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Letters

GOP's wounds are self-inflicted

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It should come as no surprise that many young Republicans “seem to hate Donald Trump” and are turned off by his “bullying style and divisive comments toward women, Muslims, and others” ([“New generation of voters turning away from GOP,”](#) Page A1, Aug. 21).

It was the seeds sown in the Republican Party eight years ago that produced such an undesirable presidential nominee in 2016. The disintegration of the GOP dates to the time its leaders first devised the plot to reject the newly elected President Barack Obama before he took office in January of 2009. Journalist Michael Grunwald reported in 2012 on how the House GOP whip, Eric Cantor, and the Senate minority leader, Mitch McConnell, met with colleagues to lay out their plans to destroy the Obama presidency by any means necessary.

Then came the “birthers” on cable news, who erased the boundaries of civil debate and truth in broadcasting. Their incendiary rhetoric paved the way for this campaign season’s invitations to shoot a presidential nominee and to ban immigrants based on religion and ethnic origin.

The unspeakable has become the unbridgeable, with Trump “losing millennials in droves” and party leaders looking beyond the 2016 election with deep worry.

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