The Anti-Choice Movement Is In Lockstep With Trump’s Extreme Messaging

Amidst a wave of political violence, and in the wake of the tense Kavanaugh hearings, President Trump has increasingly framed his political opponents as “evil” people engaged in a war against him. The anti-choice group Susan B. Anthony List quickly embraced and expanded on his extreme rhetoric.

Trump Has Increasingly Framed His Opponents As “Evil”

**MSNBC: “‘Evil’ becomes Trump's adjective of choice for his US opponents.”** [MSNBC, 10/10/18]

**September 26:** Trump called Democrats who opposed Justice Brett Kavanaugh’s nomination “very evil people.” He said: “This could go on forever. Somebody could come and say, ‘30 years ago, 25 years ago, 10 years ago, 5 years ago he did a horrible thing to me. He did this, he did that, he did that.’ And honestly, it’s a very dangerous period in our country and it’s being perpetrated by some very evil people, some of them are Democrats.” [Twitter, 9/26/18, via CNN]

**October 2:** Trump called Dr. Christine Blasey Ford and those who believed her story “really evil people.” At a Mississippi rally, he said: “A man’s life is shattered. His wife is shattered, his daughters — who are beautiful, incredible young kids. They destroy people, they want to destroy people. **These are really evil people.**” [Twitter, 10/2/18, via Fox News; Associated Press, 10/3/18]

**October 6:** SBA List first echoed Trump’s language, claiming the activists who protested Kavanaugh’s nomination committed “unchristian and evil acts.” In an email with the subject line “The truth is finally out (Kavanaugh),” Susan B. Anthony List Vice President of Communications Mallory Quigley wrote: “The senators who dragged Judge Brett Kavanaugh and his family through weeks of horror never cared about Dr. Christine Ford or the other accusers. They never cared about your voice and what you believe...They sank lower than we ever thought possible in a desperate attempt to destroy an honest man’s reputation by conducting a vicious smear campaign, all the while funded by their friends in the Big Abortion Lobby with big pockets. I have always been honest with you. I am absolutely disgusted by how the last weeks have developed. **The abortion industry is SO desperate to continue with their unchristian and evil acts that they showed they will stop at NOTHING to continue murdering unborn children across our country.**” [Susan B. Anthony List email, 10/6/18]

**October 8:** Trump claimed accusations against Kavanaugh were brought “by people that are evil.” In an address to the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Orlando, Trump described the credible
claims that Brett Kavanaugh had committed sexual assault as “a disgraceful situation brought about by people that are evil.” [MSNBC, 10/10/18]

**October 9: Trump: “I’ve known some fellow Americans that are pretty evil.”** In a Q&A with reporters on the White House South Lawn, Trump was asked about whether he was calling his fellow Americans “evil” in his October 8 comments. He responded: “I know many. I know fellow Americans that are evil. I know – are you saying we shouldn’t say that a fellow American is ‘evil’? I’ve known some fellow Americans that are pretty evil.” [MSNBC, 10/10/18; Washington Post, 10/25/18]

**SBA List Went All In On Trump’s Extreme Language**

**October 20: SBA List called Planned Parenthood “evil” that “has infected our political system.”** In an October 20th email, Emily Buchanan, the Executive Vice President of Susan B. Anthony List and the Women Speak Out PAC, wrote: “Everything is at stake during this election. All our amazing pro-life victories are at risk of being DESTROYED by the radical pro-abortion lobby...But now they need you to defend them from the onslaught of vicious attacks from Planned Parenthood and the so-called ‘Resistance.’...And in today’s political climate, it takes true courage to stand up against the radical pro-abortion lobby...But when we consider that the $1 BILLION-dollar Planned Parenthood abortion giant exists to rip the innocent lives of unborn babies from their mothers, we shouldn’t be surprised that such a level of evil has infected our political system. I pray they don’t take total control of our government 17 days from now.” [Susan B. Anthony List email, 10/20/18]

**October 24: SBA List called Planned Parenthood “abortion mercenaries,” saying “every neighborhood is a battleground of good vs. evil.”** In an October 24th email, Susan B. Anthony List President Marjorie Dannenfelser wrote: “Day after day, our hardworking canvassers are fighting against the abortion mercenaries of Planned Parenthood. Every neighborhood is a battleground, a fight of good versus evil. It is up to us to make sure our grassroots canvassers have everything they need to defeat the big abortion lobby and defend life to thousands of voters.” [Susan B. Anthony List email, 10/24/18]

**October 27: SBA List called pro-choice advocates an “evil” that “does not rest.”** In a October 27th email with the subject line, “President Trump’s warning,” Dannenfelser wrote: “I want to remind you that evil does not rest. The forces that want to keep the abortion industry alive and well in America do not take rests and do not take breaks. They will not get complacent. And neither can we.” [Susan B. Anthony List email, 10/27/18]

**October 29: SBA List called the debate over reproductive rights “a battle between good and evil” and decried the “Evil propaganda” of the media.** Under the subject line “Evil propaganda,” SBA List’s Mallory Quigley wrote: “The mainstream media wants abortion to be a fight between women and men...between mothers and their unborn babies. But in reality, it’s a battle between good and evil. That’s why we’ve deployed over 1,000 canvassers across Indiana, Missouri, North Dakota, Montana, Florida, West Virginia, Ohio, and Arizona to be our grassroots soldiers fighting to get out the pro-life vote on election day.” [Susan B. Anthony List email, 10/29/18]