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George W. Bush Calls George Floyd's Death, Harassment A "Shocking Failure" In Open Letter; Donald Trump Fires Back

By Tom Tapp June 2, 2020 4:08pm















Former President George W. Bush and President Donald Trump Shutterstock

One day after former President Barack Obama called on Americans to "a president, a Congress, a U.S. Justice Department, and a federal judiciary that actually recognize the ongoing, corrosive role that <u>racism</u> plays in our society and want to do something about it," his predecessor, <u>George W. Bush</u> has weighed in on the death of George Floyd and racism in America with an open letter posted to social media.

"Laura and I are anguished by the brutal suffocation of George Floyd," Bush began before saying he was reluctant to speak out.

"It remains a shocking failure that many African Americans, especially young African American men, are harassed and threatened in their own country," continued the former president.





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Bush then stated that protests are "a strength" of America, before offering criticism of those opposing them.

"Those who set out to silence those voices do not understand the meaning of America," said the president, "or how it becomes a better place."

"America's greatest challenge," Bush continued, "has long been to unite people of very different backgrounds into a single nation of justice and opportunity. The doctrine and habits of racial superiority, which once nearly split our country, still threaten our Union. The answers to American problems are found by living up to American ideals."



Shortly after Bush posted the open letter, President <u>Donald Trump</u> pinned a post at the top of his Twitter feed that referenced former presidents. It read in part: "My Admin has done more for the Black Community than any President since Abraham Lincoln."





Bush's full statement is below.

Statement by President George W. Bush:

Laura and I are anguished by the brutal suffocation of George Floyd and disturbed by the injustice and fear that suffocate our country. Yet we have resisted the urge to speak out, because this is not the time for us to lecture. It is time for us to listen. It is time for America to examine our tragic failures — and as we do, we will also see some of our redeeming strengths.

It remains a shocking failure that many African Americans, especially young African American men, are harassed and threatened in their own country. It is a strength when protesters, protected by responsible law enforcement, march for a better future. This tragedy — in a long series of similar tragedies — raises a long overdue question: How do we end systemic racism in our society? The only way to see ourselves in a true light is to listen to the voices of so many who are hurting and grieving. Those who set out to silence those voices do not understand the meaning of America — or how it becomes a better place.

America's greatest challenge has long been to unite people of very different backgrounds into a single nation of justice and opportunity. The doctrine and habits of racial superiority, which once nearly split our country, still threaten our Union. The answers to American problems are found by living up to American ideals — to the fundamental truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by God withcertain rights. We have often underestimated how radical that quest really is, and how our cherished principles challenge systems of intended or assumed injustice. The heroes of America — from Frederick Douglass, to Harriet Tubman, to Abraham Lincoln, to Martin Luther King, Jr. — are heroes of unity. Their calling has never been for the fainthearted. They often revealed the nation's disturbing bigotry and exploitation — stains on our character sometimes difficult for the American majority to examine. We can only see the reality of America's need by seeing it through the eyes of the threatened, oppressed, and disenfranchised.

That is exactly where we now stand. Many doubt the justice of our country, and with good reason. Black people see the repeated violation of their rights without an urgent and adequate response from American institutions. We know that lasting justice will only come by peaceful means. Looting is not liberation, and destruction is not progress. But we also know that lasting peace in our communities requires truly equal justice. The rule of law ultimately depends on the fairness and legitimacy of the legal system. And achieving justice for all is the duty of all.



TIP US

and compassion. There is a better way — the way of empathy, and shared commitment, and bold action, and a peace rooted in justice. I am confident that together, Americans will choose the better way.

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Chinuephillips58 on June 2, 2020 6:43 pm

Trump is laughable.....he has not done anything for anyone. This man believes his own lies. You have done nothing for black people get that clear. #VoteTrumpOut

REPLY

AC on June 2, 2020 8:18 pm



TIP US

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 8:00 pm

Can't take this moron Bush serious. All of sudden people live him now? This guy put us in 2 wars, screwed the economy up and no way did unite races in his 8 years. Oh yeah didn't he have the 2000 election rigged? Remember the "recount"? My how so many of you forget. Bush has done nothing in his presidency. He has an IQ of a flea and vocabulary of a kindergartner.

