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## Los Angeles Times

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# Enough is Enough



PART I  
Our Dishonest President

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PART II  
Why Trump Lies

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Trump's

By THE TIMES EDITORIAL BOARD (HTTP://WWW.LATIMES.COM/LA-BIO-TIMES-EDITORIAL-BOARD-STAFF.HTML)

AUG. 20, 2017

**T**hese are not normal times.

The man in the White House is reckless and unmanageable, a danger to the Constitution, a threat to our democratic institutions.

Last week some of his worst qualities were on display: his moral vacuity and his disregard for the truth, as well as his stubborn resistance to sensible advice. As ever, he lashed out at imaginary enemies and scapegoated others for his own failings. Most important, his reluctance to offer a simple and decisive condemnation of racism and Nazism astounded and appalled observers around the world.

With such a glaring failure of moral leadership at the top, it is desperately important that others stand up and speak out to defend American principles and values. This is no time for neutrality, equivocation or silence. Leaders across America — and especially those in the president's own party — must summon their reserves of political courage to challenge President Trump publicly, loudly and unambiguously.

Enough is enough.

Some people clearly understand this. On Monday, after Trump suggested that "alt-left" counter-protesters were as much to blame as Nazis and white supremacists for

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the fiasco in Charlottesville, a courageous CEO — Kenneth Frazier, the chief executive of Merck & Co. — resigned (<http://www.latimes.com/politics/washington/la-na-essential-washington-updates-merck-ceo-resigns-from-white-house-1502719632-htmlstory.html>) from the president's American Manufacturing Council in protest. His departure, which the ever-gracious president greeted with derision, led to an exodus of other commission members.

“  
This is no time for neutrality,  
equivocation or silence.  
”

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Also last week, five members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff issued (<http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-na-pol-joint-chiefs-race-20170816-story.html>) a tacit rebuke to the president by condemning racism and hatred in Charlottesville. Denouncing Nazis and Klansmen is not exactly controversial or cutting-edge in 2017, but for the generals to take on the commander in chief is, to say the least, highly unusual.

Many Republicans and conservatives have broken ranks as well in recent months, dismayed by the daily chaos, belligerence and mismanagement. Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.), Lindsay Graham (R-S.C.) and Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) have been outspoken critics. Max Boot, David Frum and other conservative public intellectuals have written articulately about the failures of the Trump presidency; the venerable conservative magazine National Review has as well. On Friday, former GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney said (<https://www.facebook.com/mittromney/posts/10154652303536121>) Trump's response to Charlottesville had “caused racists to rejoice,” and that if he didn't apologize it could lead to “an unraveling of our national fabric.” These votes of no-confidence from fellow conservatives and Republicans are powerful indictments.

But where are the rest?

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) and Rep. Paul D. Ryan (R-Wis.) are the two most-powerful men in Congress. Both have fired off the occasional potshot but for the most part have stood firmly behind this wildly flawed president, despite the taunts and insults Trump hurled at them from his Twitter redoubt.

What holds them back? Craven, self-serving political calculations designed to protect their careers, and dwindling hope that the president, despite everything, will help them move their long-delayed legislative agenda.

Their silence is shameful.

How about the more rational members of Trump's Cabinet? They should be fleeing the administration, refusing to stand mutely against the wall at his press conferences while he steps on their messages and undermines their best efforts.

“  
Men and women of  
conscience can no longer  
withhold judgment.  
”

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Many rank-and-file GOP members of Congress are simply too scared of alienating Republican voters or of enraging a vindictive Trump or of provoking a primary challenge from the right funded by the Koch brothers or the Mercer family. They should wake up and declare their independence.

In California, the pressure is sometimes in the other direction. For instance, Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Vista), a Trump supporter who won reelection in 2016 by an extraordinarily narrow 2,348 votes, knows he needs to distance himself from Trump if he hopes to win reelection in 2018; he has done so, slowly, a bit. It would be nice if he did so on

principle, but in the end, he and his colleagues may be more persuaded by Trump's low favorability ratings and the near certainty of challenges from Democrats in the midterm election.

Men and women of conscience can no longer withhold judgment. Trump's erratic nature and his impulsive, demagogic style endanger us all.

Republicans and conservatives around the country should be just as concerned as Democrats about Trump's conflicts of interest, his campaign's relationship with the Russians and whether he engaged in obstruction of justice. They should call him out when he sows division, when he dog-whistles, when he emboldens bigots. They should stand up for global human rights, for constructive engagement with the rest of the world and for other shared American values that transcend party allegiances.

Rejecting the president of one's own party could mean alienating friends, crossing allies, damaging one's chances of advancement or risking one's career altogether for a matter of principle. But that's the very definition of leadership.

No one can sit on the sidelines now. It's time for Republicans to show some spine.

This is the seventh in a series.

