

John Moolenaar, 117 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515: I wrote him a letter this week. He represents the 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives—our district. He is “our Congressman,” ours, that is, if one is not interested in protecting the environment, if one is not concerned about the ramifications of climate change, if one is not something other than white, if one does not believe health care should be for all of us, and now, if one is unconcerned about the racist tweets of an unhinged President. So, I guess John Moolenaar represents just some of us. But, I still hope, as I look at friends, neighbors, and people I meet on the street, that we are better than this.

To receive his \$174,000 taxpayer funded salary plus benefits, and to have health insurance—in the gerrymandered 4th Congressional District populated by residents with an average household income of \$42,586 (2010 census) —Moolenaar only has to appear in Congress where he has voted 99.0% of the time in agreement with Trump’s positions. He has introduced few bills, co-sponsored a meager number, and has, it appears, been primarily sitting there as a rubber-stamp yes-man for an out of control egoist who has little understanding of how government even works.

And now, John Moolenaar has not even had enough moral and ethical backbone to vote to condemn Trump’s racist attacks on four American citizens who also are duly elected members of the same House of Representatives of which he is a member. I don’t know how he, or any of his cohorts, can go back to the people at home and pretend to be representing this diverse country that is the United States of America.

The day of this country’s dominance by white males will soon be a thing of the past. The United States IS a diverse country, regardless of what Trump, Moolenaar, or others of that ilk think. There’s no room for the hatred and vitriol that have been spread by the Trump administration. And people like the man who is supposed to represent the residents of our gerrymandered 4th Congressional District will be left behind, too. I hope that the election of 2020 will see to that.