REPLY

LOUELLA ALEBIOSU on June 2, 2020 7:08 pm

So true. He is all about self and his racist friends. He is a liar and displays narcissist ways.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:07 pm

You believe the lies of others as well. Do your research and then you can laugh at yourself for being in denial. Its the first step to recovery.

REPLY

Brandon on June 2, 2020 7:03 pm

It is amazing to me how many people can be so uneducated!

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:02 pm

Lowest unemployment rate for blacks in history until the Chinese infected their people then sent them to all corners of the planet to destroy the world economies.

Of course to a liberal bigot you, black people actually having jobs is "nothing".

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:55 pm

Totally Agree



TIP US

James Regal on June 2, 2020 6:51 pm

What did Bush or Obama do???? Nothing at all

REPLY

JONATHAN E GONZALEZ on June 2, 2020 6:41 pm

Time for a CHANGE!!!

REPLY

Doris Ross on June 2, 2020 6:34 pm

WELL SAID President Bush!

REPLY

Spen418 on June 2, 2020 6:33 pm

This guy has to fire back at anything that someone says that he doesn't agree with. No self control egotistical a-hole!

REPLY

Judy on June 2, 2020 6:29 pm

Obama had the most power and control to improve relations. What has Obama done during his two terms to strengthen and advance the racial divide? Any one want to attend a beer summit?! He and his administration did less for racial relations but had the greatest opportunity to do so.

REPLY

Vito on June 2, 2020 8:43 pm

Hey Judy who cares about Obama? Why do you have to go to the past? Why can't you just state what the current clown in office has done.

REPLY

RL on June 2, 2020 8:15 pm



TIP US

He proved it in everything he did and the dills they(the Kepublicans) let nim passed.

Meanwhile the divider in chief in the white house has done nothing to unite the country since taking office. He puts people in groups. He brings up Democrats and Republicans in every chance he gets. He can never say "Americans". I can't wait for the day when we will be Americans again instead of Democrats or Republicans.

REPLY

Irish Sas on June 2, 2020 8:10 pm

Obama was not responsible for the racist reactions against him or other blacks. We are never responsible for those who react against us. This stuff stops when moral white people open their eyes, have hearts of empathy and realize the history of our nation and the fears that blacks live in daily. There is a lack of equality in justice and in everything else, and it's been there for 400 years.

REPLY

Tammy Stager on June 2, 2020 8:06 pm

Why are we talking about Obama right now? Trump has been POTUS for 3 1/2 years. These aren't some new issues that just popped up. People voted for Trump bc he supposedly saw all of the issues that plagued our country & vowed to do something different. Instead, he focused on policies that would benefit himself & those who money can help him get reelected. And when those same unaddressed issues threaten to tear us apart, he continues to blame the black guy that served before him for his own shortcomings. It's time to wake up & smell the roses. Trump is great at stirring up grievance, but completely useless at doing anything to fix them.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 8:03 pm

That is pure nonsense. You should be embarrassed to have written it.

REPLY

AL on June 2, 2020 8:01 pm

What has Trump done? Many times Obama tried to do a lot of things, Mitch McConnell stopped that from happened. Trump is all about a Divided Country. And if you are for this division and separation, you're the problem



TIP US

1rue enough the only problem was the fact He was faced with resistance at every turn a upfull fight for 8yrs. Remember Mitch M. statement or vow about one term. BHO PRESIDENT FOR THE ALL THE PEOPLE

REPLY

Macksfield on June 2, 2020 7:34 pm

Exactly, he benefited himself and propagated division. But he sounded nice while doing it.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:28 pm

He took vacations and tried to play golf

REPLY

Janice Sewell on June 2, 2020 7:28 pm

You must have missed Mitch McConnell laughing and smirking as he announced the many times he and the Repulicans in Congress were able to block the bills President Obama put forth. Seek the whole truth, then place blame.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:09 pm

Just curious, Judy: Are you white?

