The Rhetorical Significance of Republican Silence on Trump

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Since Donald Trump was elected president, I have been appalled by the unwillingness of Republicans to stand up to him when he says and does despicable things that run contrary to our shared values and violate our sacred principles.

This weekend we witnessed another shameful example of this cowardice — of how Republicans seem all too happy to place politics above principle and country.

Normally, Republicans in Congress preach the importance of patriotism and rebuke all efforts to undermine it.

Yet, they refused to harshly condemn President Trump, who on foreign soil sided with Kim Jung Un, a ruthless despot, murderer and enemy of the U.S., in criticizing Joe Biden, a respected American vice president (his political views notwithstanding).

And on Memorial Day no less!

This is unprecedented; no other president in U.S. history has behaved in such an un-American and unpatriotic manner.

If a Democratic president had made such a statement, Republicans would rightly clamor for impeachment, as would any reasonable person.

Instead, Republicans remained loudly silent.

This makes them enablers of Trump and active participants with the president in undermining our nation and its cherished values, as well as the sanctity of the presidency.
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