

MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE

IMPACT: Marjorie Taylor Greene is a member of Congress who has used her platform to promote and endorse an endless array of hate speech and conspiracy theories rooted in racism, Islamophobia, and antisemitism. She is a follower of the QAnon conspiracy theory, has repeatedly made claims of a "deep state" controlling the country, and has harassed and bullied other members of Congress as well as survivors of school shootings. She has also endorsed calls for violence against members of Congress.

- Marjorie Taylor Greene is a Republican member of the US House of Representatives, serving
 Georgia's <u>14th congressional district</u>. Prior to her political career, she co-owned a construction company with her husband. Greene ran unopposed for Congress. Despite news reports uncovering Greene's antisemitic, anti-Muslim, and racist comments, she received <u>continued</u> support from numerous Republican mega-donors, including the "board chairman of the prominent conservative thinktank the Heritage Foundation."
- In August 2020, then-candidate, Greene <u>tweeted</u> that she had <u>been</u> "invited to attend President Trump's acceptance speech Thursday evening at the White House." Former president <u>Donald Trump</u> repeatedly praised Greene and at one point <u>called</u> her a "future Republican star." During an August 2020 victory speech after winning the Republican nomination, Greene <u>called</u> Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, "anti-American" and a "b***h." Greene won the November 2020 election, becoming the "first <u>supporter of the far-right QAnon conspiracy theory</u> to win a US House seat."
- Greene is a **promoter of dangerous far-right** <u>conspiracy theories</u>, such as <u>QAnon</u>, <u>Pizzagate</u>, and the belief that the 2020 presidential election was stolen</u>. Many QAnon followers <u>believe</u> "the world is run by a cabal of Satan-worshiping pedophiles who are plotting against Donald Trump while operating a global child sex-trafficking ring." A November 2020 *Guardian* article also <u>noted</u> that the "FBI has identified the movement as a <u>potential domestic terrorism threat</u>, and it has repeatedly inspired vigilante violence."
- Greene's affinity for <u>conspiracy theories</u> dates back to 2017 when she began producing <u>articles</u> for the now-inactive "American Truth Seekers," a conspiracy-ridden "news" website. An August 2020 *NBC News* article <u>reported</u> that **Greene was a "correspondent" for the site where she "wrote favorably of the QAnon conspiracy theory, suggested that Hillary Clinton murdered her political enemies, and ruminated on whether mass shootings were orchestrated to dismantle the Second Amendment."** In total, Greene authored a <u>reported</u> fifty-nine articles for the site.
- Greene is a vocal supporter of former president <u>Donald Trump</u>. In a 2017 article she wrote for "American Truth Seekers," Greene supported Trump's calls for <u>extreme vetting</u> of immigrants, <u>stating</u>, "It is not wrong or hurtful to institute extreme vetting for people with Muslim origins that want to enter this country. Political correctness does nothing but hide the truth and the real issue."
- During a 2018 speaking engagement at a conservative conference, Greene suggested that the September eleventh attacks were part of a government conspiracy. Media Matters reported that Greene questioned what she claimed was "the so-called plane that crashed into the Pentagon," saying

