

A Bible Burning, a Russian News Agency and a Story Too Good to Check Out | The New York Times

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August 14, 2020

WASHINGTON — For some of President Trump’s loudest cheerleaders, it was a story too good to check out: Black Lives Matters protesters in Portland, Ore., had burned a stack of Bibles, and then topped off the fire with American flags. There was even a video to prove it.

The story was a near-perfect fit for a central Trump campaign talking point — that with liberals and Democrats comes godless disorder — and it went viral among Republicans within hours of appearing earlier this month. The New York Post [wrote about it](#), as did The Federalist, saying that [the protesters had shown “their true colors.”](#) Senator Ted Cruz, the Texas Republican, said of the protesters, [“This is who they are.”](#) Donald Trump Jr., the president’s son, tweeted that [antifa had moved to “the book burning phase.”](#)

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