

MENTAL HEALTH ANALYSIS OF THE SPECIAL COUNSEL'S REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION INTO RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

FINAL CONCLUSION TO THE REPORT ON THE REDACTED MUELLER REPORT

We had written earlier that, in the interest of making a reasonable attempt to obtain a personal interview, we would recommend that the President sit through a formal evaluation by a panel of independent, nongovernmental body of experts. We stated that he should be able to agree to one if he believed himself fit to serve and sent in our recommendation on April 30, 2019, asking him to do so within three weeks. While we have received indication that our letter reached him, we have not received an agreement to an interview. Therefore, we believe it is necessary for us to act on our belief that, absent an examination, we still have enough evidence to draw a conclusion regarding his capacity to serve.

We maintain that our assessment is based on the highest-quality evidence. We have noted the unusual wealth of relevant, top-quality data as regards to mental capacity in the Special Counsel's report, deriving from multiple sources under sworn testimony. Furthermore, we take the President's unwillingness to undergo a valid mental health evaluation, despite repeated encouragement, as useful additional data. Finally, we highlighted the greater importance of collateral information in a functional, not diagnostic, exam—in other words, reports on his capacity to fulfill the duties of his office by co-workers and close associates are more valuable than a personal interview, which can distort the actual situation by presenting a desired scenario of events rather than reality.

Our assessment, drawing from the redacted Special Counsel's report, showed a profound and pervasive pattern of the following:

1. Compromises in comprehension, or inability to take in critical information and advice;
2. Faulty information processing, in the form of mendacity, rigidity, preoccupation with external image, skewed notions of "fairness," and memory that is either poor or on which he is unwilling to draw;

3. Interferences to sound decision making, including loss of impulse control, recklessness, and inability to consider likely consequences; and
4. Proneness to placing himself and others in danger, including encouraging, recommending, or inciting violence on the part of his followers.

In sum, he failed every criterion of sound mental capacity to make rational, reality-based decisions, which are critical to functioning in the role of President. Thus, without a personal interview or other compelling evidence to persuade us to the contrary, our conclusion that the President lacks the mental capacity to discharge the duties of his office is uncontroverted.

Recommendations

A lack of mental capacity in the office of the President poses a serious and imminent risk to public health and safety. Based on these findings, our most urgent recommendations are as follows:

1. The President must be removed from access to the nuclear codes. The fate of human civilization should not be dependent on an unstable individual without rational decision-making capacity.
2. The President's war-making powers should be curtailed. The temptation to draw the nation into a devastating war for reasons other than the good of the nation will be too great for a president who lacks the capacity to lead.

There are other dangers, such as the ability of a cognitively impaired leader to tap into the irrational fears of the population more effectively, for example, to incite violence; a president's mental weaknesses to become an opportunity for extreme policies and agendas to have a chance of passing in ways that would not be possible under a normal presidency; and a president's intense emotional needs becoming an easy target for exploitation by hostile nations. However, we are limiting our recommendations to the above for clarity and speed of action, emphasizing the level of extreme urgency.

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