

Louie Gohmert

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“ People have said to me, ‘Stephen you gotta understand, you don’t even know your history. You’re dumb. You’re dense. You’re a mental midget with the IQ of a butter dish whose mind is a black hole that sucks all surrounding thought into it in an infinite singularity of pure stupidity. Stephen I’m surprised you can even dress yourself. I bet you have to rub peanut butter inside your lips to remember to open your mouth to breathe. I have never met, and I hope to never meet again, a man so pervasively astoundingly unyieldingly ignorant.’ To which I say, ‘well then you haven’t met Louie Gohmert.’ ”

—Stephen Colbert^[1]

Louis Buller "Louie" Gohmert, Jr. (born 1953) is a Republican Representative from Texas (first elected in 2004) and an accomplished idiot. He continues Texas' long, well-deserved reputation of electing eminently stupid people to federal office. He survives by hewing as far right as he can go in an already right-wing state, including jumping on the birther train in 2009^[2] and the Tea Party movement in 2010.^[3] Despite getting elected year after year, as a representative, nothing he says accomplishes anything beyond wasting time, his proposed bills go nowhere, and his role on every House committee is to be a big dumb waste of space.

However, he's tolerated by the Tea Party movement^[4] because he's a reliable supporter of whatever their political position *du jour* is, including opposing Obamacare,^[5] taxes,^{[6][7]} gun control,^[8] the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell,^[9] and the American Jobs Act stimulus bill.^[10]

What makes Gohmert remarkable isn't his run-of-the-mill Tea Party positions, but rather, that he defends them with alarmist non-sequiturs: Jesus hates taxes!^[7] Gun control will lead to bestiality!^[8] The American Jobs Act is an attack on marriage!^[10] Obama talking to BP about the 2010 oil spill is just like Hitler!^[11] Foreign aid to China will lead them to sell us food with cats and dogs in it!^[12] Oil pipelines are good for wildlife!^[13] Hate crimes legislation leads to necrophilia!^[14] Etc. Etc.



Gohmert's heavily-Photoshopped official portrait.

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Why?

Believe it or not, Gohmert used to be a judge. In 2003, he defeated the four-term incumbent, Max Sandlin, in an electoral wipeout—thanks to the new Texas redistricting laws. Gohmert's only comeback for each question in the debate was *Well my opponent likes JOHN KERRY... I mean, ha ha ha*. He was a douchebag even then.

Terror babies

Gohmert frequently makes what are almost certainly off-the-cuff (albeit dumb) remarks, and when called on them, defends them to the death rather than admit he was wrong.

The best example of this is the "terror babies." Gohmert repeatedly claimed that terrorists were impregnating women, sending them to the US, waiting for the babies to be born as "anchor babies," flying them back to wherever they came from, waiting twenty to thirty years so the babies can grow up and be trained as terrorists, and then sending them back to the US where they can gain easy entry to blow up the country. He first introduced this idea in a speech on the House floor in 2010.

In response, CNN anchor Anderson Cooper interviewed an FBI official on his show to debunk the terror babies claim (Gohmert asserted that the FBI had reported terror baby incidents). Gohmert then appeared on Cooper's show and refused to provide any evidence of terror babies.^[15] Xenophobic think tank Center for Immigration Studies attempted to back him up with a report on terror babies, but provided no evidence except for some statistics on illegal immigration and conspiratorial insinuations.^[16]

Xenophobic synergy

In a speech delivered to a Longview Chamber of Commerce in Texas, Gohmert voiced his fears that "Radical Islamists" were infiltrating the United States by impersonating Latinos.^[17]

Same-sex marriage

Louie Gohmert links marriage equality to bestiality and polygamy, gay Boy Scouts to pedophilia, and hate-crimes laws to the end of religious freedom.^[18]

Finding terrorists in the tea leaves

Not content to simply insult millions of marginalized people of a darker hue than he, Gohmert also suggested the very respectable, very white senior Senator from Arizona John McCain was a terrorist.^[19]

Anti-vaccine quackery

He takes a different line of insanity on the issue than fellow ~~weirdos~~ travelers like Jenny McCarthy or Michele Bachmann; he's opposed to them because liberal elites are culling the Earth's human population through their use in order to preserve natural resources, not because of any false safety concerns drummed up by anti-vax shills. According to Gohmert, this conspiracy is aiming for a target human population of around 700 million people, which would constitute less than *ten percent* of the estimated current human population.^[20]

On school shootings

According to Louie Gohmert, the principal of Sandy Hook should have "had an M4 in her office, locked up so when she heard gunfire, she pulls it out ...and takes him out and takes his head off before he can kill those precious kids."^[21]

Diplomatic overtures of note

He went to Egypt in September 2013 as part of a Congressional package deal including the likes of Michele Bachmann and Steve King in order to laud the military government for its overthrow of Mohamed Morsi. He wasn't responsible for implying that the Muslim Brotherhood was responsible for 9/11 (that was Bachmann), but he did make the singularly weird comparison of General Abdel Fatah el-Sissi to George Washington.^[22]

US History 101

Gohmert ~~disingenuously~~ welcomed the probe into Russian hackers trying to help out the electoral chances of Donald Trump in 2016, but for an odd reason: so that it would also shed light on similar Soviet intervention in the elections of Harry S. Truman, John F. Kennedy and Jimmy Carter.^[23] Like the other singularly odd statements he's made on a regular basis in the past, he was apparently quite serious.

The word "stupid" might not be strong enough, here

He also asserted on CBN that

"I think the biggest blockbuster out of (Trump's) press conference with Putin," Gohmert said, "was Putin disclosing that they have evidence that the U.S. intelligence community provided over \$400 million to Hillary Clinton for her campaign."^[24]

According to Gohmert, our good buddies in Russia have "solid evidence that some intelligence officers accompanied and guided these transactions." The only problem with that assertion is that it's based solely on the word of ~~autocratic sociopath~~ Russian President Vladimir Putin.^[25] But he would *never* lie to anyone for political gain, right?

See also

- Fourteenth Amendment

External links

- Terror Babies (<http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/tue-august-17-2010/jon-stewart---anderson-cooper-look-at-gaping-holes---security>) on *The Daily Show*.

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