than anyone else. There is a must-see video montage of him saying exactly this, repeatedly, in speech after speech.<sup>10</sup> However, they forgot one: Trump has also stated: *"I know windmills very much, I have studied it better than anybody."* (This, despite reeling off several falsehoods about windmills in his subsequent speech.)<sup>11</sup>

Of course, his claim of virtual omniscience cannot possibly be true for any single human being.

In 2015 Michael D. Cohen, Trump's former lawyer, in testimony he gave before the House Oversight Committee, said that Trump had instructed him to send threatening letters to his alma maters, warning of jail time for anyone who released his transcripts:

*"I'm talking about a man who declares himself brilliant but directed me to threaten his high school, his colleges and the College Board to never release his grades or SAT scores."*<sup>12</sup>

## Business Practices

In 1973 Trump, his father and their company were in court for civil charges for refusing to rent apartments to African Americans. After their lawyers had delayed court requests for documents for several months, Trump, then being under subpoena, said his company had destroyed corporate records of the past six months "for saving space".

In a court case beginning in 2005 against Power Plant Entertainment, LLC, it was revealed that Trump's companies had deleted the data requested by the court.

Multiple instances such as these led Newsweek to conclude:

*"Over the course of decades, Donald Trump's companies have systematically destroyed or hidden thousands of emails, digital records and paper documents demanded in official proceedings, often in defiance of court orders.... In each instance, Trump and entities he controlled also erected numerous hurdles that made lawsuits drag on for years, forcing courtroom opponents to spend huge sums of money in legal fees as they struggled—sometimes in vain—to obtain records."*

— Kurt Eichenwald, Donald Trump's Companies Destroyed Emails in Defiance of Court Orders *Newsweek*, October 31, 2016

## The Central Park Five

In 1989 the "Central Park 5": Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Yusef Salaam, Raymond Santana, and Korey Wise, were five young teens (four black, one Latino) who were wrongly accused of beating and raping a woman who was jogging through Central Park.

After their arrests, the five were violently interrogated and deprived of food and sleep, and they ultimately offered a coerced confession.

As the case was headed to trial, Trump spent about \$85,000 placing a full-page ad in four newspapers, calling (in so many words) for the young men accused of the crime to be executed.

13 years later DNA evidence exonerated the Central Park 5, and a serial rapist named Matias Reyes, who was already serving a life sentence in prison on other charges, confessed.

But Trump refused to admit that he had been wrong, or apologize for calling for their execution. In fact, he still contends, in the face of the clear facts, that the men are guilty!<sup>13</sup>

### Tax Returns

In addition to refusing access to his school grades, Trump continues to refuse to release his tax returns. Before Trump announced his candidacy for president he repeatedly promised to release his tax returns, making such pledges in 2011, 2014 ("absolutely") and 2015.

Then Trump claimed that, because the returns were being audited, he could not make them public, but would do so. No law actually prevents tax returns from being released due to an audit, as emphasized by the commissioner of internal revenue. Trump later said that voters were not interested in his returns; that "there's nothing to learn from them"; and that his tax rate is "none of your business." Trump was the first major party nominee since 1976 not to make his tax returns public.

Since Trump's election, he has refused requests to release the returns, making him one of the few presidents in recent times to not reveal their tax returns.<sup>14</sup>

### Birtherism

Trump's refusal to reveal his tax returns is all the more ironic when you recall how Trump demanded that President Obama release his birth-certificate:

*"He doesn't have a birth certificate, or if he does, there's something on that certificate that is very bad for him. Now, somebody told me -- and I have no idea if this is bad for him or not, but perhaps it would be -- that where it says 'religion,' it might have 'Muslim.' And if you're a Muslim, you don't change your religion, by the way."<sup>15</sup>*

Even after Obama produced his birth-certificate (showing that he was born in the U.S.) and after Trump acknowledged that, "President Barack Obama was born in the United States. Period."

Trump later gave the lie to his "period" by questioning the birth-certificate's authenticity.

Trump was also wrong, by the way, about Muslims not changing their religion. A 2015 study estimates that there have been some 10.2 million converts from Islam to Christianity.<sup>17</sup> But Obama never was a Muslim, and even if he had been it should've been irrelevant in a country built on the separation of church and state.

But Trump is not one to issue corrections. He has never corrected himself on his claims that he saw, on TV, throngs of Muslim-Americans celebrating the 9/11 attacks in New Jersey (a claim for which there is no evidence). Likewise, he has never corrected himself about

Obama's status as the "founder" of ISIS,<sup>18</sup> or his criticism of an American-born judge who he said wouldn't be fair to him because he is "Mexican."

### Disrespecting and Assaulting Women

In 2016, during his presidential campaign, a glimpse into the man behind the image was presented to the world in a video recorded in September of 2005, on the way to film an episode of *Hollywood Access*. Trump was still a newlywed at this time, having married his second wife in January of that year.

In the tape, after admitting to trying to seduce a married woman for sex, Trump makes the following statement, bragging about, and promoting, sexual assault:

*I'm automatically attracted to beautiful—I just start kissing them. It's like a magnet. Just kiss. I don't even wait. And when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything. Grab 'em by the pussy. You can do anything.*<sup>19,20</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Trump with *Hollywood Access* stars immediately after taped comments.

Trump apologized for his language on the tape, once it became widely known. Though, incredibly, he later tried to backpedal by questioning its authenticity!<sup>21</sup>

During his presidential campaign Trump was asked what he would think if his daughter was sexually harassed at work, "I would like to think she would find another career or find another company if that was the case," was his reply.<sup>22</sup>

With this attitude towards women it isn't surprising that he has been accused of rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment, including non-consensual kissing or groping, by at least 23 women since the 1980s.<sup>23</sup>

It's little wonder that he has had two failed marriages.

## Bigotry

If Trump shows little respect for women, how does he rate on bigotry? During his campaign he claimed that statistics show that Latino immigrants are more likely to perpetrate rape than the wider population. However, the Fusion article he referred to actually said that 80% of women crossing the Mexican border are raped along the way, often by criminal gangs, traffickers or corrupt officials.

When CNN host Don Lemon pointed out that Trump had misread the article, Trump replied, "Well, somebody's doing the raping, Don! I mean somebody's doing it! Who's doing the raping? Who's doing the raping?" Evidently still not comprehending the facts in the article.

There are no centrally recorded government statistics on the ethnicity of convicted rapists in the US. So, Trump must've made up "alternative facts"<sup>24</sup> to suit his bigotry in this case.

## Fraud, Coercion, and Payoffs

In 2013, in a lawsuit filed by New York attorney general Eric Schneiderman, Trump was accused of defrauding more than 5,000 people of \$40 million for the opportunity to learn Trump's real estate investment techniques in a for-profit training program: "Trump University," which operated from 2005 to 2011. Trump ultimately stopped using the term "University" following a 2010 order from New York regulators, who called Trump's use of the word "misleading and even illegal." Donald Trump was found to have defrauded students, and was forced to pay \$25 million in restitution.<sup>25</sup>

Prior to running for president, Trump was working on a deal to build a "Trump Tower" in Moscow. During the campaign Trump received 10 personal updates from his lawyer Michael Cohen about the plans, a time when Trump denied having any business ties to Russia.

Trump "personally instructed" Cohen to lie in order to "obscure Trump's involvement", according to BuzzFeed<sup>26</sup>, and Mr. Mueller reportedly has substantial evidence of this.<sup>27</sup>

Cohen was sentenced to 36 months in December after he pleaded guilty to lying to Congress over the Trump Tower plan. He also admitted campaign finance violations and tax evasion.

In court, Cohen said his "weakness was a blind loyalty to Donald Trump" - whose "dirty deeds" he had felt compelled to cover up. It is a federal crime for a president to direct a witness to lie to Congress.



