

## Viewing Trump for what he is

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Trump [took over policing](#) in Washington, DC this week to supposedly tackle a crime wave.

In reality, crime in Washington, DC, [is falling, and at much lower levels than in the past](#).

There is, quite simply, no justification for what Trump is doing in Washington, any more than there was justification for his previous action in Los Angeles.

So why is he lying about crime waves, and why is he taking actions that even he must know are potentially illegal?

The answer is provided by [Heather Cox Richardson](#) in her Letters from an American email this morning, in which she says:

*Trump has been frantically trying to change the subject away from his friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein since July 7, when Attorney General Pam Bondi stirred up fury from Trump's MAGA base by saying the Department of Justice will not release any more information from the Epstein investigation.*

*But even Trump's attack on Washington, D.C., yesterday has not managed to distract attention from the possibility that the president of the United States sexually assaulted children.*

It is impossible to consider anything going on in the USA now without viewing it through this lens.

The possibility that Trump is compromised by Epstein, and that this is of significance in everything that he is doing, has to be acknowledged as a factor in international diplomacy now, and not least in explaining the apparent power that Putin obviously has over him, which might have significant implications for future European security.

Quite literally, how on earth did such a vile person, who has already been found guilty of what is in straightforward parlance, rape, reach such a position of power, and why is

it that so many still seem to believe in him despite the fact that he is so obviously unsuited to public office and might, like his friend Benjamin Netanyahu, be much better suited to life inside a jail?