REPLY

Delois Turner on June 2, 2020 7:07 pm

Where have you been everything Obama tried to do a Republican Congress blocked. Do you know what Congress person stated. "We are going to make Obama a one term president, that's what he was up against. It would be nice if people kept up with their representatives are doing and saying in fact call or writing when needed.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:02 pm



TIP US

REPLY

Kristine Mecham on June 2, 2020 6:59 pm

Obama was shackled by a republican house and Senate and still accomplished so much. He was compassionate, inelegant and honest. President Trump is none of these.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:49 pm

Boo!

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:46 pm

So are you saying that Obama should be able to get more done because he is black. That is racism at it's worst. Change enacted by a black president somehow means more to blacks? I think the opposite is more true.

REPLY

Doris Ross on June 2, 2020 6:41 pm

Even with President Obama in office,we NEVER had this kind of discourse! Trump is not a uniter. He does EVERYTHING in his power to hurt the disenfranchised, the poor, the indigenous population, the LGBTQ community, placed children in cages, AND he could care less for the other 98%! OBAMA WAS A UNITER! Perhaps you had your head in a hole pretending that he didnt exist! HE DID and Trump is a good example of this because he's been riding off the back of Obama's accomplishments since his presidency! NAME ONE THING THAT TRUMP HAS DONE TO MAKE THIS COUNTRY A BETTER PLACE! ONE!

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:19 pm

Trump has done nothing at all except blames other people for his failures. And Trump says look I'm the greatest and I'm the best it's all about him. It is not about the American people it is about him and his rich friends getting even richer.





Lol obama was a "uniter" good one.

REPLY

Cary Coatney on June 2, 2020 6:27 pm

"My Admin has done more for the Black Community than any President since Abraham Lincoln".

Does that also include you and Daddy Freddie tossing them out on the street from your shitty high rises, or calling for the execution of five black kids who were proven to be innocent of rape?

Go cry David Dukes a river.

~

Coat

REPLY

Nikki B on June 2, 2020 8:30 pm

Amen!

REPLY

Cary Coatney on June 2, 2020 6:22 pm

It's the celebrity death match of two diet coke addicted dubyas.

^

Coat

REPLY

Kathleen Tom on June 2, 2020 6:15 pm

Love you George W, I have always respected you as our President your words are very comforting to me. Thank you, God bless.



TIP US

Yes I agree totally. God Bless Mr.Bush and Mrs Laura Bush. A very good president. Everyone had his mishaps, not one was perfect. He tried to appease everyone. God Bless You and Family. Mr.Bush.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:14 pm

What he says is correct, but where was this 2 years ago. Answer: it's an election year. GW is trying to salvage the Republicans senate.

REPLY

Shirley Holtvoigt on June 2, 2020 6:09 pm

Trump has done more lift up Black Americans economically. Than any other President, including Obama. Jobs and opportunities as well as for helping prisoners.

To protest is American to loot, vandalize burn attack & harm others during protest march is terrorist. Who provided the bricks dropped off to different states? We have terrorist among the protesters. Criminals looting. 6 people died in 6 day and hundreds injured by these protesters homes burned & businesses. They blocked a fire engine from saving a home a child burned to death because of them. That's not American!

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 8:49 pm

B-S. Total. Trump supporters should not be allowed to use the word American. Ever.

REPLY

RL on June 2, 2020 8:34 pm

Stop spreading lies Ms.Holtvoigt. what do you know about black people? You are repeating the same lies that the lier in chief in the white house is spreading. He is not the savior of black people. He doesn't care about black people or anyone who isn't white. I'm not sure you're black woman. You may not understand our struggle. These people are fighting for basic human rights, you know Not to get killed like an animal on the floor with someone's knee on your neck while you're suffocating and calling for your mama because you are hopeless and afraid. Are you a mother Ms.Holtvoigt? I am 2 boys,13 and 11. I can't imagine one of them in that situation and calling out to me and I'm not there to save him. My heart is bleeding right now. This is for basic human rights. Yes, they are people out there who are doing unlawful things, but it doesn't erase what happened to this man because he is Black.



TIP US

Your beloved skinhead protesters, Just last month, carried AK-4/s into the Michigan State capital while breezily and openly talking of assassinating the governor. They didn't get labeled terrorists: didn't get ordered home; didn't get threatened by the PREZ with a few more broken skulls (in fact, called the wannabe death squads "great people"); and didn't get their guns seized (oh, forgot, those were for self-defense; well, same could be said for protesters who got a declaration of war from the White House). Inequal Justice is at the root of these protests — and is on display in the relative responses to each. I will await the death threats, the right's preferred form of civil discourse. Only these thugs hide behind a fake online name, or a bunker.

