

September 24, 2020

Washington, DC

Conservatives condemn the attacks on President Trump's potential Supreme Court nominees, including Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Amy Coney Barrett. The Constitution mandates that there is no religious test to hold public office, and we reject the so-called "critiques" of Barrett's faith which merely act as a guise under which that test is applied.

Judge Barrett was already subjected to outright anti-Catholic bigotry from Senator Dianne Feinstein in her confirmation hearing for the Seventh Circuit in 2017. "[The dogma lives loudly within you.](#)" [said the senator](#), openly asserting that Barrett's Catholic faith would prevent her from fulfilling her role as a neutral arbiter. Sen. Richard Durbin (D-Ill.) took issue with Barrett's use of the term "orthodox Catholic" in an article she authored as a law student.

This type of open condemnation of people of faith has become par for the course among Senate Democrats, and a willing media which abets them. Senator Bernie Sanders (D-Vt.) [inferred](#) that OMB Director Russell Vought was anti-Muslim for holding basic Christian beliefs about salvation. Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) [believes](#) membership in the Catholic service group, Knights of Columbus, should disqualify one from judicial service.

Such attacks are not "vetting." They are not sincere efforts to determine a nominee's jurisprudence. They are grotesque distortions of the Constitution, of America's long and legally protected tradition of religious liberty, and a repugnant display of anti-religious bigotry.

We condemn the attacks on Judge Barrett and all of the president's nominees for public service.

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