

Right-wing media latch on to GOP hearing stunt to accuse Democrats of misogyny

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Some right-wing media picked up a moment early Friday afternoon in the House Intelligence Committee's impeachment inquiry hearing when Chairman Adam Schiff (D-CA) refused to let ranking member Devin Nunes (R-CA) yield time to Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY), calling it "appalling" and claiming that "Schiff stifled" her. In reality, this entire maneuver by the Republicans violated the rules of procedure that had been established for these hearings.



FoxNews.com also used Nunes' word — "gagging" — in a headline on its homepage, "Gagging' the Gentlewoman," and described the incident by saying Schiff "stifles" Stefanik, a word reminiscent of classic sitcom character Archie Bunker telling his wife Edith to be quiet.



But as others have explained, this was just a stunt – Republican members would know that according to the rules of the hearing, only the chair, ranking member, and their respective staff counsels could ask questions in this round. (Stefanik indeed got a turn to speak later, as did all the other junior members of the committee.)



Kyle Cheney ✓
@kyledcheney



Replying to @kyledcheney

NUNES intentionally violates the impeachment inquiry rules by yielding to STEFANIK. They know this violates the process set out for the impeachment inquiry and then pretend to be shocked when Schiff gavels them down.

7:26 AM · Nov 15, 2019



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Kyle Cheney ✓
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The hearing rules: 45 minutes for Schiff/counsel followed by 45 minutes for Nunes/counsel. No other members in this round.

Then 5 minutes for each member, alternating D and R.

The House voted these rules into effect last month.

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And as others have also figured out, this exercise was probably intended to circulate the idea that Democrats are bullying a Republican woman on the committee.




Jackie Kucinich 
@JFKucinich 

Or it's against the rules passed before this began. Chair +rankers + lawyers, then members. It was a stunt. twitter.com/GarrettVentry/...


7:29 AM · Nov 15, 2019 

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Daniel Dale 
@ddale8 


Why might the Republicans have made a show of trying to get Rep. Stefanik to speak even though that was clearly against the rules of the hearing? To get tweets like this circulating in right-wing media:





Ryan Saavedra  @RealSaavedra

Adam Schiff's behavior toward Elise Stefanik is appalling

If a Republican did this the media and the Democrat Party would instantly accuse them of being sexist

8:19 AM · Nov 15, 2019 

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And, we might add, this was happening at the same time that the main witness at today's hearing, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch, was testifying about being subjected to her own right-wing smear campaign.