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- that "It's odd there's never any evidence shown for a plane in the Pentagon." During this speech, **she also falsely <u>claimed</u> that former President Barack Obama "is a Muslim" and accused him of having "opened up our borders to an invasion by Muslims."** In August 2020, she <u>tweeted</u>, "Some people claimed a missile hit the Pentagon. I now know that is not correct." However, in the same tweet, she made claims about the <u>deep state</u>, which a February 2021 piece in *Haaretz* noted is "a conspiracy theory based on the antisemitic trope of a secret cabal; the terms "globalism" and "open borders" are both dog whistles for a white nationalist theory that Jews and other minorities are attempting to destroy white society."
- In 2018, Greene <u>reportedly</u> shared an antisemitic and anti-Muslim video, "complaining that she had been censored from speaking about the issue of 'illegal invaders." The video was <u>created</u> by users of forums 4chan and 8chan, who <u>spliced</u> the presentation of an academic out of context to make it appear as if she was "discussing a Jewish plan to destroy Europe." The <u>video</u> also <u>quoted</u> Nick Griffin, a former leader of the far-right British National Party (BNP), "warning about an 'unholy alliance of leftists, capitalists and Zionist supremacists' plotting to destroy European society by 'breeding us out of existence in our own homelands."
- In 2018, Greene made anti-Muslim statements directed at the American Muslim Women Political Action Committee. A *CNN* investigation uncovered **Greene's Facebook posts from 2018 where she posted, "Wtf is their [the American Muslim Women PAC] mission??? To make sure every women is dominated by Islam, is covered in sheets, loses our freedoms, and has to have our vaginas mutilated???."** Additionally, Greene liked a comment describing the PAC as an "invasion," and like another comment that said, "We don't need gun control! We need Muslim control!"
- In 2018, Greene also claimed that the Camp Fire, the devastating 2018 California wildfire, was started by <u>space lasers</u>. A February 2020 *Haaretz* <u>piece</u> stated that Greene suggested the laser was "controlled by a prominent Jewish banking family with connections to powerful Democrats."
- In June 2020, *Politico* <u>uncovered</u> several Facebook videos by Greene in which she expressed racist, Islamophobic, and antisemitic views. The now-deleted Facebook videos showed Greene <u>suggesting</u> that the 2018 midterms were part of "an Islamic invasion of our government" and that "anyone that is a Muslim that believes in Sharia law does not belong in our government."
 She referred to Minnesota representative Ilhan Omar as "that woman out of Minnesota" who "has got to wear a head covering." She also <u>called</u> Jewish philanthropist <u>George Soros</u> a Nazi, and compared Black Lives Matter activists to neo-Nazis and Ku Klux Klan members. In one of the videos, she also

claimed that "the most mistreated group of people in the United States today are white males." In another video, she <u>stated</u>, "If you want Islam and Sharia law you stay over there in the Middle East. You stay there and go to Mecca... you can have a bunch of wives or goats or sheep or whatever you want. You stay over there. But in America, you see, we made it this great, great country and we don't want it messed up."

In January 2021, the Independent reported newly uncovered video footage showing Greene harassing two Muslim women members of Congress, Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar, in February 2019. The video was taken prior to Greene's election and shows her walking through the halls of Congress, "claiming that Ms Omar and Ms Tlaib were illegitimate Democratic representatives because they took their oaths of office on the Quran instead of the Bible." She states, "We're going to explain about how you can't swear in on the Quran. We're going to have the Bible and ask them if they would swear in on the Bible ... I think that's important." There is no law in the United States that

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requires an elected official to take the oath of office with a Bible or any other religious text.

- A September 2020 *CNN* piece reported that **Greene had "posted on her candidate Facebook page an image of herself holding a gun alongside images of Democratic Reps. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, and Rashida Tlaib and encouraged going on the 'offense against these socialists.'"** In response, Facebook removed the photo, <u>saying</u> the image violated the platform's policies. A January 2021 *CNN* investigation <u>found</u> that **Greene had "repeatedly indicated support for executing prominent Democratic politicians in 2018 and 2019 before being elected to Congress."** Greene <u>reportedly</u> liked a comment on a Facebook post from January 2019 that said "a bullet to the head would be quicker" to remove House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Additionally, she liked other comments about executing FBI agents. The investigation further <u>found</u> an April 2018 Facebook post where Greene wrote "conspiratorially about the Iran Deal, one of former President Barack Obama's signature foreign policy achievements." In response, a commenter asked Greene, "Now do we get to hang them ?? Meaning H & O ???," referring to Obama and Hillary Clinton. Greene replied, "Stage is being set. Players are being put in place. We must be patient. This must be done perfectly or liberal judges would let them off."
- A February 2021 CNN investigation found numerous videos of Greene from 2019 and 2020, in which she encouraged protesters "to flood the Capitol" and endorsed political violence to defend freedom. In one 2020 video, Greene states, "The only way you get your freedoms back is it's earned with the price of blood." Greene supported claims of a stolen election and even objected to the election certification process for the 2020 presidential election results. Following the

