

Testifying Into the Void

At Sally Yates' Senate hearing on Trump and Russia, Republicans were desperate to change the subject.

By Michelle Goldberg



(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/08/republicans_want_to_change_the_subject)

S+ An Aggressive Free Press Is the Only Check on the Abuse of Power, Support Slate.

(http://www.slate.com/plus?wpsrc=sp_all_hp_tap)

THE SLATEST (http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste.html) SEE ALL BLOGS (THE_LATESTE.HTML)

Donald Trump, Social Media Disruptor, Just Invented a New Type of Pinned Tweet

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/08/donald_trump_just_invented_a_whole_new_type_of_pinned_tweet)

White House Staff Reportedly Asked Justin Trudeau to Convince Trump to Save NAFTA

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/08/white_house_staff_reportedly_asked_canada_s_trudeau_to_con

Today in Conservative Media: Obama Can't Stop Meddling

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/08/conservative_media_criticized_obama_today.html)

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/08/the_c

Tiffany Trump Is Going to Georgetown Law School. We Designed the Perfect Course Load for Her.

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/08/tiffany_trump_is_going_to_georgetown_law_school_we_designed_the_perfect_course_load_for_her)

By Heather Schwedel

Houston Rockets Coach Mike D'Antoni Is Reinventing the NBA—for the Second Time

(http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/nba/2017/05/08/houston_rockets_coach_mike_dantonis_reinvention_of_the_nba_for_the_second_time)

MOST READ (ARTICLES/LIFE/DEAR_PRUDENCE.HTML)

1. After a Breathtakingly Disingenuous Email from Paul Ryan, Seth Meyers Invites Him on His Show

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/browbeat/2017/05/08/after_a_breathtakingly_disingenuous_email_from_paul_ryan_seth_meyers_invites_him_on_his_show)

2. Help! A Guy in High School Used to Photo-Edit My Head Onto Other Women's Bodies.

(http://www.slate.com/articles/life/dear_prudence/2017/05/08/help_a_guy_in_high_school_used_to_photo-edit_my_head_on_other_women_s_bodies)

3. Republicans Tried to Make the Trump-Russia Hearings About Anything but Trump and Russia

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/08/republicans_tried_to_make_the_trump_russia_hearings_about_anything_but_trump_and_russia)

4. Jimmy Kimmel Is No Longer Buying Republican Bullshit

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/browbeat/2017/05/09/jimmy_kimmel_is_no_longer_buying_republican_bullshit)

5. Donald Trump, Social Media Disruptor, Just Invented a Whole New Type of Pinned Tweet

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/08/donald_trump_just_invented_a_whole_new_type_of_pinned_tweet)

6. Charleston Is Planning Its Own Version of the High Line. Is Rapid Gentrification Inevitable?

(http://www.slate.com/articles/business/metropolis/2017/05/can_charleston_create_the_high_line)

7. Let Chris Pine Teach You How to Tell One White Leading Man Named Chris From Another

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/browbeat/2017/05/07/snl_host_chris_pine_presents_a_guide_to_movie

Slate Picks (http://picks.slate.com?)

wpsrc=picks_all_hp_promobox)

The best of Slate product recommendations in curated collections. Shop now.

(http://picks.slate.com/?wpsrc=picks_all_hp_promobox)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT (ARTICLES/PODCASTS.HTML)

(http://www.slate.com/articles/arts/television/2017/05/how_twin_peaks_usa_won_a_whole_new_tv_television)

The List (ARTICLES/PODCASTS.HTML)

Peaks TV (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/PEAKS_TV.HTML)

How the death of Laura Palmer gave life to the golden age of television.

By Willa Paskin (http://www.slate.com/article/peaks_tv/2017/05/how_laura_palmer_gave_life_to_the_golden_age_of_television)

Working (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN.HTML)

What About Mom? (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/WHAT_ABOUT_MOM.HTML)

Dear Prudence (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/DEAR_PRUDENCE.HTML)

The Unintended Edition (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/UNINTENDED_EDITION.HTML)

Part-Time Mother (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/PART_TIME_MOTHER.HTML)

Before We Started (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/BEFORE_WE_STARTED.HTML)

4. The Legend of Sally Yates (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/LEGEND_OF_SALLY_YATES.HTML)

5. Eric Trump Allegedly Russians Fund Trump's Golf Courses (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/ERIC_TRUMP_ALLEGEDLY_RUSSIANS_FUND_TRUMPS_GOLF_COURSES.HTML)