In January, Cohen announced that he was postponing his public congressional testimony because of “ongoing threats against his family” from the president and his attorney Rudy Giuliani.



Part of the “violation of federal campaign finance laws” involved Cohen’s payments of hush money to Trump’s former mistresses: porn star Stormy Daniels (Stephanie Clifford) and Playboy model Karen McDougal.<sup>28</sup> Both affairs began about 3 months after wife #3 had given birth to their son Barron.<sup>29</sup>

According to Wikipedia: *In October 2016 the Attorney General of New York opened an inquiry into the Donald J. Trump Foundation's fundraising practices, and ultimately issued a "notice of violation" ordering the Foundation to stop raising money in New York. The Foundation had to admit it engaged in self-dealing practices to benefit Trump, his family, and businesses. Farenthold won the 2017 Pulitzer Prize in National Reporting for his coverage of Trump's claimed charitable giving and casting "doubt on Donald Trump's assertions of generosity toward charities".*<sup>30</sup>

### Obstruction of Justice

But, of course, the above pales in significance to the other Russian “deal” Trump was working on during his campaign. The Mueller report<sup>31</sup> has shown conclusive evidence of Russia’s “sweeping and systematic” interference in the 2016 election, and Trump’s obstruction of the subsequent investigation.

*“Contrary to the administration's claims, the Russians interfered with our elections — and Donald Trump, his family, and many of his campaign staff welcomed that interference. Furthermore, many Americans would be shocked to learn that — far from exonerating the president and his 2016 campaign — Special Counsel Robert Mueller found 10 potential*

*episodes of obstruction of justice by Trump. In addition, the investigation has already led to 199 criminal charges, 37 indictments or guilty pleas, and 5 prison sentences.*<sup>182</sup>

“Lock her up!” Pointing the finger at Clinton

While Trump was allegedly colluding with a foreign power to help him win the election, he was railing against his opponent Hillary Clinton for having her emails hosted on a private server. In his rallies he would lead chants of “Lock her up! Lock her up!” Yet Clinton was exonerated of having committed any crime both times it was investigated. “No reasonable prosecutor would bring a criminal case against Mrs Clinton,” the FBI concluded. Still, Trump’s finger-pointing hurt Clinton’s election chances.<sup>33</sup>

Inciting Violence

On numerous occasions Trump has incited violence. In one instance telling the crowd at one of his rallies to “knock the crap out of” protesters, and promising, three times, to pay for any legal fees incurred. In another rally Trump said of a protester: “I’d like to punch him in the face.”

When three protesters were attacked by Trump supporters at a rally in Kentucky, federal Judge David Hale ruled that there was sufficient evidence that the protesters' injuries were a "direct and proximate result" of Trump's comments.<sup>34</sup> In an ironic twist, one of the attackers (Matthew Heimbach) also ended up suing Trump: for payment of his legal fees; holding Trump to his promise!<sup>35</sup>

Trump claims, “my rhetoric brings people together,” yet a nationwide review conducted by ABC News has identified at least 36 criminal cases where Trump was invoked in direct connection with violent acts, threats of violence or allegations of assault.

In nine cases, perpetrators hailed Trump in the midst or immediate aftermath of physically attacking innocent victims. In another 10 cases, perpetrators cheered or defended Trump while taunting or threatening others. And in another 10 cases, Trump and his rhetoric were cited in court to explain a defendant's violent or threatening behavior.<sup>36</sup>

During his election campaign, Trump suggested that gun owners might be the only ones to stop a liberal Supreme Court if Clinton were elected!<sup>37</sup>

This same violent, narcissistic mindset was on display when he proudly boasted, "*I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody and I wouldn't lose any voters.*"<sup>38</sup>

Based on that statement, not only is he claiming that he can get away with any crime he wants to commit, including murder, but that people who vote for him have impaired judgment.

## His Days as President

### Lying, Firing, Appointing the Unqualified & Conflicted, and Destroying the Environment

In his first forty days as president, Trump told a lie to the public every single day.<sup>39</sup> But it has only gotten worse. Since having taken office, Trump has told over 16,000 well-documented lies, and counting.<sup>40</sup>

Trump has seen fit to fire, or attempt to fire, anyone who disagrees with him, or who is investigating his crimes, and appoint unqualified individuals with conflicts of interest in their place.

One such *victim* was Sally Yates, his acting Attorney General. Ten days into his administration, Trump fired Yates for refusing to defend Trump's unconstitutional ban on Muslims.<sup>41</sup>

One such *appointee* was Scott Pruitt, to head the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). According to Wikipedia:

*[Pruitt is] a self-described "leading advocate against the EPA's activist agenda." In his campaigns for Oklahoma Attorney General, Pruitt received major corporate and employee campaign contributions from the fossil fuel industry, taking in at least \$215,574 between 2010 and 2014 even though he ran unopposed in the latter year. As Oklahoma's Attorney General, Pruitt sued the EPA at least 14 times regarding the agency's actions.*

*Pruitt rejects the scientific consensus that human-caused carbon dioxide emissions are a primary contributor to climate change.*

*By July 2018, Pruitt was under at least 14 separate federal investigations by the Government Accountability Office, the EPA inspector general, the White House Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, and two House committees over his spending habits, conflicts of interest, extreme secrecy, and management practices.<sup>42</sup>*

Pruitt resigned in 2018, and Trump appointed Andrew Wheeler in his place. *Wheeler previously worked in the law firm Faegre Baker Daniels, representing coal magnate Robert E. Murray and lobbying against the Obama Administration's environmental regulations. He is a critic of limits on greenhouse gas emissions and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He is VP of the Washington Coal Club.<sup>43</sup>*

On March 26, 2020, Wheeler, true to form, announced a suspension of all EPA regulations! Giving a green-light to companies to pollute to their heart's content! A clear case of exploiting the Covid-19 crisis to advance the Trump administration's longstanding goal of drastically rolling back environmental protections.<sup>44</sup> This announcement came just days after a study found that the coronavirus lockdown in China likely saved 77,000 lives just by

the side-effect of reducing pollution: roughly 20 times the number directly killed by the virus!<sup>45</sup> If the EPA leadership were capable of learning by example, they would've tightened, not abandoned, environmental protection.

Trump has advocated mining and drilling for oil in pristine wilderness, even in national monuments, as part of the "largest elimination of public lands protections in US history."<sup>46</sup> All the while railing against clean energy. His lies about windmills are covered in my article: *Trump Tilting at Windmills*.<sup>47</sup>

But Trump seemingly rails against any energy or resource-saving device. He complains that energy-efficient light-bulbs make one look orange [so *that's* what's doing it; not his makeup!] He has gone on a rant more than once over low-flow showerheads and low-flush toilets!<sup>48</sup>

Refusing to listen to the overwhelming scientific evidence of global warming, Trump withdrew from the vital Paris Accords. In effect, refusing to take action to limit greenhouse gases. This leaves prospects for the future of life on this planet bleak.<sup>49</sup>

In addition to disregarding the environment, in August of 2019 the Trump administration announced major changes designed to weaken the Endangered Species Act (ESA).<sup>50</sup>

According to the World Wildlife Fund:

*The changes to the ESA regulations include no automatic prohibitions on the harming or killing, import or export of threatened species listed in the future. They also cripple the ability to designate critical habitat necessary for the recovery of listed species. The Administration's amendments will also decrease science-based decision-making while increasing political and economic influence over ESA listings.*<sup>51</sup>

It seems Trump cares little for animals. But what about children? Surely we should see some empathy here! But, sadly, this is not the case.

### Caging Children; Separating Families

In 2017 Trump instituted his "Family Separation Policy" presented as a "Zero Tolerance" approach. Under the policy, federal authorities separated children from parents or guardians with whom they had entered the US.

