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## **AND YOU THINK TRUMP SPEWS HATRED AND INCITES VIOLENCE?**

By Steve Bakke  August 6, 2019



The President is all the talk these days. He's always unusual, often outrageous, and with 100% predictability, will return any verbal punch with an even more vicious counterpunch. He's accused of spewing hatred and inciting violence, among other things. I recall one commentary that implied Trump, singlehandedly, invented the dark art of political invective.

I dug way back into my archives to see what I could find that would contradict those charges. Actually, I was surprised how much "material" I found. I think it's only fair to report that the left has a history of taking a back seat to no one in this regard. I've chosen fairly old examples to demonstrate the political atmosphere promoted by the left long before Trump was considered by anyone as a potential political candidate.

Radical liberal, strict gun control advocate and MSNBC host, the late Ed Shultz, could truly be an offensive fellow and often said things that had the potential to incite listeners to violence. About Dick Cheney he said: "He is an enemy of the country, in my opinion...Lord, take him to the Promised Land, will you?" ...then in 2010 he screamed that "Dick Cheney's heart's a political football. We ought to rip it out and kick it around and stuff it back in him." How about: "I will fight these bastards every night at 6 o'clock because...I know what they want to do...they want to destroy the American dream."

MSNBC's outspoken strict gun control supporter Chris Matthews has always been very critical and self-righteous in accusing others of inflammatory comments leading to violent attacks with guns. He's was very upset with the rhetoric of Rush Limbaugh and, in a moment of weakness said that: "Somebody's going to jam a CO2 pellet in his [Limbaugh's] head and he's going to explode like a giant blimp." Wow!

Outrageous, angry, and radical TV host Keith Olberman referred to conservative columnist Michelle Malkin as "a big mashed-up bag of meat with lipstick on it." She got that reaction from him because of her conservative commentary which had included being a vocal advocate for strict adherence to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment.

Anti-gun and liberal radio host Mike Malloy, a former news writer for CNN, went a little overboard several years ago. This happened just a few days after conservative radio host Rush Limbaugh was hospitalized for chest pains. He actually wished for Limbaugh's demise

by stating: "I'm waiting for the day when I pick.....up a newspaper or click on the Internet and find he's choked to death on his own throat fat or a great big wad of saliva or something.....Go away, Rush, you make me sick!" How can you get more inflammatory than that?

Montel Williams even got into the act in 2009. He was a radio host for now long-defunct Air America. He urged Minnesota Congresswoman Michele Bachmann to kill herself – or so it seemed – by saying: "Slit your wrist! Go ahead! I mean, you know, why not? I mean, if you want to – or, you know, do us all a better thing. Move that knife up about two feet. I mean, start right at the collarbone." He may have claimed comedic license with that comment (I don't know that he did), but it was rude, crude, violent, disgusting and most certainly inflammatory to the MAX!

Consider an offering by Bill Maher, onetime comedian, and later a pretend political pundit. For some reason, CNN had been calling on Bill to share his wisdom on all things political and societal. He always, to this day, has held himself out as a voice of wisdom. In 2007, talking about then-Vice President Cheney after al Qaeda exploded a truck bomb at a base in Afghanistan near where Cheney was visiting, said: "I'm just saying if he did die, other people, more people would live. That's a fact." In 2008 he fanaticized about Rush Limbaugh being a better candidate for death than a recently deceased actor: "Why couldn't he have croaked from it instead of Heath Ledger?"

One must admit that President Trump didn't invent political invective. At his most outrageous, he can't hold a candle to this group of rogue reporters and commentators.