6. A New Character Is the Key to What Makes "Guardians 2" Unique (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/NEW_CHARACTER_IS_KEY_TO_WHAT_MAKES_GUARDIANS_2_UNIQUE.HTML)

Help! Shouldn't He Have Told Me About His Open Relationship Before We Started Sleeping Together? (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/HELP_SHOULDNT_HE_HAVE_TOLD_ME_ABOUT_HIS_OPEN_RELATIONSHIP_BEFORE_WE_STARTED_SLEEPING_TOGETHER.HTML)

Working (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/WORKING.HTML)

What's It Like to Serve as a Public Defender in Baltimore? (ARTICLES/PODCASTS/HANG_UP_AND_LISTEN/WHAT_IS_IT_LIKE_TO_SERVE_AS_A_PUBLIC_DEFENDER_IN_BALTIMORE.HTML)

VIEW ALL (http://www.slate.com/articles/podcasts/hang_up_and_listen/view_all.html)

Slate LIVE (http://www.slate.com/live.html)

Click here to find a list of Slate Events near you! (http://www.slate.com/live.html)

(https://my.slate.com/plus?wpsrc=sp_all_hp_tap)

Support Slate (http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/08/support_slate)

S+ Support our journalism with a Slate Plus membership and get a suite of perks, like ad-free podcasts.

(https://my.slate.com/plus?wpsrc=sp_all_hp_tap)

15H AGO - REBECCA ONION - 1M TO READ Sally Yates' Fame, the GOP Defense of Trumpcare, and Susan B. Anthony's House

(http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/2017/05/sally_yates_fame_the_gop_defense_of_trumpcare_and_susan_b_anthonys_house.html)

16H AGO - SAM ADAMS - 1M TO READ The Prison in Twelve Landscapes Looks at How Mass Incarceration Has Changed Every Aspect of American Life

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/browbeat/2017/05/the_prison_in_twelve_landscapes_looks_at_how_mass_incarceration_has_changed_every_aspect_of_american_life.html)

FROM NEW YORK MAGAZINE

Billions Season-Finale Recap: Worth It

(http://www.vulture.com/2017/05/billions-season-2-finale-recap.html?wpsrc=nymag)

If Your Saltshaker Doesn't Have Bluetooth, Why Do You Even Use Salt?

(http://nymag.com/selectall/2017/05/if_your_saltshaker_doesnt_have_bluetooth_why_should_it.html?wpsrc=nymag)

David Spade, Famous Adult Man, Gets Owned by Infamous Me on Instagram

(http://nymag.com/selectall/2017/05/cashme_outside_teen_claps_back_at_david_spade_on_instagram.html?wpsrc=nymag)

This Photo of Martha Stewart Giving the Finger to a Donald Trump Portrait Is Everything

(http://nymag.com/theircu/2017/05/her_martha_stewart_gives_the_finger_to_a_donald_trump_portrait.html?wpsrc=nymag)

The Real Housewives of Atlanta Reunion Finale Recap: Vindication

(http://www.vulture.com/2017/05/the_real_housewives_of_atlanta_season_9_reunion_recap.html?wpsrc=nymag)

VOICES

JOSH LEWIN (http://www.slate.com/authors/josh_lewin.html)

(http://www.slate.com/authors/josh_lewin.html)

15H AGO - JIM NEWELL - 2M TO READ Senate Republicans Are Writing a New Health Care Bill. What Will Be Different?

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/senate_republicans_are_writing_a_new_health_care_bill_what_will_be_different.html)

14H AGO - MIKE PESCA - 1M TO READ Trump Adviser Stephen Miller Began His Punditry Career With the Facts on His Side

(http://www.slate.com/articles/podcasts/gis/2017/05/mike_pesca_trumps_adviser_stephen_miller_began_his_punditry_career_with_the_facts_on_his_side.html)

15H AGO - HEATHER SCHWEDEL - 3M TO READ Tiffany Trump, Future Law Student, Should Take Careful Notes in These Classes to Share With Dad

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/heather_schwebel_tiffany_trump_future_law_student_should_take_careful_notes_in_these_classes_to_share_with_dad.html)

15H AGO - CHRISTINA CAUTERUCCI - 3M TO READ If Gender-Neutral Acting Awards Become a Thing, Will Women Still Win?

