



Why isn't the media reporting on Trump's increasing dementia?

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Today's news conference should at least spur a serious inquiry

ROBERT REICH
AUG 8



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Friends,

Today, Trump held an hourlong news conference in the main room at Mar-a-Lago. He insulted Kamala Harris's intelligence, lied about the state of the U.S. economy, and claimed the country would be in mortal danger if he didn't win the election.

In other words, the usual Trump torrent of lies and insults.

But what got my attention was his description of his departure from the White House as a “peaceful” transfer of power, his insistence that the group that mounted the assault on the Capitol was relatively small, and his boast that attendance at his January 6 rally preceding the assault was larger than the crowd Martin Luther King Jr. drew on the national mall for his “I have a Dream” speech

“If you look at Martin Luther King, when he did his speech, his great speech, and you look at ours — same real estate, same everything, same number of people, if not — we had more.”

Friends, these are not the statements of a sane person

Trump is showing growing signs of dementia.

In April, he spoke to a rally in Schnecksville, Pennsylvania, about the famed Civil War battle at Gettysburg. Trump told the audience:

“Gettysburg, what an unbelievable battle that was It was so much, and so interesting, and so vicious and horrible, and so beautiful in so many different ways — it represented such a big portion of the success of this country.”

Trump continued, “Gettysburg, wow — I go to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to look and to watch.”

During the last months of the Republican primaries, he repeatedly claimed that his opponent Nikki Haley was in charge of Capitol security on January 6. (Haley never had any connection to Capitol security)

He has repeatedly confused who he ran against in the past, such as stating, “With Obama, we won an election that everyone said couldn’t be won ” (Trump defeated Hillary Clinton in 2016.)

Last September, Trump suggested that the way to prevent wildfires in California’s forest lands is to keep them damp. Here are his words:

“They say that there’s so much water up north that I want to have the overflow areas go into your forests and dampen your forests, because

if you dampen your forests you're not gonna have these forest fires that are burning at levels that nobody's ever seen ”

In October, Trump arned his supporters that Biden will lead America into World War *Two*

Can I be frank? It appears that Trump — with a family history of dementia — is increasingly unhinged

He has claimed that Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed militant group, is “very smart ” That whales are being killed by windmills That he won all 50 states in 2020. That he defeated Barack Obama in 2016. That the outgoing chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff should be executed

The most telling evidence of Trump's growing dementia is found in his paranoid thirst for revenge, on which he is centering his entire presidential campaign.

On November 11, he pledged to a crowd of supporters in Claremont, New Hampshire, that:

“We will root out the communists, Marxists, fascists and the radical left thugs that live like vermin within the confines of our country, that lie and steal and cheat on elections and will do anything possible they'll do anything, whether legally or illegally, to destroy America and to destroy the American dream ”

Are these the words of a sane person? Or of an aging paranoid megalomaniac?

Even if it's unclear to which category Trump belongs, shouldn't this question be central to the coverage of his campaign for reelection?

I'm no physician, and I have no idea whether Trump is suffering from early dementia But the weight of the evidence suggests he is So why isn't the media covering this — at least with the same intensity they covered Biden's apparent difficulties?

When I've asked members of the media, they say Trump's malfunctioning brain is “old news ”

But just because Trump has shown mental instability in the past doesn't make his mental problems any less relevant now They're *more* relevant He appears even more delusional than before.

If Biden's difficulties were fair game, why isn't Trump's apparent mental decline front and center?

The growing evidence of Trump's dementia and paranoia poses a clear potential danger to the future of America — if he's reelected.

At the least, the media should be investigating and reporting on it Right?

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