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*A series of Times editorials*

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What is a clear and present danger to democracy in this country is leftists that believe they have a right to toss aside the will of the...

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#2 **wascoman** 524 points

+

What a waste of print space. Note to the Times, 99% dont care anymore. You really do cater to a very small number of highly liberal whiners that have nothing else to do all day but complain complain complain. As someone wrote below, move on with your lives...

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#3 **Beast\_SPQR** 471 points

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Just to show you how far off the LA Times editors are, a PBS/NPR poll showed 62% of Americans want the Confederate statues to remain.

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Gee,you think there is a real reason that Democrats have lost elections after elections after elections?

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Thanks,but no thanks,we will stand For Trump.

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**AverageAmericanBlog** 2 hour(s) ago (<http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/>)



enough/#sot\_904baa551a7692a9aebf09ec6e03fd9d897fda91)

This is one of the most disgusting things I have ever seen in an American newspaper.

What is a clear and present danger to democracy in this country is leftists that believe they have a right to toss aside the will of the people and remove a duly elected president. Those that support the use of violence as a political tactic. The left wing media is pushing for nothing less than violent overthrow of our government. All Americans should be greatly alarmed.

2 ^ 2 v Reply Promote Actions v <



InkandQuill in reply to AverageAmericanBlog "This is one of the most disgus... more » 2 hour(s) ago (http://www.la-times.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/#sot\_80932acbf5eb84d16371671ef36fc714c429ed7f)

This bizarre tirade from the editors of the Times is a very accurate representation of their panic-attack agenda. Or perhaps their collective resume-enhancement attempts to become staff writers for SNL.

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jgreimer 2 hour(s) ago (http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/#sot\_1f4a0e8a36baee3c0196cc5b771cde8efb694d-d1)

Success in the Republican Party is no longer measured by moral character, it is measured by loyalty to the party.

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tttedison in reply to jgreimer "Success in the Republican Part... more » 46 minute(s) ago (http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/#sot\_15bc880f1513c707bc7495abc492c3d2155a96fa)

A liberal talking about morals, is hilarious.

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InkandQuill in reply to jgreimer "Success in the Republican Part... more » 2 hour(s) ago (http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/#sot\_af4951d5bb77be5e6cf034190952a1f3fddec46)

Please don't let your blind allegiance to your party blind you to reality and the future of this country and its place in the world. Opps too late. You believed Clinton!

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Douglas Proudfoot 3 hour(s) ago (http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/#sot\_8445b7e3d453a1505f90260ed-c4ac55d1f3ea060)

The real threat to our Republic would be removing Trump by unconstitutional means. You leftists don't have a policy. You leftists don't believe you can win an honest election. You leftists don't have a real justification to remove a legally elected president. So you cook one up. Leftists really have only one card, the race card. So you figured out how to play it.

The key to understanding what happened at Charlottesville is what the police didn't do. They didn't keep the white supremacists separated from the Antifa / BLM counter protesters. Keeping the two sides separated is standard procedure in a volatile situation like a white supremacist Nazi march. So why didn't the police keep the two groups separated? The Charlottesville police had agreed to keep the two sides separated, according to Hunter Wallace, a supporter of the white supremacist marchers at Charlottesville. In his blog, as quoted in the LA Times article linked below, he says, "Violent antifa [anti-fascists] were not penned in their own area as per our agreement with the Charlottesville Police Department, but were roaming the streets and blocking the entrance to Lee Park." I think the local Democrat officials and the Governor of Virginia wanted a violent confrontation to stir up racial division. I think they ordered the police not to keep the two groups separated. There are strong rumors that the cops were ordered to stand down. This tactic of withdrawing police protection to facilitate a convenient riot is common in places like Venezuela where the left uses street violence to advance their cause politically. I believe that this riot was intentionally permitted, because the Democrats in charge thought it would embarrass Trump and Republicans in general. It certainly worked better than they could have dreamed. This is just speculation on my part, but I hope some brave journalists will investigate and see justice done. Given your evident bias, it won't be LA Times journalists, but I hope somewhere else there are real journalists who care about the truth.

www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-charlottesville-witnesses-20170815-story.html (http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-charlottesville-witnesses-20170815-story.html)

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Imhhike in reply to Douglas Proudfoot "The real threat to our Republi... more » 1 hour(s) ago (http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/#sot\_a2b50ada98a39dcde1a9b9f4c26df49489a74e98)

waiting on Mueller to uncover Trump corruption. Give it time.

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humboldtrick in reply to Douglas Proudfoot "The real threat to our Republi... more » 1 hour(s) ago (http://www.latimes.com/projects/la-ed-trump-enough/#sot\_4cf86b3a64af51b1ad82d21fc0f1fa8c7ba52610)

More brain-dead, far-right nonsense. This is the REAL FAKE NEWS, it all comes from tRump and the Republicans.

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