By early June 2018, it emerged that the policy did not include measures to reunite the families that it had separated! Following national and international criticism, Trump signed an executive order ending family separations at the border. However, the separations did not end, and some families still have not been reunited.

In July 2019 it was reported that over 700 children had been separated from their parents after the policy's official end, and that as many as five children per day were being separated, in some cases without clear documentation undertaken to track them in order to reunite them with their parents.

By October the total had reached 1,090. However, the administration acknowledged that thousands more children may have been separated from their families, with officials uncertain of the exact number.<sup>52</sup> A later update found that the total number of children separated since July 2017 is more than 5,400.<sup>53</sup>

Conditions were poor: caged with inadequate nutrition or healthcare. At least seven children are known to have died due to Trump's policy.<sup>54</sup> There were also 178 allegations of adult staff members sexually assaulting the children.<sup>55</sup>

In June 2019, Trump claimed, "President Obama had a separation policy. I didn't have it. He had it. I brought the families together. I'm the one that put them together... I inherited separation, and I changed the plan." Trump's assertion was false because the Obama administration had no policy systematically separating migrant families, this did not start until Trump himself instituted it in 2017.<sup>56</sup>

The U.N. has condemned Trump's separation policy, calling it "inhuman treatment for both the parents and the children " and "absolutely prohibited by the Convention on the Rights of the Child."<sup>57</sup>

But locking up refugees and tearing apart their families is not the only way Trump has sought to deal with immigration. He plans to build a wall along the entire length of the U.S. – Mexican border.

## The Border Wall

During his presidential campaign Trump promised he would "get Mexico pay for the wall." But, once in office, he began demanding government (i.e. taxpayer) funding for his crazy plan.

Trump rejected a proposal in January 2018 that would have authorized \$25 billion for wall construction in exchange for a path to citizenship for Dreamers, as well as a similar proposal the next month. In March, Congress approved a bill providing for \$1.6 billion in barrier funding. Threatening to veto the bill, The Journal reported that Trump was surprised to learn that the \$1.6 billion was the amount that had been requested in his budget.

In December of 2018 Trump held his breath and threw a tantrum, demanding funding for his wall. Actually, he did something worse, but equally childish: he shut down the federal government for 35 days; the longest in U.S. history. This affected the jobs of 800,000 federal employees and a million federal contractors who were either furloughed or obligated to work without pay. Trump's hissy fit ended up costing the government about five billion dollars.<sup>58</sup>

Then, on February 15, 2019, Trump declared a fake "national emergency" in an attempt to circumvent Congress, and the will of the majority, and fund his border wall. During his announcement, Trump stated, "I could do the wall over a longer period of time. I didn't need to do this, but I'd rather do it much faster." So, by his own admission, it wasn't an emergency.

Many prominent Republican and conservative commentators expressed concerns that the declaration violated the separation of powers and the powers of Congress. Some legal scholars considered the declaration of a national emergency as an example of executive overreach and an abuse of the National Emergencies Act.<sup>59</sup>

*"Declaring a national emergency would be a lawless act, a gross abuse of the power of the presidency and a desperate attempt to distract from the fact that President Trump broke his core promise to have Mexico pay for his wall,"* House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said in a joint statement.

*"It is yet another demonstration of President Trump's naked contempt for the rule of law. This is not an emergency, and the president's fear-mongering doesn't make it one,"* they added.<sup>60</sup>

In January of 2020 Trump was back to claiming that Mexico would pay for the wall!<sup>61</sup>

A partial wall has now been built. It is easily scalable by almost anyone<sup>62</sup>, including an 8 year-old girl<sup>63</sup>, and strong winds have already blown part of it down.<sup>64</sup> Yet Trump has claimed that even "world-class mountain mountain-climbers" have been unable to get over it! A claim which has caused laughter among actual professional climbers.<sup>65</sup>

Construction of the wall has already impacted areas of Organ Pipe National Park, destroying Saguaro cactus, which can live up to 200 years, and are being felled to make way for the wall in Arizona, prompting outrage from environmentalists, activists and local tribal leaders.<sup>66</sup> It also threatens to impact endangered species in the area by its resultant flooding and soil erosion.<sup>67</sup>

---

Tax Cuts Benefiting the 1% and Corporations While Cutting Social Security, etc.

In December of 2017 Republicans passed Trump's tax package. Trump promised that it would boost paychecks for working people. The tax plan was also supposed to pay for itself with economic growth.

In fact, more than 60% of the tax savings went to people in the top 20% of the income ladder, according to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center. The measure also slashed the corporate tax rate by 40%.

"It was unbelievable at the time, and it's proven to be absolutely untrue," said Maya MacGuineas, president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget. "The tax cuts were never going to — and have not — come anywhere close to paying for themselves... our deficit has exploded."

By 2019 the federal deficit was \$984 billion — an extraordinary figure at a time when the country was not mired in recession or widespread war.

The tax cut also failed to produce a permanent boost in economic growth. Corporate tax revenues fell 31% in the first year after the cut was passed. Overall tax revenues have declined as a share of the economy in each of the two years since the tax cut took effect.

In the end it was just another hand-out for the super-rich,<sup>68</sup> which has driven the federal deficit to exceed a trillion dollars.<sup>69</sup>

In Trump's latest proposed tax plan 83% of the cuts are still going to the richest 1%. The cost of the tax cuts has increased from \$1.5 trillion to \$1.9 trillion, emboldening GOP lawmakers to demand even more cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, education and more.

Trump proposed a budget that would cut funding for these critical services by \$1.7 trillion to pay for the plan.<sup>70</sup>

## Foreign Affairs

On April 7, 2017, Trump took it upon himself to bomb Syria, in violation of the Constitution's separation of powers. Representative Ted Lieu (D-CA) and Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) called the strike unconstitutional, with the former tweeting, "This was done with no debate in Congress and no explanation to the American people." Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) tweeted that the strike could lead the U.S. into a new long-term quagmire,



and that "such engagements are disastrous for American security, for the American economy, and for the American people". Representative Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI) gave a more critical message, and said, "This escalation is short-sighted and will lead to the death of more civilians, more refugees, the strengthening of al-Qaeda and other terrorists, and a possible nuclear war between the United States and Russia."<sup>71</sup>

In a similar vein, Trump has helped Saudi Arabia to continue to drop bombs on Yemen despite explicit opposition from both chambers of Congress. As an analyst in The Guardian argued, Trump's decision to veto a bipartisan bill calling for an end to U.S. military involvement in the Saudi air war amounted to "flagrant defiance of the 1973 War Powers Act that checks a president's ability to engage in armed conflict without express consent of Congress."<sup>72</sup>

On May 8, 2018 Trump withdrew from the Iran nuclear deal, and imposed sanctions on the country. The deal was an agreement signed under President Obama, in which certain Iranian nuclear activities were restricted for periods between 10 to 25 years, and more intrusive, permanent monitoring was established. It also forbid Iran from pursuing nuclear weapons in the future. In exchange, Iran was relieved of economic sanctions.

Though Trump claimed that Iran was guilty of "multiple violations" of the agreement, Iran had largely complied with the deal, aside from some minor infractions that were rectified.

In his election campaign, Trump had promised to "renegotiate the deal." Instead, he terminated it, making the world a more dangerous place.

European leaders lobbied Trump to keep the United States in the deal, and after the decision was made public, they expressed regret about it.

