

## **EDITORIAL: Trump attacking Fox is further proof of his intolerance to criticism**

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### **Body**

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President Donald Trump took to Twitter this morning, slamming **Fox** News for a poll reporting that more than half of voters want him out of office.

On Wednesday, a **Fox** News Poll found that 51 percent of registered voters want Trump impeached and removed from office - a 10 percent increase from July's poll. These numbers are obviously upsetting to Trump and he took this as an opportunity to slander a news organization that has generally been supportive of his presidency.

This behavior is not out of the ordinary for Trump, however, who has declared the press the enemy of the people on numerous occasions and espouses "fake news" rhetoric. From the beginning of his presidency, he has attacked news organizations including The New York Times and CNN many times. What is concerning about the tweets is that they are directed toward **Fox** News, a company full of Trump supporters.

But **Fox** News is not an organization that would resort to skewing numbers in order to gain political favor. It must abide to some code of ethics in order to be viewed as a somewhat legitimate newsroom. Pollsters would not outright misrepresent what voters said and the job of **Fox** journalists is to report on their findings.

Moreover, the poll should not come as a surprise to Trump or his supporters. With Pelosi's announcement last Tuesday, there has been a clear trend of more Americans becoming supportive of his impeachment. They, too, are beginning to find his past behaviors indefensible. In an ideal world, Trump shouldn't be making commentary on these polls.

Additionally, this poll ultimately does not change **Fox**'s overall view of Trump. Anchors like Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham will continue to support Trump and his policies, regardless of the findings in these polls. There have been a countless number of instances in which they could have called for Trump's impeachment, and at this point, nothing will change their stance.

Trump's continued persecution of journalism is, of course, damaging to the country. Suggesting that even **Fox** News can't be trusted will probably lead his supporters to abandon U.S. news organizations altogether, leaving the only reliable place for them to receive news Trump himself. To say this would result in a skewed and uninformed view of the world is an understatement.

A reality in which citizens are distrusting of news is harmful both for the future of journalism and the country. If anything, these tweets are further proof that the president does not accept criticism in any way.

Trump continuing to go after **Fox** raises the question of where these attacks will end. Does Trump simply not view any news organization as legitimate - even those that support his administration?

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Perhaps, he will lean towards more extreme conservative news organizations like Breitbart News in the meantime, or at least until it releases a poll that will hurt his reputation.

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