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## Sen. Cornyn defends Trump for calling COVID-19 the "Chinese virus"

by CBS Austin

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Senator John Cornyn (R-Texas). (Sinclair Broadcast Group)



President Trump is continuing to call COVID-19 the "Chinese virus." When questioned about the phrase on Wednesday, Trump said it's simply "what it is."

"It's not racist at all -- no. It comes from china," he said. "I have great love from all of the people for our country. China tried to say at one point it was caused by American soldiers. That can't happen."

When asked if that phrase could create stigma against Asian-Americans, Trump said no. He says he thinks they would agree with him.

Senator John Cornyn (R-Texas) is defending the president, saying he does not believe the phrase is racist.

Cornyn says he does believe China is to blame -- mostly because of its eating habits.

"The culture where people eat bats, and snakes and dogs and things like that -- these viruses are transmitted from the animal to the people and that's why China's been the source of a lot of these viruses -- like SARs, like MERs, like Swine Flu -- and now the coronavirus, so I think they have a fundamental problem," Cornyn said.



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