Iranian leaders indicated that they reserved the right to restart previously banned nuclear activities.<sup>73</sup>

In October of 2019 Trump suddenly withdrew U.S. troops from Syria. A move that many criticized for leaving our Kurdish allies to die. Former diplomat McGurk commented:

*"Donald Trump is not a Commander-in-Chief. He makes impulsive decisions with no knowledge or deliberation. He sends military personnel into harm's way with no backing. He blusters and then leaves our allies exposed when adversaries call his bluff or he confronts a hard phone call... [Trump's decision] demonstrates a complete lack of understanding of anything happening on the ground."<sup>74</sup>*

On January 3, 2020, Trump, via a drone attack at the Baghdad airport, assassinated Maj. Gen. Qassim Suleimani, one of the most popular leaders of the Islamic Republic. *The Nation* called the crime "a Colossal Strategic Blunder," and commented:

*In one blow, Washington has strengthened Iran's hard-liners, revived its nuke program, drawn Iraq closer to Tehran, stymied popular regional uprisings, and endangered Americans around the world.*

*Suleimani was reportedly killed while on a peace mission, bearing a letter from Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader, in response to a Saudi effort to de-escalate regional tensions.*<sup>75</sup>

On January 28, 2020, Trump announced his Middle East “peace plan”. He claimed the plan was a “win-win opportunity for both sides.” However, President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority immediately denounced the plan as a “conspiracy deal” unworthy of serious consideration, making the decades-long pursuit of a so-called two-state solution appear more distant than ever. “We say a thousand times over: no, no, no,” Mr. Abbas said.<sup>76</sup>

Trump has personally profited from foreign diplomats staying at his hotels, in violation of the Constitution’s emoluments clause. The Pentagon spent at least \$184,000 in taxpayer money at Trump’s Turnberry resort.<sup>77</sup> Although he has abandoned his plan to host the G7 conference at his Miami resort, after widespread criticism, he continues to defend that plan, referring to constitutional law as “this phony emoluments clause.”<sup>78</sup>

“Sharpigate”: Politicizing the Weather to Soothe an Ego



In September, 2019 Trump announced that Hurricane Dorian would impact Alabama. He used an NOAA map of the hurricane’s path as a visual aid while speaking to reporters in the

Oval Office. The map had been altered with a Sharpie to include Alabama,. The National Weather Service (NWS) contradicted this claim shortly thereafter. But Trump refused to admit that he was wrong.

Then, in an unsigned statement from the NOAA, the agency disavowed the NWS's correction of Trump, and stated that the hurricane could indeed impact Alabama.

Finally, in an NOAA statement from Craig McLean, the NWS was vindicated:

"The NWS Forecaster(s) corrected any public misunderstanding in an expert and timely way, as they should. There followed, last Friday, an unsigned news release from 'NOAA' that inappropriately and incorrectly contradicted the NWS forecaster. My understanding is that this intervention to contradict the forecaster was not based on science but on external factors including reputation and appearance, or simply put, political."

The New York Times reported that Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross threatened to fire top employees at NOAA after the NWS's Birmingham station contradicted President Trump's claim about Hurricane Dorian's path and Alabama.

According to the Times, Ross confronted acting NOAA Administrator Neil Jacobs by phone, demanding the agency fix the contradiction of Trump. Jacobs refused the request and was told by Ross that top NOAA political appointees would be fired if difference with Trump's claim was not rectified.<sup>79</sup>

So, it seems that the whims of Trump are imagined to be more important than the scientific truth needed to guide our lives.

#### Blackmailing the Ukraine to Manufacture Dirt on a Political Rival

On July 25, 2019, shortly after Trump had blocked the release of military aid to Ukraine, Trump had a phone conversation with Ukrainian president Zelensky. In that conversation Trump made clear that the release of this aid was conditional on Zelensky's investigating Trump's front-running rival, Biden, regarding a widely discredited corruption conspiracy.

Trump had used "the power of his office to solicit interference from a foreign country" in the 2020 presidential election: an impeachable offense. This is all the more likely since a similar interference by Russia in the 2016 election of Trump has long been suspected. Also, since that election, Trump stated that he would not refuse such foreign help in an election, and that it came under the heading of "oppo research." When reminded that FBI director Christopher Ray had stated that such offers must be reported to his agency, Trump replied, "The FBI director is wrong."<sup>80</sup>

This arrogant attitude was highlighted when Trump stated, "I have the right to do whatever I want as president."<sup>81</sup> Which, of course, is patently false.

The House impeached Trump in December of 2019. But, despite overwhelming evidence of Trump's guilt, the Senate, in its farce of a "trial" – conducted without calling witnesses or reviewing documents, (and with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell unashamedly admitting to "following the lead of the White House" at the outset) – did not indict him. This was largely due to his party holding the majority (only one Senate Republican voted to impeach), though the vote was still close: 52 votes to 48 on one count, and 53 votes to 47 on the other.



The second article of impeachment accuses Trump of directing "the unprecedented, categorical and indiscriminate defiance of subpoenas." It lists four federal agencies and nine administration officials, including acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney, for following Trump's lead.

"In the history of the republic," it reads, "no president has ever ordered the complete defiance of an impeachment inquiry or sought to obstruct and impede so comprehensively the ability of the House of Representatives to investigate 'high crimes and misdemeanors.'"<sup>82</sup>

Even in the midst of denying that he ever put pressure on the Ukraine to dig up dirt on his political opponent, Trump said to reporters outside the White House in October: "China should start an investigation into the Bidens, because what happened in China is just about

as bad as what happened with Ukraine.”<sup>83</sup> Leaving no doubt in anyone’s mind that he was guilty of attempting to blackmail president Zelensky.

Such actions carry a prison sentence of 10 years.<sup>84</sup>

In November, during the impeachment proceedings, Trump tweeted an attack on former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch as she was testifying in front of the House Intelligence Committee, prompting committee Chair Adam Schiff to accuse the president of “witness intimidation in real time.”

In a phone call to Zelensky, Trump promised that Yovanovitch was “going to go through some things.”<sup>85</sup> There is also evidence that before being ousted from her position she was under surveillance by shady men in contact with Trump’s lawyer Rudy Giuliani [who was also a player in Trump’s blackmail scheme].<sup>86</sup>

#### Mishandling the Covid-19 Coronavirus Pandemic

When the Covid-19 Coronavirus virus outbreak began, Trump downplayed it, leaving the U.S. ill-prepared when it became a pandemic. This led to our country becoming the hardest-hit in terms of cases and deaths.

On Jan. 22, asked by a CNBC reporter whether there were “worries about a pandemic,” the president replied: *“No, not at all. We have it totally under control. It’s one person coming in from China, and we have it under control. It’s going to be just fine.”*

On Feb. 25 Trump claimed a vaccine would be available soon: *“Now they have it, they have studied it, they know very much, in fact, we’re very close to a vaccine.”* Dr. Fauci quickly corrected this, and stated that it would be at least a year or a year and a half before a vaccine would be available to the general public. But Trump continued to claim a vaccine would be ready “very soon.”

On Feb. 26, at a White House news conference, commenting on the country’s first reported cases, Trump claimed: *“We’re going to be pretty soon at only five people. And we could be at just one or two people over the next short period of time. So we’ve had very good luck.”*

He also stated, *“The risk to the American people remains very low,”* and *“We’re testing everybody that we need to test, and we’re finding very little problem, very little problem.”*

Then he announced his appointment of VP Pence, someone with no medical background, to lead the response. Pence has been blamed for aggravating a severe AIDS outbreak in a rural Indiana county as governor.<sup>87</sup>

On Feb. 27, at a White House meeting, Trump said: *"It's going to disappear. One day — it's like a miracle — it will disappear."*

On March 4, in a Fox interview: *"A lot of people will have this, and it's very mild. They will get better very rapidly. They don't even see a doctor... So, if we have thousands or hundreds of thousands of people that get better just by, you know, sitting around and even going to work — some of them go to work, but they get better."*

In a Trump tweet the next day: *"I NEVER said people that are feeling sick should go to work. This is just more Fake News."*

Then Trump claimed that: *"The Obama administration made a decision on testing that turned out to be very detrimental to what we're doing. And we undid that decision a few days ago so that the testing can take place in a much more accurate and rapid fashion."*

But no such Obama-era regulation existed. The Trump administration's action only undid a policy that its own Food and Drug Administration had put in place.<sup>88</sup>

On March 7, when asked if he was concerned that the virus was spreading closer to Washington, Trump replied: *"No, I'm not concerned at all. No, I'm not. No, we've done a great job."*

On March 9, Trump tweeted:

*"The Fake News Media and their partner, the Democrat Party, is doing everything within its semi-considerable power (it used to be greater!) to inflame the CoronaVirus situation, far beyond what the facts would warrant. Surgeon General, "The risk is low to the average American."*

On March 13 NBC's Kristen Welker asked Trump whether he took responsibility for the testing lag, which one member of his own task force called "a failing."

