

Beyond the fact that this inquiry was launched before the transcript of the call to Ukraine was released, the Speaker's decision to launch an inquiry without a full vote of the House and attempts to restrict the involvement of Republicans and the American public in the impeachment proceedings defy precedence.

From the beginning, this effort has been mired by the Democrats' partisanship and a complete lack of transparency. The American public deserves the truth. Instead, all they are getting are cherry-picked leaks in classic Washington fashion.

Madam Speaker, in its current form, this process is an outrage and counter to our interests and the values of our Republic. I urge my colleagues to abandon this political charade and adhere to the Constitution and congressional precedent.

PARTISAN IMPEACHMENT

(Mrs. WALORSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today because what we are witnessing is unprecedented in the history of this country. House Democratic leaders are conducting an impeachment inquiry behind closed doors with selective leaks instead of transparency, with no due process and without a vote on the House floor.

Why do they want to keep this process hidden from view? Because they know the American people will see right through this partisan scheme.

Democrats decided to impeach this President the day he took office. Now they are just trying to come up with a reason, no matter what the facts are.

The American people know that Washington is broken, and they sent us here to fix it. Instead, House Democrats are shaking the people's trust in this institution.

We should be passing USMCA to give our farmers and workers a better deal.

We should be voting on bipartisan legislation to lower prescription drug costs.

We should be working to fix our immigration system and secure the border.

Madam Speaker, it is time to end this charade and get back to work.

UNPRECEDENTED IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. FULCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, you authorized holding an impeachment hearing, but I don't think that is what you are really doing.

If so, you wouldn't have disregarded precedent from the Nixon and Clinton eras, or we would have all voted before this was to proceed.

If so, you wouldn't have denied the minority the ability to call witnesses

or me and other Members the ability to attend hearings or even view the transcripts.

Madam Speaker, approximately 90 percent of your party members wanted to impeach before this so-called inquiry ever began. That is why I say you are really not trying to hold an impeachment inquiry. You simply want to remove a President. And we are within 1 year of an election. You want to deny Americans the right to decide for themselves.

At the heart of the matter and the real reason you are doing this is because your party does not have a winning Presidential candidate and no significant accomplishments this session.

Madam Speaker, can we please go back to work?

SHOW TRIAL IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. SMUCKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give voice to my constituents on the destructive partisan and secret impeachment inquiry, which really is a slap in the face to the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvania's 11th District who voted for and continue to support President Trump.

Judith from Ephrata writes:

Congressman, my husband and I are furious about this constant push to impeach President Trump. We don't care how many Members of Congress don't like him. It is not their choice; it is ours.

Rebecca from Lititz writes:

I am alarmed at the political climate and attempts to impeach our President. The House has done nothing to solve the issues facing our country and continues to spend their time trying to stop the progress that our President has made.

Jody from Windsor writes:

Can you please tell Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats that the overwhelming majority of people I interact with in my daily life want them to stop these unfounded impeachment proceedings into President Trump and get back to work fixing the issues we elected Congress to fix?

Madam Speaker, I share my constituents' anger and frustration toward the show trial. This process isn't honest or fair.

HALLOWEEN IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, Halloween is 9 days away. It is a holiday that happens in the dark. It is about fear, deceit, and witch hunts—anything to hide who you truly are.

Back home, Texans are stunned. How can the majority party of the House use a kids' holiday, Halloween, as a model for the most dramatic action Congress can take: impeaching a sitting President? The ghouls and goblins of the House majority are now the Hal-

loween party and make up this process as they go along.

Impeachment demands an inquiry vote by the full House, a full vote by the full House. The Democrat majority did that with Richard Nixon in the 1970s, and the Republican majority did that with Bill Clinton in the 1990s.

The House Halloween party allowed 41 Members of this body of 435 to go forward with impeachment. This party is following the Wizard of Oz. If they pursue this witch hunt, the House will fall down on November 2020. The witch hunt will be over.

SO-CALLED IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. GRIFFITH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I have learned from Democrat press conferences and Washington Post leaks that this body has an ongoing so-called impeachment inquiry.

But can I, as a Member of Congress, watch the testimony? No.

Can you watch the testimony at home so you can decide for yourself? No.

Why are the hearings taking place in the basement behind guarded doors? What do they want to keep from me? What do they want to keep from you, Madam Speaker, either hearing or seeing?

I don't know, but Speaker NANCY PELOSI knows, and you can call her and ask her why at 202-225-4965. Ask her what she has to hide, at 202-225-4965. Ask her why you can't watch the hearing, at 202-225-4965.

The American people deserve the answers.

Call 202-225-4965.

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UNPRECEDENTED IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, this is an unbelievable time in our history.

There is nothing more important than elected office. It is something that was discussed in the Declaration of Independence, and yet, we have an attempted coup taking place. It violates the principles on which this Nation was founded of due process—the right to confront the witnesses against you.

And I would submit, humbly, that there is no cause for concern for the so-called whistleblower's safety from President Trump. All the witnesses against him are alive and well.

So who is it he is afraid might come after him if he discloses what he knows and who conspiring to bring down this President?

Ah, there is the rub. Let's get to the bottom of it. And at the bottom will not be President Trump. It will be the coconspirators trying to bring this government down.

SHAM IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. WALKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALKER. Before they identified the crime, Madam Speaker, the Democrats organized the firing squad. Before anyone was talking about Ukraine, over half of the Democratic majority was in favor of impeachment.

In fact, this process didn't begin with Ukraine or a whistleblower, this sham impeachment process started year one of President Trump's administration when a Democrat colleague stated, "... if we don't impeach this President he will get reelected."

