

Social media react to Trump: White Supremacist In Chief



New York, August 5 (RHC)-- After the United States suffered a deadly weekend with two more mass shootings with 29 dead and over 40 wounded, the attention has shifted to President Donald Trump, who blamed fake news, video games and mental illness but not his hate speech and racism, as incentives behind record-numbers in hate crimes across the nation.

The hashtag #WhiteSupremacistInChief trended nationwide Monday as social media users reacted to the president's speech. Many were infuriated with the apparent disconnect between Trump's call to "condemn racism, bigotry and white supremacy," as he has systematically used racism, anti-migrant, anti-muslim, nationalistic, and misogynistic language since before taking office.

"I say to President Trump: Talk is cheap. We need action. Stop the racism. Stop the anti-immigrant bigotry coming out of your mouth. Tell [Senate Majority Leader] McConnell to pass gun safety legislation the American people want," Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders tweeted Monday, reiterating his call to ban assault weapons and implement a buyback program to get assault weapons off the streets.

Speaking from the White House earlier Monday morning, the U.S. president did not directly address accusations by critics about his anti-immigrant and racially charged comments, but in a series of tweets on Monday, Trump reiterated his accusations against "fake news" and media bias as the culprits.

Media outlets pointed out that The National Rifle Association (NRA), the U.S.' largest gun lobbyist, gave Trump's presidential campaign \$30 million in 2016. Meanwhile, U.S. Senator and Democratic presidential candidate, Elizabeth Warren, tweeted saying that "White supremacy is not a mental illness. We need to call it what it is: Domestic terrorism. And we need to call out Donald Trump for amplifying these deadly ideologies."

The numbers match an ever-growing trend in hate crimes. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's 2018 annual analysis, hate crime reports increased 17 percent in 2017 from 2016, rising for the third consecutive year.

Of the more than 7,100 hate crimes reported in 2018, nearly three out of five were motivated by race and ethnicity, according to the report. Religion and sexual orientation were the other two primary motivators.

For many critics, the numbers coincide with Trump's rhetoric that in multiple times has glanced over and even indirectly supported white supremacists. He "is a racist and he stokes racism in this country," Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke told reporters after meeting with victims and doctors of El Paso's shooting.

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