

Spotted this week in media bias

Election 2020

SAT, OCT 03

Election 2020: Presidential Debates, Trump Gets Rona

The [first 2020 presidential debate](#) between Donald Trump and his Democratic rival Joe Biden fuels chaos to the already unsteady, tumultuous climate of election season. The ill-tempered debate filled with persistent interruptions, bickering, and insults triggered a national and near-universal condemnation from viewers around the world. Many commentators and journalists sounded off on the lack of professionalism on stage, with some wondering if the rules will change to ensure that the remaining planned debates maintain more order and structure. While Trump interrupted three times more than Biden, according to the Washington Post, many viewers across the country were surprised to witness the former VP hurling insults back at Trump. Among the most circulated videos of the debate, Biden is seen calling the sitting U.S. President a “clown” and telling him to “keep yapping, man.”

After the debate, the [candidates embarked on campaigns](#), Biden on a train tour to Ohio and Pennsylvania, while Trump held a campaign rally in Minnesota. President Trump praised himself on the trail and told his campaign rally that he defeated Biden in the first debate. In Ohio and Pennsylvania, Biden cast Trump as president who abandoned working Americans

The fate of the remaining two presidential debates remains uncertain after President Trump and the first lady [tested positive](#) for the novel coronavirus Friday (10/2). The Commander in Chief has been admitted to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where he is said to be “fever-free” and in “exceptionally good spirits” according to his doctors. Critics of the Trump administration say the positive diagnosis comes after the President spent months downplaying the severity of the fatal virus that claimed more than 200,000 lives in the U.S. Since the start of the pandemic, the President often refused to wear a mask in public. Most recently, he mocked Biden for wearing facial coverings at campaign events during Tuesday’s debate.

A *New York Times* report showed that President Trump has largely [avoided](#) paying income taxes for years. In 2016 and 2017, President Trump paid just \$750 in federal income taxes. The Biden

campaign quickly jumped on these reports and released a video ad on Twitter comparing average taxes paid by teachers, firefighters, nurses, which are all more than \$750.

Biden's campaign called for [Facebook](#) to remove posts from President Trump and his oldest son, who posted a video constraining an unsubstantiated claim that the "radical left" was planning to "add millions of fraudulent ballots that can cancel your vote and overturn the election." Biden's campaign manager, Jen O'Malley Dillion, wrote that "removing this video should have been the easiest of easy calls under your policies, yet it remains up today."

Betting markets appear to be moving in favor of Biden, after news of Trump's infection of COVID-19. However, it's unclear how – or if at all – the President's diagnosis will affect the public sentiment and opinion. For British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who contracted the coronavirus earlier this year, a boost in ratings followed weeks after he came down with the virus. But if Trump's debate performance is any indication – with his unprecedented moves as Commander in Chief – one has to ask, could any world leader's personal battle with coronavirus serve as a blueprint for the unpredictable U.S. president?

Guest Post by Fox News Reporter Sharon Song

Sharon Song is a TV News Personality in New York City and a national writer for FOX News. Her experiences include anchoring behind the weather desk & reporting on entertainment news. Sharon is currently getting her master's degree in Human Rights Studies at Columbia University.