*"No, I don't take responsibility at all,"* Trump replied, and then tried to shift the blame onto the Obama administration.<sup>89</sup> But the truth is that Trump had fired the entire pandemic response team in 2018, and then didn't replace them.<sup>90</sup>

And, even as late as March 16, in the White House briefing room, Trump stated that the outbreak would "wash away" come summer.

Then, on March 17, he asserted to reporters that he knew it was a pandemic all along:

*"This is a pandemic. I felt it was a pandemic long before it was called a pandemic."*

WHO had declared it a pandemic on March 11, when Trump was still downplaying the seriousness of the outbreak.

On March 19 Trump, defying expert advice, and throwing caution to the wind, touted the drug Chloroquine as a likely cure for Covid-19: *"It's been around for a long time, so we know if things don't go as planned it's not going to kill anybody...It's shown very encouraging - very, very encouraging early results, and we're going to be able to make that drug available almost immediately... It's been approved. There's tremendous, tremendous promise..."*<sup>91</sup>

Hydroxychloroquine and the more-toxic drug it is derived from, chloroquine, are also commonly used to treat rheumatoid arthritis and lupus. Despite what Trump has claimed, neither drug had been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat Covid-19. Nor are they entirely safe; they can also cause heart arrhythmias. They may prove beneficial after further study, but Trump's words were premature and irresponsible.

In the aftermath, lupus and RA patients worried about the depletion of their prescribed drug, as sales of Chloroquine skyrocketed.<sup>92</sup>

It was later discovered that "Trump himself has a small personal financial interest in Sanofi, the French drug-maker that makes Plaquenil, the brand-name version of hydroxychloroquine."<sup>93</sup>

On March 20, NBC news reporter Peter Alexander, attempting to give Trump an opportunity to reassure Americans, asked him: "What do you say to Americans who are scared?" Trump replied, *"I say that you're a terrible reporter. That's what I say. I think it's a very nasty question, and I think it's a very bad signal that you're putting out to the American people."*<sup>94</sup> Such a "great" display of leadership! I feel reassured, don't you?

On March 22 an Arizona man took a dose of Chloroquine (from his bottle of fish-tank cleaner) after repeatedly hearing Trump praising it as a "game changer" on TV. He died. When his wife was asked what her message to the American people would be from her devastating experience, the woman said:

*"Don't believe anything the President says, and his people, because they don't know what they're talking about. And don't take anything — be so careful — and call your doctor. I mean, this is a heartache I'll never get over."*<sup>95</sup>

Less than a week after claiming to have known it was a pandemic all along, Trump was ready to encourage people to end the social distancing and isolation recommended by health officials, and which he himself had endorsed from March 16-30: *"America will again and soon be open for business, very soon, a lot sooner than three or four months, as somebody was suggesting,"* he said. *"We cannot let the cure be worse than the problem*

*itself.*<sup>96</sup> The “cure” hurts the economy (which Trump sees as tied to his self-image), but the “problem” is the potential loss of thousands of American lives! So, we see where his priorities lie.

Later he suggested Easter (April 12) as the date for ending social distancing.

Fortunately, wiser heads prevailed. Dr. Fauci pleaded with Trump, and got him to once again change his mind, and extend the social distancing through April, and perhaps through June.<sup>97</sup> Which, of course, would contradict his previous declaration that it would end “a lot sooner than three or four months.”

Trump has used the virus to increase xenophobia while distracting Americans from his own incompetence, Trump has referred to it as the “Chinese virus.” On March 18, 2020 he defended his increasingly frequent practice of calling the coronavirus the “Chinese Virus,” ignoring a growing chorus of criticism that it is racist and anti-Chinese.

Scott Kennedy, a China expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said that past language used by Mr. Trump and his administration had eliminated any benefit of the doubt. “Given the Trump administration’s long record of statements and actions on immigration, immigrants and issues of race,” he said, “use of this term can’t but be interpreted as xenophobic and tinged with racist overtones.”<sup>98</sup>

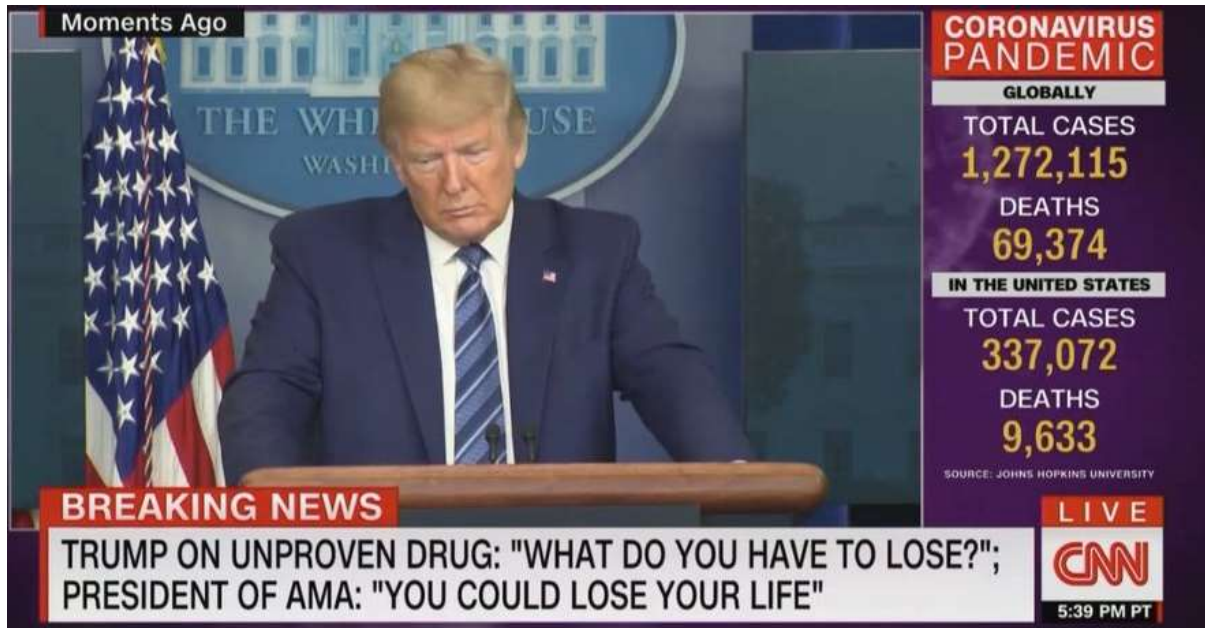
Trump denied that his use of the term “Chinese Virus” put Asian Americans at risk. “No, not all. I think they probably would agree with it 100 percent.”<sup>99</sup>

On March 23, he seemed to negate his assertion that China was to blame when he said: “people are blaming China, and they are making statements to great American citizens that happen to be of Asian heritage, and I’m not going to let that happen.”<sup>100</sup> But, of course, he took no responsibility for having incited people to blame China, and said he had no regret: “I don’t regret it, ... everyone knows it came out of China, but I decided we shouldn’t make any more of a big deal out of it.”<sup>101</sup>

Yet by March 26, 2020 he was back to calling it the “Chinese virus”!<sup>102</sup>

On April 6th it was reported that Trump made the following statement in an interview: “*I’ve been talking about hydroxychloroquine so much that a lot of people think I invented it. You have to give the Nobel to someone who invents a major drug like that... The fact that I’m not a doctor makes my ability to prescribe drugs that much more impressive.*”





Trump said that he hoped the Nobel committee would be a *"hell of a lot more fair"* about giving out the Nobel in Medicine than they were in bestowing the Nobel Peace Prize.