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/christina_cauterucci_if_gender_neutral_acting_awards_become_a_thin.html)

15H AGO - REBECCA ONION - 1M TO READ Support Our Journalists With a Slate Plus Membership

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/rebecca_onion_support_our_journalists_with_a_slate_plus_membership.html)

15H AGO - REBECCA ONION - 1M TO READ The GOP Defense of Trumpcare, and Susan B. Anthony's House

(http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/2017/05/sally_yates_fame_the_gop_defense_of_trumpcare_and_susan_b_anthonys_house.html)

16H AGO - SAM ADAMS - 1M TO READ The Prison in Twelve Landscapes Looks at How Mass Incarceration Has Changed Every Aspect of American Life

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/browbeat/2017/05/the_prison_in_twelve_landscapes_looks_at_how_mass_incarceration_has_changed_every_aspect_of_american_life.html)

FROM NEW YORK MAGAZINE

Billions Season-Finale Recap: Worth It

(http://www.vulture.com/2017/05/billions-season-2-finale-recap.html?wpsrc=nymag)

If Your Saltshaker Doesn't Have Bluetooth, Why Do You Even Use Salt?

(http://nymag.com/selectall/2017/05/if_your_saltshaker_doesnt_have_bluetooth_why_should_it.html?wpsrc=nymag)

David Spade, Famous Adult Man, Gets Owned by Infamous Me on Instagram

(http://nymag.com/selectall/2017/05/cashme_outside_teen_claps_back_at_david_spade_on_instagram.html?wpsrc=nymag)

This Photo of Martha Stewart Giving the Finger to a Donald Trump Portrait Is Everything

(http://nymag.com/theircu/2017/05/her_martha_stewart_gives_the_finger_to_a_donald_trump_portrait.html?wpsrc=nymag)

The Real Housewives of Atlanta Reunion Finale Recap: Vindication

(http://www.vulture.com/2017/05/the_real_housewives_of_atlanta_season_9_reunion_recap.html?wpsrc=nymag)

VOICES

JOSH LEWIN (http://www.slate.com/authors/josh_lewin.html)

(http://www.slate.com/authors/josh_lewin.html)

15H AGO - JIM NEWELL - 2M TO READ Senate Republicans Are Writing a New Health Care Bill. What Will Be Different?

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_lateste/2017/05/senate_republicans_are_writing_a_new_health_care_bill_what_will_be_different.html)

14H AGO - MIKE PESCA - 1M TO READ Trump Adviser Stephen Miller Began His Punditry Career With the Facts on His Side

(http://www.slate.com/articles/podcasts/gis/2017/05/mike_pesca_trumps_adviser_stephen_miller_began_his_punditry_career_with_the_facts_on_his_side.html)

15H AGO - HEATHER SCHWEDEL - 3M TO READ Tiffany Trump, Future Law Student, Should Take Careful Notes in These Classes to Share With Dad

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/heather_schwebel_tiffany_trump_future_law_student_should_take_careful_notes_in_these_classes_to_share_with_dad.html)

15H AGO - CHRISTINA CAUTERUCCI - 3M TO READ If Gender-Neutral Acting Awards Become a Thing, Will Women Still Win?

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/christina_cauterucci_if_gender_neutral_acting_awards_become_a_thin.html)

15H AGO - REBECCA ONION - 1M TO READ Support Our Journalists With a Slate Plus Membership

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/rebecca_onion_support_our_journalists_with_a_slate_plus_membership.html)

15H AGO - REBECCA ONION - 1M TO READ The GOP Defense of Trumpcare, and Susan B. Anthony's House

(http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/2017/05/sally_yates_fame_the_gop_defense_of_trumpcare_and_susan_b_anthonys_house.html)

16H AGO - SAM ADAMS - 1M TO READ The Prison in Twelve Landscapes Looks at How Mass Incarceration Has Changed Every Aspect of American Life

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/browbeat/2017/05/the_prison_in_twelve_landscapes_looks_at_how_mass_incarceration_has_changed_every_aspect_of_american_life.html)

FROM NEW YORK MAGAZINE

Billions Season-Finale Recap: Worth It

(http://www.vulture.com/2017/05/billions-season-2-finale-recap.html?wpsrc=nymag)

If Your Saltshaker Doesn't Have Bluetooth, Why Do You Even Use Salt?

