

Memo to Republican Leaders from We the People

“Republicans have... taken on the bold challenge of convincing people that their eyes have deceived them; their memories are wrong; independent sources of information are not to be trusted; and partisan changes to the recent past deserve to be embraced without question.”

Steve Benen: Ministry of Truth: Democracy, Reality, and the Republican's War on the Recent Past

Dear gutless obsequious puppets of Donald Trump,

Stop treating us like we are stupid and that we can't see through your lies, your coverups, and the cons you are trying to pull over on the American people.

We witnessed with our own eyes the J6 rioters viciously assault law enforcement officers on the steps of the Capitol; we saw Secret Service Agents hustle the Vice President out of harm's way as rioters called for him to be lynched; we saw Josh Hawley run for his life to escape the mob he had helped to inflame. Don't tell us that the January 6th insurrection was a spontaneous demonstration of patriotism, a day of love – it was treason and it was fueled by hate.

We shop at grocery stores, buy school supplies for our kids, fill our tanks at gas stations, and see our dreams of buying a new car fade away. Don't tell us Trump's tariff war isn't increasing our cost of living.

We have friends, neighbors, and family members who've lost their jobs and are desperate to find new ones. We are in constant dread of losing our own jobs. Don't tell us that the “golden age” Trump economy is doing great and that any data to the contrary is rigged fake news.

We watch Trump trumpeting plans for a 200 million dollar dance pavilion at the White House while you are cutting Medicare and Medicaid, support for our Veterans, and nutritional supplements for our children. Don't tell us that you care about the welfare of the American people.

We've watched Trump use the federal justice system to go after colleges and universities, law firms, media companies, political opponents, women who have accused him of sexual abuse, and anyone else he wants to frighten and intimidate. Don't tell us that the Trump Administration has not weaponized the United States government in ways never before imagined by predecessors of either party.

We see masked ICE agents with no ID and no warrants dragging honestly employed people who have been living peacefully, raising families, and paying taxes in our communities hauled off in shackles to be held in fetid detention centers before being deported to countries they might have never seen. Don't tell us that you are going after murderers and rapists, the worst of the worst.

We believe the 12 jurors who unanimously concluded that Donald Trump was guilty of falsifying business records to cover up his adulterous affair with a porn star. Don't tell us those 12 honest Americans were covert operatives of a Joe Biden deep state and that Trump is an innocent victim of a politicized injustice.

We are scandalized by the way Trump accepts thinly-disguised bribes from foreign dictators and domestic billionaires, and the way he has prostituted the Presidency to fill the coffers of the Trump family, while

firing dozens of Independent Inspectors General who would have been the ones to hold him accountable for his corruption. Don't tell us that the Republican Party honors the rule of law or cares about integrity in government.

We believe the more than 30 women who have accused Donald Trump of sexual assault; we believe the accounts of the porn stars, Playboy models, and other women with whom Trump has carried on extramarital affairs; we are horrified by the account described in the lawsuits of "Katie Johnson" accusing Donald Trump and Jeffrey Epstein of having raped her when she was 13 years old. Don't tell us that you don't know about Trump's sordid affairs and that you're not trying to cover up his crimes.

We see on our TV screens scenes of destitution, disease, starvation and death in underdeveloped countries because of how Trump and DOGE, with the complicity of Republicans in Congress, shredded U.S. support for the world's most vulnerable people. Don't tell us that your governance is guided by Christian values.

We see our planet ravaged by wildfires, floods, droughts, and storms. We know that for many Americans home insurance is becoming unaffordable and flood insurance is unavailable. We see glaciers melting and deserts expanding. And all the while Donald Trump and his anti-environmentalists call global climate change a hoax and take a chainsaw to any federal efforts to monitor or protect us from the crisis. Don't tell us that you give a tinker's dam about the planet we will leave for our children and their children, and that you are not in the pockets of the coal, oil, and gas barons.

You treat us like we're stupid. But come the next election cycle, we will show you that it's you who are being stupid by treating us voters with such malign contempt.

Signed,

We the American People

