

# **Trumpism**

**The fact that Trump's party and his network always look for ways to excuse him has been hugely liberating for Trump.**

**He can actually deny he said things that were recorded – like his trashing of the British prime minister.**

**He can take one side of any issue (like trashing key NATO allies to satisfy his base), and, when he gets blowback, take the other side (claim to love the Atlantic alliance). And he can declare that he really meant to ask why “wouldn't” Russia be the one hacking us instead of why “would” it, as he did say.**

**Thomas L. Friedman,  
New York Times, July 18, 2018**