*"I did peace, I did peace great, and I didn't get the Peace Prize,"* Trump said. *"If I don't get the Medicine Prize, then the whole Nobel business is rigged."* [This is reminiscent of how Trump showed signs of jealousy in denigrating Greta Thunberg, the young climate-change activist, after she won *Time's* "Person of the Year" cover.<sup>103</sup> Then he told a lie relating how *Time* had offered him the award, which he had declined.<sup>104</sup>]

He further claimed that his medical discoveries had "blown away" the doctors on the White House Coronavirus Task Force: "When I tell Tony Fauci some of the stuff I've come up with, he just shakes his head," Trump boasted.<sup>105</sup>



Whatta guy!

This was just four days after Trump claimed that windmills cause cancer.<sup>106</sup> So, it's likely that Dr. Fauci is shaking his head for a different reason than Trump assumes.

In an NPR interview, when asked for his thoughts regarding Trump's disinformation campaign, Dr. Fauci said: "I can't jump in front of the microphone and push him down. OK, he said it. Let's try and get it corrected for the next time."

Too bad the reverse isn't true. In a press conference on April 5th, ostensibly to update the public on the Covid-19 pandemic, when a reporter asked Dr. Fauci about the effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine, Trump stepped in and prevented him from answering!<sup>107</sup>

On April 14th, Trump announced that he was halting funding to the World Health Organization (WHO) due to what he termed "devastating mistakes" in providing information on Covid-19. According to the NY Times, "*In effect, Mr. Trump was accusing the world's leading health organization of making all of the mistakes that he has made since the virus first emerged.*"<sup>108</sup>

António Guterres, the secretary general of the United Nations, defended the W.H.O., saying it "*must be supported, as it is absolutely critical to the world's efforts to win the war against Covid-19... It is also not the time to reduce the resources for the operations of the World Health Organization or any other humanitarian organization in the fight against the virus.*"

Richard Horton, the editor-in-chief of the Lancet medical journal, wrote that Trump's decision was "*a crime against humanity ... Every scientist, every health worker, every citizen must resist and rebel against this appalling betrayal of global solidarity.*"<sup>109</sup>

Back on March 23, 2020, UN Secretary-General António Guterres had called for an international ceasefire in light of the pandemic:

*"The fury of the virus illustrates the folly of war. That is why today, I am calling for an immediate global ceasefire in all corners of the world. It is time to put armed conflict on lockdown and focus together on the true fight of our lives."*<sup>110</sup>

Members of the United Nations Security Council then came together to negotiate an international, coronavirus-related ceasefire. For six weeks, the Council, led by France, worked to come up with language that would be acceptable to all 15 member nations.

But Trump, the man who "*did peace great*" and wondered why he didn't get a Nobel Peace Prize, refused to let the U.S. sign the ceasefire resolution because the resolution mentioned the WHO!<sup>111</sup>

That's right; it was so vital to the stroking of Trump's ego for WHO to serve as his scapegoat for his own mismanagement of the pandemic, that he prevented a global ceasefire that

would've save countless lives. He would prefer war and conflict to continue unabated, just so that the WHO doesn't get a mention in a UN resolution!

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, in his daily press briefing on Covid-19, Trump, looking directly at his medical experts, said:

*And then I see the disinfectant, where it knocks it out in a minute. One minute. And is there a way we can do something like that, by injection inside or almost a cleaning. Because you see it gets in the lungs and it does a tremendous number on the lungs. So it would be interesting to check that. So, that, you're going to have to use medical doctors with. But it sounds -- it sounds interesting to me.*<sup>112</sup>

Doctors across the nation, and even the makers of Lysol, quickly repudiated the idea that putting disinfectant inside a human body had any benefits, and was rather an effective way to commit suicide.

The White House later issued a statement that Trump's comments were "taken out of context."

However, the next day Trump changed his defense: claiming that he was being sarcastic to the reporters, "*just to see what would happen.*"<sup>113</sup>

What did he *think* would happen? What good thing for the country would come out of his joking around about a virus that had already killed over 50,000 Americans? Did he think the "*true media*" would thank him for a good laugh, while the "*fake media*" would not "get it," and he could have a good laugh at their expense? Wouldn't that be the height of egotism: to suggest deadly medical procedures just to see if you could get a chuckle out of people's reactions? Evidently it all backfired; even his beloved Fox News took him literally and issued warnings not to follow his suggestions.

Sincere stupidity is bad enough in the leader of a country in the midst of a pandemic. But the irresponsibility inherent in pulling potentially deadly pranks is even worse.

But the stupidity and/or pranks just keep coming. On May 18, 2020, Trump announced that he had been taking hydroxychloroquine, for the past 10 days. His announcement drew immediate criticism from a range of medical experts, who warned not just of the dangers it posed for the president's health but also of the example it set.<sup>114</sup>

His announcement came less than a month after the F.D.A. issued a safety warning about the drug, noting that it could cause dangerous abnormalities in heart rhythm in coronavirus patients and should not be used outside clinical trials or in hospitals where patients were closely monitored for heart problems.<sup>115</sup>

## Inciting Violence Against Peaceful U.S. Citizens

On June 1, 2020 Trump ordered police to clear away peaceful protestors who were congregating in front of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, across the street from the White House. After police in full riot gear forcibly cleared the way by firing gas canisters and flash grenades, Trump strolled over, and posed in front of the church, Bible in hand. Ironically, the victims had been protesting police violence.

One of the victims was a visiting priest, sprayed with tear gas as she tried to help scared demonstrators leave the area.

Mariann E. Budde, the bishop of the diocese, remarked, "We need a president who can unify and heal. He has done the opposite of that, and we are left to pick up the pieces."<sup>116</sup>



## Conclusion

These are just the things that we *know about*, today. More is likely to surface after Trump is out of office.

But given what we *do* know from the foregoing facts I don't think there is any way in which we could call Trump a "great president." Nor is he really comparable to Lincoln. But, given his hate-filled rhetoric about "shithole countries"<sup>117</sup>, and his caging and separation of families of the races and nationalities that he despises, I think it is more appropriate to compare him to another leader.



Trump has proven to be a self-centered narcissist know-it-all who, in reality, knows very little. He cares more for his own image and personal aggrandizement than about the people in the country he is supposed to govern.

He has been called a sociopath by more than one psychiatrist.

For instance, Dr. Lance Dodes, of the Boston Pschoanalytic Society and Institute, and a former assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School has stated in interviews:

*"He is truly very sick... villainous because of his sociopathy and psychopathy but with a tremendous veneer that he's extremely good at. [He is] wantonly unconcerned about the welfare of others and willing to do anything to promote himself... an enormous present danger to us from the standpoint of creating a nuclear war and even from the standpoint of doing what he can to destroy democracy as well as attacking ethnic groups in the way he's done."<sup>118</sup>*

*"Although he has already severely damaged the country by being a psychopath or sociopath — in many ways, he's damaged democracy — I think people's lives will be lost now," he warned. "Individual lives will be lost because of the way he's mishandling the coronavirus issue."<sup>119</sup>*

Trump has not only failed to meet any reasonable definition of “greatness,” he has failed to meet even the bare minimum we would expect from the leader of a nation. He has done more harm than good to nearly everything he has touched.