Order Is Not the Sign Conservative Church Leaders Were Hoping For

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/xx_factor/2017/05/04/religious_leaders_left_unimpressed_by_trum)

I hate LaVar Ball.

Damon Young (<http://www.slate.com/blogs/moneybox/2017/05/04/moneybox>)

The Red Sox Could've Signed Jackie Robinson. They Gave Him a Sham Tryout Instead.
(http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/sports/2017/05/red_sox_jackie_robinson.html)

Lionel Messi Is the Irresistible Force. N'Golo Kanté Is the Immovable Object.
(http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/sports/2017/05/lionel_messi_ngolo_kante.html)

Will Pro Sports Teams Ever Figure Out How to Quantify How Well Teammates Get Along?
(http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/sports/2017/05/pro_teams_quantify_teammates.html)

Seventy Years After Jackie Robinson, Major League Baseball Is Still a White Man's Sport
(http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/sports/2017/05/jackie_robinson_mlbaseball.html)

In Praise of Tony Romo, Who Got Out While He Was Still Alive
(http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/sports/2017/05/tony_romo.html)

How to Visit All 30 Major-League Ballparks in 30 Days
(http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/sports/2017/05/all_30_mlballparks_in_30_days.html)

MONEYBOX

(<http://www.slate.com/blogs/moneybox.html>)
Uber's Year of Completely Avoidable Disasters Now Includes an Apparent Federal Criminal Investigation
(http://www.slate.com/blogs/moneybox/2017/05/uber_federal_crime_investigation.html)

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault.html)
Admissions Books for an Early-19th-Century Prison Hold a Wealth of Stories
(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault/2017/05/admissions_books_for_an_early_19th_century_prison.html)

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/business_insider.html)
Facebook Says It Shouldn't Have Told an Advertiser How to Reach Insecure Teens
(http://www.slate.com/blogs/business_insider/2017/05/facebook_says_it_shouldnt_have_told_an_advertiser_how_to_reach_insecure_teens.html)

(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_works.html)
How Should We Improve *Slate*? Here's What We Heard From Members.
(http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_works/2017/04/14/how_should_we_improve_slate.html)

(<http://www.slate.com/blogs/quora.html>)
How Can You Help Students Cope With Getting College Rejection Letters?
(http://www.slate.com/blogs/quora/2017/04/14/how_can_you_help_students_cope_with_getting_college_rejection_letters.html)

FOLLOW SLATE

(<http://www.slate.com/blogs/slaterprint>)

SLATE ON

IPHONE (<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/slate-com/id357555242?mt=8>)

ANDROID (<https://market.android.com/details?id=com.wapo.slate.android>)

KINDLE (http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000IOMTC0?ie=UTF8&tag=jamnaga-20&link_code=as3&camp=21189&creative=373489&creativeASIN=B000IOMTC0)

REPRINTS

(HTTP://WWW.SLATEREPRINTS.COM)

ADVERTISE WITH US

(MAILTO:ADVERTISE@SLATE.COM)

ABOUT US (/articles/news_and_politics/slate_fare/2006/08/about_us.html)

CONTACT US (/articles/briefing/contact_us/2006/08/whereto_find_slate_staff.html)

WORK WITH US (/articles/news_and_politics/slate_fare/2008/04/a_job_for_you_at_slate.html)

USER AGREEMENT (/articles/briefing/slate_user_agreement_and_privacy_policy/2012/12/slate_s_terms_of_service.html)

PRIVACY POLICY (/articles/briefing/slate_user_agreement_and_privacy_policy/2012/12/slate_s_privacy_policy.html)

FAQ (/articles/briefing/slate_fare/2011/12/commenting_on_slate_frequently_asked_questions.html)

FEEDBACK

(MAILTO:feedback@slate.com)

CORRECTIONS

(/articles/news_and_politics/corrections)

(HTTP://WWW.SLATE.COM)

(HTTP://WWW.PANOPLY.FR)

Slate is published by The Slate Group, a Graham Holdings Company. All contents © 2017 The Slate Group LLC. All rights reserved.

Support Dahlia Lithwick's Supreme Court coverage. Join *Slate Plus* today. (http://www.slate.com/plus?wpsrc=sp_all_display_support_dahlia_bar)