

William F. Marquardt, III
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January 13, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Gov. Haley:

Your response to President Obama was delivered elegantly; however, I am deeply disappointed by the following remarks in your speech:

“It can be tempting to follow the siren call of the angriest voices. We must resist that temptation. No one who is willing to work hard, abide by our laws, and love our tradition, should ever feel unwelcome in this country.”

When I heard these words, they immediately struck me as a swipe at Donald Trump. When you, or anyone, takes a swipe at Mr. Trump, **his supporters feel it is a slap in the face at themselves.** Your remarks offend a significant portion of the U.S. population.

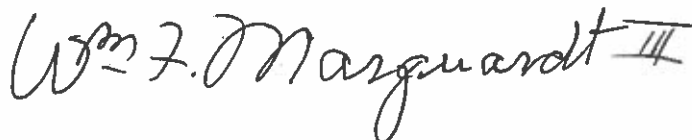
The pundits, also, were unequivocal in their feelings that your remarks were an intended swipe at Trump. It is inappropriate for you in your role of delivering the Republican response to hint at favoritism or disfavoritism toward any Republican presidential candidate. If your remarks were not intended as a reference to Trump, you need to publicly clarify that your remarks in no way were made with Donald Trump in mind. **Without a clarification, my impression of you will be irreparably damaged.**

Trump would strongly agree that, “No one who is willing to work hard, abide by our laws, and love our tradition, should ever feel unwelcome in this country.” Many immigrants, however, are **not abiding by our laws (they came illegally) and some are criminals.** **Trump repeatedly states he wants immigrants to come;** but, he wants **law abiding** immigrants. I am not a believer that immigrants “can do no wrong.” We cannot turn a blind eye and “see no evil”.

A primary reason I strongly support Donald Trump is that I believe **Mr. Trump is the ONLY Republican who can win in November 2016.** I cannot picture any other Republican winning. Other Republican candidates either are too **young, uninspiring, or too conservative in social/religious views.** **They will not draw in independents needed to win in the general election.**

The avowed concern of the Republican “establishment” that Trump’s remarks about immigrants will harm the party is a “**red herring**”. The fear of the Republican establishment is that if Trump wins he will overthrow the establishment’s long held control of the party (the Club for Growth, among others). As a Republican for decades, frankly, **I think this would be a very good thing!**

Sincerely,



William F. Marquardt, III

CC: Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
Speaker Paul Ryan