REPLY

Steven Latus on June 2, 2020 8:02 pm

If you're referring to the fire in Richmond where protesters disgracefully attempted to block a fire engine from reaching the burning home with the child in it, please note that the fire engine did get through and the child and the family were rescued.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 8:01 pm

Totally agree!!

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:56 pm

what reality show are you on gathering this nonesense that you are peddling

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:30 pm

Majority of those arrested for causing mischief during protests are whites that came from other cities.

REPLY

Danny O'Grady on June 2, 2020 7:09 pm

Can you elaborate on the first three sentences? What has he done? Do you mean the economy that started it's upward trajectory during the Obama administration? In all fairness, I usually dont wholly credit or blame any president with the performance of the economy but Obama did several things that turned our



TIP US

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:59 pm

40 million unemployed. trump good economics.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:48 pm

>>>>"Trump has done more lift up Black Americans economically. Than any other President, including Obama."

This is categorically a LIE!

Don't take my word for it.

Take the word of Donald Trump's own Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Black Unemployment in 2010 during the worst point of the great Recession when Obama was president was 16.3%

Black unemployment in 2017 when President Obama left office was 7.8% for a total drop of 8.5% during his last 6 years as president.

Black Unemployment when Donald Trump took office was obviously 7.8% Black Unemployment at the beginning of this year before the COVID-19 crisis was 5.8%

Total drop of 2%

Which is bigger? an 8.5% drop or a 2% drop

Allow me to translate that for you since you Trump supporters struggle so much with numbers.

MORE African Americans found Employment (And Economic improvement in their lives) under President Obama than did under Trump .

By the way, Black Unemployment after THIS Friday's jobs report is going to be NORTH of 30%.

Good Job, Trumpie!

REPLY

Nerfy Dad on June 2, 2020 5:59 pm



TIP US

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 5:52 pm

Ok Bush, do not go against your party. Gets your facts straight. Trump is only talking about the violent protesters. Do not turn into a RINO

REPLY

Denise C Myers on June 2, 2020 8:30 pm

He fired rubber bullets and tear gas at peaceful people who had permission to be on the lawn of a church. So he could go for photo opt! Americans of all races in a church yard. How can that be ok. Destruction and people being hurt by protesters is not acceptable! Peaceful protest is our right, our right to pray but the president to fire on American praying for peace. And gets attached by the man who was elected to protect them well, he just LOST my vote.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 8:16 pm

At this point, a RINO is actually the only true republican.

REPLY

Jesse Buttram on June 2, 2020 7:28 pm

What is integrity? Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one else will.

You don't always go by your party lines. If you have integrity, you'll know when you should break off and when you should join.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:18 pm

Is that why the peaceful protesters were reared gassed and hit with rubber bullets? He wanted a photo OP. .Didn't care if they were rioters or not.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 5:45 pm



TIP US

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 5:07 pm

Did he ever find those WMDs?

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:22 pm

No he didn't. Thank you Baby Bush for creating an unnecessary war where many of our service members lost their lives or were maimed.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 5:06 pm

Somewhere LBJ is laughing his ass off at the racist POtuS currently disgracing our country. Making America Grave Again.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 8:48 pm

LBJ the father of the plantation mentality.

REPLY

Jeff on June 2, 2020 8:47 pm

You obviously know nothing about LBJ. He was an actual racist. Trump got awards and praise from African American groups. Johnson had no problem calling the N's.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:27 pm

Oh the President that said "son they are all my helicopters" as he sent young men to Vietnam Nam to fight a war that we should never have been in.



TIP US

I'd give 100-1 that says he doesn't even known what it means to have "school choice."

What an embarrassment.

REPLY

Danny A LaMunyon on June 2, 2020 6:21 pm

And Trump's usual response is to beat like an ass.