Instead of “Making America Great Again” Trump has merely made America *hate* again. FBI data show that since Trump’s election there has been an anomalous spike in hate crimes concentrated in counties where Trump won by larger margins.<sup>120</sup>

Since the Republicans in the Senate (with the exception of Mitt Romney) were unwilling to do their job and remove this blot on our nation when they had the chance, we the people must overwhelmingly vote him out of office in the next election.

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/10/02/us/politics/donald-trump-tax-schemes-fred-trump.html>
- <sup>2</sup> <https://theintercept.com/2019/12/19/a-z-trump-impeachment/>
- <sup>3</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2016/live-updates/general-election/real-time-fact-checking-and-analysis-of-the-first-presidential-debate/fact-check-has-trump-declared-bankruptcy-four-or-six-times/>.
- <sup>4</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2017/11/28/politics/trump-family-heritage/index.html>
- <sup>5</sup> <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/back-trump-comments-perceived-encouraging-violence/story?id=48415766>
- <sup>6</sup> <https://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/trump-thinks-he-may-have-natural-ability-address-viral-outbreaks-n1153061>
- <sup>7</sup> <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/1/6/16857492/trump-tweets-mental-health>
- <sup>8</sup> <https://www.westword.com/news/funniest-tweets-about-donald-trump-and-colorado-wall-11520255>
- <sup>9</sup> <https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2020/02/trump-kansas-city-chiefs-wrong-state-missouri-super-bowl.html>
- <sup>10</sup> <https://twitter.com/nowthisnews/status/1081528992484610048>
- <sup>11</sup> <https://www.smmcroberts.net/blog/>
- <sup>12</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/27/us/politics/trump-school-grades.html>.
- <sup>13</sup> <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/6/18/18684217/trump-central-park-5-netflix>
- <sup>14</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tax\\_returns\\_of\\_Donald\\_Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tax_returns_of_Donald_Trump)
- <sup>15</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/2016/09/09/politics/donald-trump-birther/index.html>
- <sup>16</sup> March 30, 2011, on The Laura Ingraham Show <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqaS90CoTZs>
- <sup>17</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_convert\\_to\\_Christianity\\_from\\_Islam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_convert_to_Christianity_from_Islam)
- <sup>18</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/aug/11/donald-trump-obama-founder-isis-most-valuable-player>
- <sup>19</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald\\_Trump\\_Access\\_Hollywood\\_tape](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald_Trump_Access_Hollywood_tape)
- <sup>20</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYqKx1GuZGg>
- <sup>21</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/28/us/politics/trump-access-hollywood-tape.html>
- <sup>22</sup> <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2016/08/01/aires-trump-sexual-harassment-fox-news-women-gretchen-kelly-greta-news-column/87915454/>
- <sup>23</sup> <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/10/9/20906567/trump-karen-johnson-sexual-assault-mar-a-lago-barry-levine-monique-el-faizy-book>
- <sup>24</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alternative\\_facts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alternative_facts)
- <sup>25</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trump\\_University#Allegations\\_of\\_impropriety\\_and\\_lawsuits](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trump_University#Allegations_of_impropriety_and_lawsuits)
- <sup>26</sup> [https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/jasonleopold/trump-russia-cohen-moscow-tower-mueller-investigation?bftwnews&utm\\_term=4ldqpgc#4ldqpgc](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/jasonleopold/trump-russia-cohen-moscow-tower-mueller-investigation?bftwnews&utm_term=4ldqpgc#4ldqpgc)
- <sup>27</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-46923008>
- <sup>28</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal\\_affairs\\_of\\_Donald\\_Trump#Payments\\_related\\_to\\_alleged\\_affairs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal_affairs_of_Donald_Trump#Payments_related_to_alleged_affairs)
- <sup>29</sup> <https://www.businessinsider.com/trump-melania-stormy-daniels-affairs-marriages-timeline-2018-3>
- <sup>30</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tax\\_returns\\_of\\_Donald\\_Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tax_returns_of_Donald_Trump)
- <sup>31</sup> <https://www.commoncause.org/resource/read-the-mueller-report>
- <sup>32</sup> [https://www.commoncause.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CC\\_Mueller-Report\\_Executive-Summaries-Vol-1-and-2\\_6.19.19.pdf](https://www.commoncause.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CC_Mueller-Report_Executive-Summaries-Vol-1-and-2_6.19.19.pdf)
- <sup>33</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-31806907>
- <sup>34</sup> <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/back-trump-comments-perceived-encouraging-violence/story?id=48415766>
- <sup>35</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal\\_affairs\\_of\\_Donald\\_Trump#Lawsuit\\_for\\_inciting\\_violence\\_at\\_March\\_2016\\_campaign\\_rally](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal_affairs_of_Donald_Trump#Lawsuit_for_inciting_violence_at_March_2016_campaign_rally)
- <sup>36</sup> <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/blame-abc-news-finds-17-cases-invoking-trump/story?id=58912889>
- <sup>37</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/aug/10/trump-assassination-remark-clinton-second-amendment>
- <sup>38</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/jan/24/donald-trump-says-he-could-shoot-somebody-and-still-not-lose-voters>
- <sup>39</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/06/23/opinion/trumps-lies.html>
- <sup>40</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veracity\\_of\\_statements\\_by\\_Donald\\_Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veracity_of_statements_by_Donald_Trump)
- <sup>41</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/30/us/politics/trump-immigration-ban-memo.html>

