JIM JORDAN, KILLER CLOWN

You'll want to read Marcy's post about Wednesday's House Judiciary Committee hearing on politicization of the Department of Justice.

One thing that continues to bother the hell out of me: Republican Rep. Jim Jordan's clown-y assholishness. It's now his brand. He's the GOP caucus's id — the Goofus-looking, tantrum-throwing, jacket-avoiding persona happily adopted by the right-wing as a model for their party.

He's a creepy bad clown whose running gags and interstitial bits aren't funny or amusing; they're meant to harass, ridicule, and obstruct Congress's little-d democratic processes.

While he was repeatedly offered other GOP members' time during the hearing to question the witnesses called before the committee, he made a point of not wearing his mask and yelling at the same time.

(Aside: there's a paper waiting to be written about clowns who refuse to wear masks.)

He attended the rally in Tulsa this past weekend and like nearly everyone else in that venue in attendance, didn't wear a mask and is now potentially an asymptomatic carrier of COVID-19.

With this routine Jordan didn't respect the well being of his fellow members of Congress. He showed he's willing to hurt other members of Congress for his personal and partisan political aims.

Just scroll through the hearing video beginning with his opening remarks at 9:26 —

Perhaps Jordan was chosen as HJC ranking member to do all the heavy lifting for the GOP side of the committee exactly because he yells during his tantrums, attracting media's attention

thereby starving Democrats of oxygen for their side.

While his outbursts have been annoying in the past, this time Jordan forcefully pushed aerosolized exhalation through the hearing room Wednesday after being in proximity with others exposed to COVID-19 with Team Trump in Tulsa. He may have deliberately blown biological material around the hearing room, like so:

And perhaps he was chosen because his district OH-4 isn't likely to give him a lot of crap since a good-sized chunk is rural.

OH-4 is also not as heavily impacted by COVID-19 as other more urban congressional districts in Ohio.

The counties in his district are Allen, Auglaize, Champaign, Crawford, Logan, Sandusky, Seneca, Shelby and Union counties and parts of Erie, Huron, Lorain, Marion, and Mercer counties. Check them against the most recent COVID-19 data for the state of Ohio:

County	Confirmed	Deaths	Cases per 1M people	Recovered
Ohio — total	47651	2772	4127	No data
Adams County	20	1	703	No data
Allen County†	261	38	2460	No data
Ashland County	46	0	865	No data
Ashtabula County	413	42	4075	No data
Athens County	29	1	448	No data
Auglaize County†	93	3	2029	No data

Belmont County	516	21	7356	No data
Brown County	50	1	1119	No data
Butler County	1301	41	3516	No data
Carroll County	46	3	1598	No data
Champaign County†	37	1	930	No data
Clark County	703	8	5106	No data
Clermont County	300	6	1506	No data
Clinton County	55	0	1312	No data
Columbiana County	1033	59	9603	No data
Coshocton County	64	0	1732	No data
Crawford County†	126	5	2904	No data
Cuyahoga County	6111	346	4811	No data
Darke County	230	25	4355	No data
Defiance County	43	3	1106	No data
Delaware County	449	15	2518	No data
Erie County*	221	22	2879	No data
Fairfield County	438	15	2978	No data
Fayette County	45	0	1553	No data
Franklin County	8310	378	6311	No data
Fulton County	54	0	1270	No data
Gallia County	9	1	291	No data

Geauga County	372	41	3990	No data
Greene County	187	9	1148	No data
Guernsey County	49	3	1227	No data
Hamilton County	4337	191	5419	No data
Hancock County	68	1	906	No data
Hardin County	108	11	3373	No data
Harrison County	12	1	757	No data
Henry County	23	0	820	No data
Highland County	39	1	898	No data
Hocking County	75	7	2552	No data
Holmes County	169	3	3954	No data
Huron County‡	144	1	2420	No data
Jackson County	17	0	512	No data
Jefferson County	75	2	1090	No data
Knox County	36	1	588	No data
Lake County	390	17	1697	No data
Lawrence County	55	0	880	No data
Licking County	351	11	2099	No data
Logan County†	51	0	1116	No data
Lorain County	889	67	2947	No data
Lucas County	2534	299	5759	No data

Madison County	179	8	4124	No data
Mahoning County	1682	227	7089	No data
Marion County‡	2717	36	41035	No data
Medina County	441	31	2545	No data
Meigs County	10	0	422	No data
Mercer County‡	259	8	6342	No data
Miami County	413	30	4015	No data
Monroe County	83	16	5691	No data
Montgomery County	1465	22	2725	No data
Morgan County	6	0	399	No data
Morrow County	111	1	3185	No data
Muskingum County	71	1	823	No data
Noble County	6	0	408	No data
Ottawa County	124	23	2995	No data
Paulding County	22	0	1133	No data
Perry County	26	1	716	No data
Pickaway County	2150	41	38400	No data
Pike County	19	0	664	No data
Portage County	382	58	2364	No data
Preble County	55	1	1307	No data
Putnam County	107	15	3120	No data

Richland County	296	4	2397	No data
Ross County	89	2	1137	No data
Sandusky County*	112	13	1844	No data
Scioto County	28	0	353	No data
Seneca County†	31	2	549	No data
Shelby County†	55	4	1115	No data
Stark County	977	107	2605	No data
Summit County	1839	202	3407	No data
Trumbull County	771	57	3684	No data
Tuscarawas County	454	10	4908	No data
Union County†	73	1	1384	No data
Van Wert County	20	0	699	No data
Vinton County	22	2	1646	No data
Warren County	649	20	3020	No data
Washington County	120	20	1943	No data
Wayne County	343	52	2993	No data
Williams County	60	1	1596	No data
Wood County	345	51	2730	No data
Wyandot County	55	4	2424	No data
Key:				
† = District OH-11				

‡ = County split with OH-11				
* = Pivot county				

Based on the data above provided by The New York Times updated yesterday, there have been only 134 deaths in the counties which make up the Ohio 4th Congressional District, even with the hot spot at the prison in Marion, Ohio.

Note, too, that Jordan's district OH-4 is more than 90% white, unlike nearby OH-9 (Rep. Marcy Kaptur) or OH-11 (Rep. Marcia Fudge), with a higher per capita income.

Compare to Cuyahoga County which makes up part of OH-9 — it's had at least 346 COVID-19 deaths.

All of which means that Jordan's career is relatively unaffected by COVID-19. He can be casually racist by ignoring the number of Black and other non-white deaths in Marion's prison facility because the rest of his district won't feel the pain of their loss — the mostly-minority incarcerated are disposable to white rural conservatives.

He can be deliberately threatening to Democrats in Congress because it's encouraged by the White House.

Jordan won't worry about anybody else getting COVID-19 because he can continue to be nothing more complicated than a loud, irritating clown and still earn his party's support.

He'll even get backup from other clowns in his party like Louis Gohmert banging on the desk during the course of the hearing to obstruct witness testimony — neither being sly Harlequins but an evil clown with a village idiot sidekick.

Not merely an evil clown, either, if Jordan intended to threaten and hurt other members of Congress.

Jim Jordan, *killer* clown — an existential threat to members of Congress who have to put up with

him while they represent the rest of us.

This is an open thread.