January 6, 2021 <u>insurrection</u> at the US Capitol by a pro-Trump supporters, Greene denounced the violence but falsely <u>blamed</u> it on "BLM/Antifa violence." Even after the insurrection, Greene was one of 139 House Republicans who voted to <u>overturn</u> the results of the Electoral College. On January 21, 2021, the day after Joe Biden was inaugurated as president, Greene <u>filed</u> articles of impeachment against him.

- In February 2021, *Newsweek* reported that Greene was co-sponsoring Representative Jeff Duncan's "Old Glory Only Act," which would bar any flag beside the American flag from being flown at US embassies. In her statement on the bill, **Greene targeted the flying of the Black Lives Matter flag on government property, calling the organization a "radical Marxist group."** She stated, "The domestic terrorists represented by that flag have burned down our cities with the mission of defunding our police. We should NOT be flying a flag of a group who wants to erase history and bring mass destruction to our country through Communism."
- In February 2021, following the introduction of a resolution from Democratic members of Congress to remove Greene from her committee assignments, Greene <u>reportedly</u> apologized during a closed-door conference among House Republicans. A February 2021 <u>piece</u> in the

Independent revealed that Greene "received a standing ovation from her GOP colleagues." Another February 2021 piece in *The Hill* <u>reported</u> that a group of House Republicans filed an amendment to "Democrats' resolution to strip Greene of her seats on the House Education and Labor and Budget committees that would instead replace Greene's name with [Representative Ilhan] Omar's." Omar <u>described</u> the GOP's amendment as "a desperate smear rooted in racism, misogyny, and Islamophobia." On February 4, 2021, the House of Representatives <u>voted</u> to strip Greene of her committee assignments.

In January 2021 Media Matters <u>reported</u> that Greene agreed with comments calling the 2018
 Parkland school shooting a "false flag" operation. The CNN investigation also "found additional comments from Greene where she called David Hogg, a survivor of the Parkland school shooting and

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activist, '#littleHitler' and spread a conspiracy that he was a 'bought and paid little pawn' and actor." Following revelations of these comments, **students who survived the Parkland school shooting and families of the victims** <u>called</u> **for Greene's resignation. Greene has also** <u>suggested</u> **that the deadly school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary was staged**.

- During a February 2021 townhall in Georgia, Greene praised anti-Muslim social media personality
 Laura Loomer, and claimed that Loomer was "one of the most canceled people" due to her
 "reporting stories on Ilhan Omar and her ties to radical Islam, the fact that she married her brother.
 Twitter didn't like that very much, so they kicked her off of Twitter. She also got kicked off of Facebook,
 but Laura does not stop." Later in the month, Greene endorsed Loomer's bid for Congress in 2022,
 stating Loomer is "exactly the type of America First Patriot that I need standing beside me on
 the House floor." In March 2021, the DailyBeast reported that Loomer had called for a "white ethnostate
 during a 2017 podcast." Greene herself has posed for a picture with former Ku Klux Klan leader Charles
 Dole, who called Greene a "friend."
- On January 17, 2021, Twitter <u>suspended</u> Greene's personal twitter account "citing violations of a company policy that it recently used to remove thousands of QAnon-related accounts." The suspension lasted for twelve hours. On March 19, 2021, Greene was reportedly <u>suspended</u> from Twitter for a second time for another twelve hours.
- On March 19, 2021, Representative Jimmy Gomez (D-CA) <u>introduced</u> a resolution to expel Greene from Congress over her previous support for violence against Democrats. Gomez stated Greene <u>trafficked</u> in conspiracy theories that "advocated violence against our peers, the speaker and our government."