

News Item

Why Trump Won't Denounce QAnon | The Atlantic

By Russel Berman October 16, 2020

President Donald Trump <u>likes to dabble in conspiracy theories</u>, and he does not like to contradict his base. So it should come as no surprise that the president tonight refused to denounce the warped conspiracy-theory movement known as QAnon, which posits that a global cabal is torturing children, and which exalts Trump as its savior.

Yet if Trump no longer has the power to surprise, he still has the power to shock. He proved that once again tonight, when NBC's Savannah Guthrie confronted him about Q during the network's town hall, as Trump first claimed not to know what QAnon was and then voiced sympathy with its supposed central tenet. "What I do hear about it is they are very strongly against pedophilia, and I agree with that," the president said. "I do agree with that."

[...]

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