## Reject Trump's racism

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In 2016, Donald Trump was sued for defrauding students of Trump University, which had no charter and no license for live instruction. In infomercials, Trump llied that he "hand-picked" the instructors. Trump admitted under oath that he never selected them.

Judge Gonzalo Curiel presided over Trump's case. In a shocking interview with CNN's Jake Tapper, Trump said Curiel "should recuse himself" because of his Mexican ancestry "We are building a wall," said Trump. "He's a Mexican." Tapper replied, "He's not from Mexico. He's from Indiana."

Trump settled the lawsuit for \$25,000,000. Trump University had thousands of victims, but no accredited graduates.

Eight years later, Trump "graduated" from being the defendant in a civil suit to being the first former president convicted of crimes (34 felonies) by a jury of his peers. Judge Juan Merchan presided over Trump's trial for interfering in the 2016 election by paying hush money to porn star Stormy Daniels to hide her story from the public and falsifying records to conceal his payment.

Trump baselessly attacked Merchan as "corrupt" and accused him of running a "kangaroo court." On the day Trump declined to testify in his own defense, Trump saddled up his racist hobby horse yet again and attacked Judge Merchan's ancestry.

Standing near the men's bathrooms on the 15th floor of Manhattan's criminal courthouse, Trump said, "The judge hates Donald Trump. Take a look. Take a look at him. Take a look at where he comes from."

Merchan was born in Colombia and emigrated to the US when he was six. He was raised in the borough of Queens, as was Trump.

Trump complains that immigrants from "shithole countries" are "poisoning the blood of our country." My late husband was Mexican-American and I am disgusted by the demonization of him, his family and other immigrants.

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) correctly pegged Trump as "a race-baiting, xenophobic, religious bigot." Republicans should refuse to nominate a racist like Trump.

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