Representative Jordan’s Evasiveness Reveals Democrats Rhetorical Challenge

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On Sunday’s Meet the Press, Ohio Representative Jim Jordan had no answer to the important question about why President Donald Trump would surround himself with people like Michael Cohen who Jordan and most Republicans admit has a record of lying. Instead Jordan said that what matters is the President’s record on the economy, taxes, government regulation, Supreme Court appointments and a number of other issues.

While I am bothered by Jordan’s lack of responsiveness and deflection, from a rhetorical standpoint he clearly outlined the enormous political challenge facing Democrats in 2020. My fear is that Democrats will get buried in the confusing nuance of Cohen’s testimony and related matters, spending too much rhetorical energy going down an unproductive political road.

Yes, Democrats can do more than one thing at the same time. Unfortunately, focusing on Cohen only feeds the media’s thirst for drama—preventing needed
coverage of the more significant, yet less titillating, message about why the Democrats offer the best vision for 2020.

Sadly, while it shouldn’t be this way and although not all facts have been unearthed, polls show that most Americans have made up their mind up about the investigations of Trump. Where there is significant room for persuasion is on the issue of which presidential candidate is best for America—and that will depend on a host of issues having less to do with allegations of Trump wrongdoing.