

Why you shouldn't care about Trump's alleged 'sh*t hole countries' remark

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The fallout from Trump's alleged referring to third world nations as "sh*t hole countries" continues. The POTUS showed really poor decision making. Those types of statements might be acceptable down the pub but are most certainly not in a professional environment and show the leader of the USA as someone incapable of behaving the right way.





But at the end of the day, they are just words. Nothing more. I very much doubt people's lives will be affected that much by a 71-year-old's comments. His actions, however, will have massive repercussions and those made by him and predecessors are likely to cause massive problems.

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In the last year of Obama's presidency, the US dropped an average of [three bombs an h](#) or 26,171 strikes. [These bombs](#) fell on seven countries: Pakistan (3), Somalia (14), Yeme



(35), Libya (496), Afghanistan (1,337), Iraq (12,095) and Syria (12,192). Under Trump, the US has begun operations in Niger and by July, [Trump had dropped 80%](#) of Obama's 2016 record.



This is despite the fact that both [Obama](#) and [Trump](#) were elected promising to end the US's interventionist foreign policy. Yes, one could argue the US is criticised for not getting involved (League of Nations and failing to remove Saddam from power in the 1990s) but both men have lied.

Indeed, the US was at war for every day of Obama's presidency and every day of Trump's so far. Indeed, [Obama is the only two-term president](#) to have this on his record.

These countries that have been struck are the type of deprived countries that Trump was referring to. It seems them that it's ok to bomb a third world country, but refer to said countries as "sh*thole countries", that's where the world crosses a line.

Believe me, I'm sure the people in these countries would be a lot more concerned about ending up as collateral damage than someone saying rude things about their home nations.

Many people will argue that these interventions have been largely unsuccessful and have created power vacuums leading to the rise of extremist groups. Whilst, the evidence of this is largely inconclusive (Bosnia was a successful intervention and troops were not put on the ground in Libya) - American liberals quite simply were not as loud on their criticism of Obama's intervention as they are now on Trump.





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One of the countries that Trump is believed to have referred to was Haiti. The Clinton Foundation, run by Trump's election rival, Hillary Clinton, and her husband, Bill, has been [accused of mismanagement](#) of funds for the earthquake disaster relief. Whilst claims the money was used to pay for Chelsea Clinton's wedding are way off the mark, questions do still remain. Haitian activist Dahoud Andre described the Clintons as "crooks... thieves" and "liars".

Kim Ives, the editor of Haiti Liberte, said: "the Clintons kind of took over things after the earthquake and did a pretty poor job of it".

In 2010 the elections in the country were boycotted by three-quarters of the electorate, [as one of the most popular parties](#), Fanmi Lavalas, was banned from running. Washington with President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton went to [great lengths](#) to ensure that Michel Martelly became Haitian leader. [Martelly slowed down Haiti's recovery and his government was corrupt.](#)

Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, symbols of the anti-Trump movement arguably made recovery for Haiti a lot more difficult than it had to be, by propping up a corrupt government, by the end of Martelly's reign, [violent protests were not uncommon.](#)

Where was the outrage then? Questions needed asking but weren't, and now all of a sudden, people suddenly think referring to Haiti as a "sh*thole" is a big deal.





Lastly, events in America the same week were far bigger. The House of Representatives [failed](#) to pass the Amash Amendment which would have [ended the warrantless surveillance](#) of the US population. The bill lost by 256 votes to 164. Of those 256, 55 were Democrats including Democratic heavyweights Nancy Pelosi and Adam Schiff. Trump has the power to intercept and survey emails and phone calls of his own citizens without any reason to do so.

There has been no widespread outrage of this, with the alleged remarks dominating headlines and discussions. It distracted from the US government trampling on The First Amendment and supporting spying on its' own citizens. You could argue if you have nothing to hide you have nothing to worry about it. But who decides that?



Edward Snowden

@Snowden

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3:09 PM - Jan 16, 2018



Tell Congress: Stop Spying Without a Warrant

aclu.org

114

2,163

2,697

It is not acceptable for the government to stick their noses into people's private lives, it could open a massive can of worms in terms of blackmail and extortion, yet Trump has been given the power to do just that, but apparently, a word he may or may not have used is more important.

Government agencies could identify journalists about to break stories that would look critical and stop them from publication.

Trump really should not have used the words he is alleged to have, but considering he and Obama have bombed third world countries, Obama and Clinton damaged Haiti's recovery and Trump himself has now been given the ability to spy on US citizens makes all that pale into insignificance. At the end of the day, even if Trump did say it, it is not going to have a lasting day to day effect on said countries, bombing them and interfering with elections will, and yet there wasn't the massive amounts of headlines and discussions when really there ought to have been.

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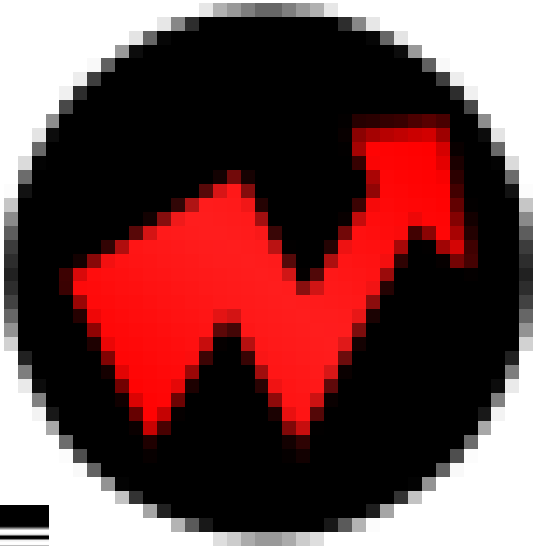
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