



Denounce White Supremacists

March 31, 2019

Sadly, 59 grave sites were vandalized with anti-Semitic symbols and language recently at a Massachusetts Jewish cemetery. Is President Donald Trump at least partially accountable for this? Those who claim his racist discourse and constant appeal to fear and division are unrelated to this kind of behavior should understand that rhetoric empowers, incites and emboldens despicable people to come out of the shadows.

To be clear, there have always been anti-Semites and racists long before Trump became president and there always will be. But disgusting occurrences like this one have risen dramatically during Trump's time in the White House. Rather than being part of the problem, he could be part of the solution by forcefully denouncing white supremacists, making clear he refuses support from them, and declaring that white nationalism — not the border — is a national emergency. Alas, he probably won't, since this will erode his base. I fear Trump will continue to exploit racism and anti-Semitism for political purposes, until the Republicans stop him.

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