

Why no one is calling on Trump to resign

In late March, "The Boston Globe" published an *editorial excoriating* President Donald Trump over his handling of the coronavirus pandemic. Trump, the Globe declared in its headline, "has blood on his hands."

editorial 编辑的; 社论的

excoriate 责难; 批判

But the editorial was also notable for what it didn't say. It did not demand his resignation. The Globe editorial highlighted one of the more puzzling aspects of the COVID-19 crisis: Despite Trump's *egregious* failure, hardly anyone has called on him to resign.

egregious 惊人的; 过分的

The Princeton University historian Julian Zelizer says that after decades of anti-government rhetoric from the right, a lot of Americans have come to expect that Washington will fail them, and this has shaped how the country responds to incompetent leadership.

Business culture has perhaps also numbed us to the prospect of failure without consequence. In the corporate world, poor performance is no *impediment* to *lavish* compensation. Executives seem to rake in millions no matter how badly their companies fare.

impediment 妨碍; 阻止

lavish 浪费的; 大方的

Beyond matters of culture, Trump's shamelessness — his unwillingness to express *contrition* — seems to have become a kind of shield. Trump seems *impervious* to *opprobrium*. So we march on toward 100, 000 coronavirus deaths, resigned for now to Trump's diseased presidency.

contrition 痛悔; 悔悟

impervious 无动于衷的

opprobrium 耻辱; 咒骂

But if these factors explain why almost no one in a position of authority or influence is saying that Trump should go, they hardly justify the silence. On the contrary, the silence is yet another indication of how *warped* our politics has become.

warp 弯曲; 变形

warped 弯曲的; 反常的

Zelizer, of Princeton, thinks future historians will be astonished that Trump's failure was tolerated to the point. "I think we will look back and ask why people weren't more furious, " he says. "Where was the outrage?"