REPLY

Jonathan Shapiro on June 2, 2020 4:33 pm

"School choice". Ugh, charter schools are just another major problem in America

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:32 pm

Yea, after all, we wouldn't want parents to choose for themselves where their kids go to school. That would be too much freedom, right? Like the German family who came to America to teach their own kids, and Obama sent them back to Germany. How 'bout that?

REPLY

Jonathan Shapiro on June 2, 2020 8:39 pm

By all means, support union-busting, for-profit charter schools, where children are educated by brand new educators who tend to leave after a year for grad school. Empirical data shows that they priduce NO gains for disadvantaged students. They are a shame. America has privatized war, health care, and education.

REPLY

Michael Shaw on June 2, 2020 8:08 pm

Anonymous coward

REPLY

Cadavra on June 2, 2020 7:31 pm



TIP US

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:02 pm

Advocating strongly for or against charter schools is like arguing for or against "music". It's a sweeping category and there are multiple kinds of schools that fall under the umbrella. Some success. Some failure. The governing structure of charters varies wildly by state.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 4:31 pm

George is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:31 pm

President George Bush was never hateful or racist unlike Donald Trump! He's entitled to his opinion whether our thin president likes it or not!

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 5:04 pm

trump is a sheep in an orangutan's clothing...

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:26 pm

Lmao!!

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:53 pm

Lol !!!!!!!!!!!!



TIP US

LUL

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 5:27 pm

hahaha

oh, that was pretty good

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 5:13 pm

Are we really defending GB now just because he doesn't like Trump?

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:50 pm

Yes I will take Bush any time over Trump

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 6:42 pm

Yes lol

REPLY

Scarletibis 1 on June 2, 2020 8:06 pm

This is the guy who said he would take on a terrorist holding an AK-47 but hides in a bunker from unarmed protestors. President Chicken Sheet if you ask me. He's a coward.

Macksfield on June 2, 2020 7:39 pm

The hatred and anger on this site sure is inviting. But I think I will pass and vote for the policies of the current President again.



TIP US

President BUSH and his family nate President Trump. FUNNY now Bush thinks it's okay to let these rioters/looters destroy people's businesses and property, let them protest. Bush needs to shut his mouth.

REPLY

Anonymous on June 2, 2020 7:27 pm

I truly agree. PLEASE LET'S VOTE HIM OUT AT THE POLES. LET'S SHOW UP, AND SHOW OUT MY BLACK, WHITE, AND EVERY OTHER NATIONALITY MY SISTERS, AND BROTHERS. THIS IS SO TRUE. LET'S JUST DO IT!!!!!

LET'S GET OUR COUNTRY BACK ON TRACK. YEH!!!

REPLY

Ken Bennett on June 2, 2020 6:52 pm

That must be the one where he forgot to build up our stocks for a pandemic

REPLY

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TIP US

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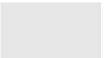
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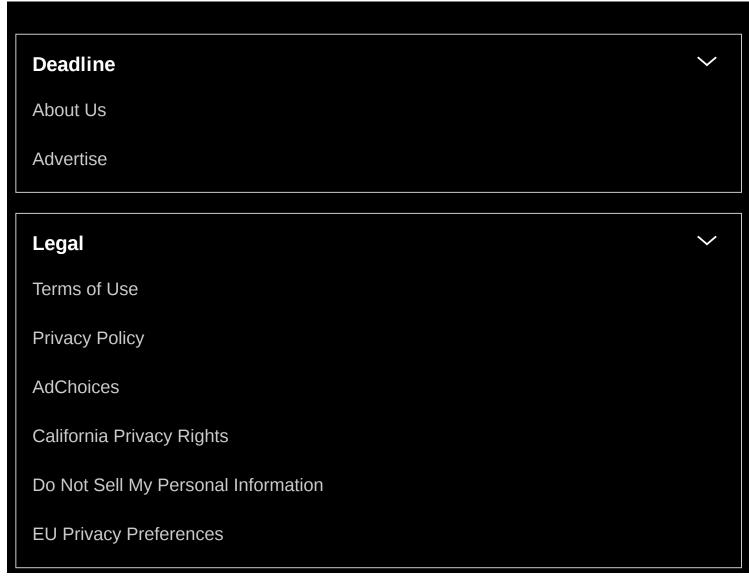


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