

Vance can dance

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After Donald Trump was shot by a Republican gun nut, Senator J. D. Vance blamed Democrats for calling Trump “authoritarian.” Vance said worse, before Trump picked him.

“I’m a ‘Never Trump’ guy. I never liked him,” Vance told Charlie Rose. Vance called Trump “a total fraud” and “moral disaster.”

“To every complex problem, he promises a simple solution,” Vance wrote in *The Atlantic*. “He never offers details because he can’t. Trump’s promises are the needle in America’s collective vein. Trump is cultural heroin.”

Vance texted his former law-school roommate: “I’m not surprised by Trump’s rise, and I think the entire party has only itself to blame. We are, whether we like it or not, the party of lower-income, lower-education White people. I’ve been saying that we need to offer those people something or a demagogue would. Trump is the fruit of the party’s collective neglect.”

Vance told NPR’s Terry Gross, “I can’t stomach Trump. I think he’s noxious and is leading the White working class to a very dark place.”

When Trump bragged about grabbing women’s genitals on the Access Hollywood tape, Vance tweeted, “Fellow Christians, everyone is watching us when we apologize for this man. Lord, help us.”

Vance tweeted, “Trump makes people I care about afraid. Immigrants, Muslims, etc. Because of this I find him reprehensible. God wants better of us.”

Vance said Trump fuels “racism and xenophobia” and is “a destructive force.” In the *New York Times*, Vance wrote, “Trump is unfit for our nation’s highest office.”

When Vance saw a chance to advance, he danced away from his scathing remarks, saying “I regret them.” Vance is an unprincipled hypocrite who does whatever it takes to get ahead, with no concern for truth or our democracy.

It worked: Trump made Vance his running mate. But this is still the same power-hungry Vance who said, “I go back and forth between thinking Trump is a cynical [expletive deleted] like Nixon...or that he's America's Hitler.”

Arthur Hill
Southport