- <sup>42</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scott\\_Pruitt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scott_Pruitt)
- <sup>43</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew\\_R.\\_Wheeler](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_R._Wheeler)
- <sup>44</sup> <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/03/27/holy-crap-insane-citing-coronavirus-pandemic-epa-indefinitely-suspends-environmental>
- <sup>45</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jeffmcmahon/2020/03/16/coronavirus-lockdown-may-have-saved-77000-lives-in-china-just-from-pollution-reduction/#423c45eb34fe>
- <sup>46</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/feb/06/trump-utah-national-parks-energy-development-drilling>
- <sup>47</sup> <https://www.smmcroberts.net/blog/trump-tilting-at-windmills/>
- <sup>48</sup> <https://www.ecowatch.com/water-efficient-toilets-trump-2641555142.html?rebellitem=3#rebellitem3>
- <sup>49</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris\\_Agreement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris_Agreement)
- <sup>50</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2019/08/12/750479370/trump-administration-makes-major-changes-to-protections-for-endangered-species>
- <sup>51</sup> <https://www.worldwildlife.org/stories/the-endangered-species-act-q-a>
- <sup>52</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trump\\_administration\\_family\\_separation\\_policy#Impacts\\_of\\_separation\\_on\\_children](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trump_administration_family_separation_policy#Impacts_of_separation_on_children)
- <sup>53</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/more-5-400-children-split-border-according-new-count-n1071791>
- <sup>54</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/why-are-migrant-children-dying-u-s-custody-n1010316>
- <sup>55</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/27/us/immigrant-children-sexual-abuse.html>
- <sup>56</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veracity\\_of\\_statements\\_by\\_Donald\\_Trump#Family\\_separation\\_policy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veracity_of_statements_by_Donald_Trump#Family_separation_policy)
- <sup>57</sup> [https://www.democracynow.org/2019/11/19/headlines/un\\_condemns\\_us\\_for\\_worlds\\_highest\\_rate\\_of\\_children\\_in\\_detention](https://www.democracynow.org/2019/11/19/headlines/un_condemns_us_for_worlds_highest_rate_of_children_in_detention)
- <sup>58</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018%E2%80%9319\\_United\\_States\\_federal\\_government\\_shutdown](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018%E2%80%9319_United_States_federal_government_shutdown)
- <sup>59</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Emergency\\_Concerning\\_the\\_Southern\\_Border\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Emergency_Concerning_the_Southern_Border_of_the_United_States)
- <sup>60</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/dangerous-abuse-lawless-bipartisan-attack-trump-national-emergency-declaration-n971826>
- <sup>61</sup> <https://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-reignites-claims-mexico-will-pay-border-wall-1484585>
- <sup>62</sup> [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/climber-border-wall-trump-cant-be-climbed-tweet\\_n\\_5de9b6a4e4b00149f73e23e9](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/climber-border-wall-trump-cant-be-climbed-tweet_n_5de9b6a4e4b00149f73e23e9)
- <sup>63</sup> <https://time.com/5694432/girl-climbs-border-wall-replica/>
- <sup>64</sup> <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-border-wall-blows-over-california-mexico-1484817>
- <sup>65</sup> <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/professional-climbers-laughing-at-trumps-wall-claims-888114/>
- <sup>66</sup> <https://weather.com/news/news/2020-02-28-saguaro-cactus-border-wall-construction-arizona>
- <sup>67</sup> <https://www.azcentral.com/story/opinion/op-ed/2019/11/18/trump-border-wall-destroying-fragile-organ-pipe-national-park/40620881/>
- <sup>68</sup> <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2019/12/17/new-report-details-how-trump-tax-scam-delivered-big-benefits-rich-and-corporations>
- <sup>69</sup> <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2019/10/why-donald-trumps-economic-dream-crumbled/601153/>
- <sup>70</sup> <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/take-action-stop-trumps-tax-scam-round-2-for-the-rich-and-powerful>
- <sup>71</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017\\_Shayrat\\_missile\\_strike](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_Shayrat_missile_strike)
- <sup>72</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/apr/17/donald-trump-yemen-veto-war-saudi-arabia-scandalous-abuse>
- <sup>73</sup> <https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/promise/1368/renege-iran-deal/>
- <sup>74</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/2019/10/07/politics/nikki-haley-donald-trump-syria-troops-brett-mcgurk/index.html>
- <sup>75</sup> <https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/trump-iran-suleimani-iraq/>
- <sup>76</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/28/world/middleeast/peace-plan.html>
- <sup>77</sup> <https://oversight.house.gov/news/press-releases/new-documents-show-pentagon-spent-at-least-184000-in-us-taxpayer-funds-at>
- <sup>78</sup> <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2019/10/22/20925403/emoluments-clause-trump-g7-resort-impeachment-businesses>



- 
- 79 <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/09/09/sharpiagate-noaa-reportedly-investigate-effort-bolster-trump/2269586001/>
- 80 <https://www.politico.com/story/2019/06/12/trump-fbi-foreign-information-1362788>
- 81 <https://talkingpointsmemo.com/news/trump-claim-article-2-right-whatever-want-president>
- 82 <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/12/10/impeachment-obstructing-congress-hard-trump-rebut/4385667002/>
- 83 <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/10/03/trump-calls-for-ukraine-china-to-investigate-the-bidens.html>
- 84 <https://theintercept.com/2019/10/10/trump-crimes-law/>
- 85 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marie\\_Yovanovitch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marie_Yovanovitch)
- 86 <https://www.businessinsider.com/marie-yovanovitch-investigation-rudy-giuliani-documents-lev-parnas-ukraine-surveillance-2020-1>
- 87 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/26/us/politics/trump-coronavirus-cdc.html>
- 88 <https://apnews.com/f4cd4c72e896d7fbd8ebd3516e864550>
- 89 <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/13/coronavirus-trump-says-i-dont-take-responsibility-at-all-for-lack-of-tests.html>
- 90 <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/trump-fire-pandemic-team/>
- 91 <https://twitter.com/cspan/status/1240672025989001221>
- 92 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-21/trump-pushes-malaria-drug-for-covid-19-but-evidence-is-lacking>
- 93 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/06/us/politics/coronavirus-trump-malaria-drug.html>
- 94 <https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/488809-trump-campaign-attacks-nbc-reporter-as-white-house-briefing-begins>
- 95 <https://theintercept.com/2020/03/24/trump-hyped-chloroquine-cure-covid-19-man-arizona-took-died/>
- 96 [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/trump-end-mass-social-distancing-coronavirus\\_n\\_5e78f093c5b6f5b7c548d4b3](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/trump-end-mass-social-distancing-coronavirus_n_5e78f093c5b6f5b7c548d4b3)
- 97 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/29/us/politics/trump-coronavirus-guidelines.html>
- 98 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/18/us/politics/china-virus.html>
- 99 <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/18/trump-pandemic-drumbeat-coronavirus-135392>
- 100 <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3077212/coronavirus-biggest-test-donald-trump-and-us-china-relations>
- 101 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-25/trump-says-he-ll-stop-using-chinese-virus-easing-blame-game>
- 102 <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/11266101/trump-calls-covid-19-chinese-virus-again-and-says-china-treated-us-terribly-hours-before-call-with-president-xi/>
- 103 <https://www.businessinsider.com/trump-greta-thunberg-time-person-of-the-year-win-ridiculous-2019-12>
- 104 <https://www.politico.com/story/2017/11/24/trump-time-magazine-person-of-the-year-259614>
- 105 [https://www.newyorker.com/humor/borowitz-report/trump-optimistic-about-winning-nobel-prize-in-medicine#intcid=recommendations\\_the-new-yorker-right-rail-popular\\_3a0cf3e4-b26d-47bf-b0c8-3038e27e726d\\_popular4-1](https://www.newyorker.com/humor/borowitz-report/trump-optimistic-about-winning-nobel-prize-in-medicine#intcid=recommendations_the-new-yorker-right-rail-popular_3a0cf3e4-b26d-47bf-b0c8-3038e27e726d_popular4-1)
- 106 <https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2019/apr/08/donald-trump/republicans-dismiss-trumps-windmill-and-cancer-cla/>
- 107 <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/coronavirus-trump-dr-fauci-press-briefing-white-house-treatment-latest-a9448731.html>
- 108 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/14/us/politics/coronavirus-trump-who-funding.html>
- 109 <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/15/against-humanity-trump-condemned-for-who-funding-freeze>
- 110 <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059972>
- 111 <https://www.rescue.org/press-release/un-security-council-fails-support-global-ceasefire-shows-no-response-covid-19>
- 112 <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/24/politics/fact-check-trump-disinfectant-sarcastic/index.html>
- 113 [https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2020/4/26/1940502/-Cult-Leader-Pulls-Deadly-Prank-as-Americans-Die?\\_t=2020-04-26T11:08:29.791-07:00](https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2020/4/26/1940502/-Cult-Leader-Pulls-Deadly-Prank-as-Americans-Die?_t=2020-04-26T11:08:29.791-07:00)
- 114 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/18/us/politics/trump-hydroxychloroquine-covid-coronavirus.html>

<sup>115</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/24/health/fda-hydroxychloroquine-coronavirus.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share>

<sup>116</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/01/us/politics/trump-st-johns-church-bible.html>

<sup>117</sup> <https://theintercept.com/2018/06/28/trump-tps-shithole-countries-lawsuit/>

<sup>118</sup> <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/donald-trump-psychopath-psychosis-mental-health-danger-us-president-goldwater-rule-psychiatrist-a8084726.html>

<sup>119</sup> [https://www.salon.com/2020/02/28/psychiatrist-sounds-the-alarm-about-sociopath-president-trump-hes-getting-worse\\_partner/](https://www.salon.com/2020/02/28/psychiatrist-sounds-the-alarm-about-sociopath-president-trump-hes-getting-worse_partner/)

<sup>120</sup> <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/fixgov/2019/08/14/trump-and-racism-what-do-the-data-say/>