Hatred for President Trump has become the new religion of the radical left, creating an irrational behavior, not rooted in good judgment, but rather in emotion.

The Democrats are protecting ADAM SCHIFF, as seen by yesterday's censure vote. This was not, and is not, about the facts. Facing your accusers and "innocent until proven guilty" used to be the American way.

It is the basic standard that every American should expect, including the President. Being targeted by an angry mob, a willing media machine, and a twisted version of democracy.

The President calls this a witch hunt. Unfortunately, it looks like that is exactly what it is.

STILL I RISE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HAALAND). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. And since my name has been called several times, I rise to respond. I rise to explain why the impeachment inquiry should be expanded.

Some things bear repeating: I rise to explain why the impeachment inquiry should be enlarged, to include the President's weaponization of hate.

I know what weaponized hate is like. I am a son of the segregated South, Madam Speaker. My rights that were accorded me and recognized under the Constitution of the United States of America were denied me by my neighbors.

I am a son of the segregated South. I know what weaponized hate is like. I was forced to not only live with, but to also honor weaponized hate.

Madam Speaker, I know what it was like to have to stand in the colored line. And while standing in the colored line, others could always come who were of a different hue and stand in front of me. And it could happen until every person of a different hue had been served. I know what weaponized hate is like.

And I recall once—actually, on more than one occasion, but this one stands out in my mind—when the young man

who was bagging the purchased items, he took my purchased items and he put them in the bag—he was of a different hue—and he crushed the bag. And he stared me down as he crushed the goods that I had purchased.

I know what weaponized hate is like. I saw the anger not only in his face, but I could see it exude from his body. He was probably a little bit older than I was. He didn't know me, but he had the hate that had been weaponized, and it was within him.

I can remember having to go to the back door. I had to go to the back door to receive goods that I paid for, paid taxes on, the same as others did. But I couldn't go to the front and receive my goods, only the back door was available to me. And then when I would go to the back door, people would still say ugly things to me, notwithstanding the fact that I was a paying customer.

Weaponized hate causes people to behave this way, to stand against their own interest. I was a customer, a paying customer, but weaponized hate would cause them to stand against their own interest. It was in their interest to have me come back, but they knew that I had no place else to go for the most part, so they could be ugly to me and treat me any way that they chose.

I know what weaponized hate is like. I can remember being required to sit only in the balcony of the movie. When we came in, we had to make a turn and go up to the balcony. This is what weaponized hate is like. It segregates people. It didn't allow me to enjoy the movie in the presence of persons of a different hue who might be seated next to me. This is what the neighbors that I had denied me under the Constitution. It was accorded me, but they forced me to go into a segregated area.

And, of course, I remember the colored water fountains. And the incident that really stands out in my mind the most was when my mother saw me drinking out of a White water fountain—that is what it was called. And when she saw me drinking out of the White water fountain, my mother pulled me away quickly. She pulled me away because she knew that her young son was at risk of being harmed because he was drinking from a White water fountain. And I remembered what the colored water fountain was like. The colored water fountain was filthy. You could see the crud, but it was all that was available to me. I know what hate is like when it is weaponized, how it can hurt.

I remember traveling across country with my father and my mother, and we stopped at a service station. We purchased gasoline, and we wanted water. And the person who was there representing the management of that station said that we could have water, but we would have to drink it out of an oil can.

I know what it is like. I know what it is like to live under hate and to have to honor hate. I remember my mother

speaking to me in rather stern terms about how I was to behave around White women. How I had to always make sure that I never said anything that a White woman might conclude was offensive, because White women had a license to accuse. And once you were accused, only God knows what would happen to you. We know what happened to Emmett Till. Weaponized hate killed Emmett Till.

I know what it is like. I am a son of the segregated South. I know how persons of a different hue had but only to accuse you, and for all practical purposes, you were guilty. You had to prove that you were innocent.

I mention these things because the President of the United States of America, who has been referenced by my colleagues tonight, same one, the same President, compared impeachment to lynching. He compared impeachment to mob violence, because that is what lynchings were all about. Mob violence, no due process, no trial.

If it was said that you had spoken in an unkind way to a White woman, you could be collected, taken off somewhere in the back woods, castrated, lynched, beaten, brutalized. Mob violence, unlawful hate to terrorize and intimidate.

I know what it is like. I lived in the segregated South. I am a son of the segregated South. And for the President to compare this level of violence and hate to Article II Section 4 of the Constitution, which deals with impeachment, is unacceptable. Totally unacceptable. This is nothing more than a continuation of his weaponizing of hate.

I am a son of the segregated South. I know what hate looks like. I know what it smells like. I know what it sounds like, and I know what it feels like. I have experienced all of the above.

So when the President did this, when he said it, it sparked this flame in me to come and stand here in the well of the House, alone, to explain why the impeachment inquiry should be expanded to include the weaponization of hate by this President.

Yes, I stand alone, but I believe in my heart that it is better for me to stand alone than not stand at all, because I see what's happening to my country, and I love my country.

This is not a game for me. This will follow me the rest of my life. I didn't come to Congress to impeach a President. It is not something that was on my agenda, I had not a scintilla of a notion. I do it because I love my country. I do it because I know what weaponized hate is like.

Yes, I called for the impeachment of the President some 2 years ago for his obstruction, but I also have called for his impeachment for his infusion of hate into policy.

Earlier this evening, someone mentioned Federalist No. 65. I have read it many times. Yes, the words of Hamilton. The words of Hamilton addressed