

From: Office of the Governor Site Support
Sent: 7/16/2015 3:03:23 PM
To: Haley, Nikki
Cc:
Subject: Unite us not divide us

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Message:
July 16, 2015

Dear Governor Nikki Haley,

Though I agree that the battle flag (confederate flag) is best preserved in the State Museum, I do not appreciate your calling people who enjoy the history and the heritage of the South "racist" and saying they have "pure hate" in their hearts. I think it was wrong because you have indirectly defamed their character as a group and individuals without evidence.

For example, the Sons of Confederate Veterans have an anti-racism policy that will expel any person from the group who expresses racism. I know one member who has two grand children who are African American (and this man is "white"). He loves those babies with all of his heart along with their mother. He holds no ill towards any race. Your comments have sparked a trend of hate towards men like this gentleman. You were wrong for blaming and punishing this group and these individual members with your accusations. You need to read their policies and publicly apologize to them.

Though I believe that the flag might offend many people who are ignorant of the history and heritage, and even those who are aware but are taught that the flag is a symbol of hate and racism. I have talked with several "black" people, and there are mixed views.

Now, I have asked many, many people about the KKK and the Black Panthers. I have asked black, white, and Hispanics their views on both groups. All of those that I asked (52 persons) stated one of the following:

- 1) They are both hate groups.
- 2) They both need to go.
- 3) They both are racist groups.
- 4) They both have the Constitutional Right to protest, but they should never be allowed to harm people.
- 5) The pointed little hats need to go.

One African American male who was a former police chief in Mississippi said, "I am against any group with evil in their hearts and a goal of killing people." Black Panthers chant "Kill whites" and "Kill cops."

I read your post on your FB page about KKK, but you said absolutely nothing about the Black Panthers. Both groups are haters and racist. Why can you just say it? Why are you attacking only "white" people?

That is just as racist as the KKK and Black Panthers--attacking just one and not the other for their racism and evil intentions.

Please, please do not get sucked into this division of races. At this point, we need to unite. Dylan Roof was a hateful sick man, and he deserves to be punished. So please, please try uniting South Carolina.

Maybe you could first start by apologizing to the Sons of Confederate Veterans for defaming their character without evidence. You made horrible assumptions. You don't know these people, and you have harmed every one of them.

And when this country starts acting like the terrorist ISIS by removing monuments and erasing history, we have a serious violation of our freedoms and violating this country and our history. And please, please, stop being scared of the Black Panthers.

Please stop using the death of the nine for political gain. Please, it is so wrong. You might gain more respect if you show respect for all groups that are good people. The Sons of Confederate Veterans are a group of good people. Isn't your husband a Veteran or in the military? I have many Veterans in my family. Some who were in Vietnam. Some would argue that that war was wrong--killing of innocent people. Should we defame their character? No. Should we remove it from our history? No.

Respectfully,
Camille Myers