

Dear Governor Haley,

The Junior Beta Club of Dutch Fork Middle School is leading the Hate Won't Win Campaign. As you know, the Charleston shooting happened last summer, and it made a huge impact on South Carolina. Yet, the event has inspired us. Reverend Simmons, one of the victims of the Charleston shooting, had a granddaughter, Alana Simmons. Alana essentially started the entire movement. Even though something so tragic happened to her and her family with the loss of Reverend Simmons, they chose to fight hate instead of trying to take some form of revenge against the shooter. She is showing us that hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can drive out hate. We at Dutch Fork Middle School want to show that hate truly won't win, and that we could accept any race, gender, religious belief, economical situation, or sexuality, and have accepted the Hate Won't Win Challenge.

Personally, to us, it is very disappointing that there are people in America today that would go as far as killing innocent people to show their hate. It shows that there is still negativity and segregation lurking in the darker corners of America. They would attack at the most unexpected events.

It is even more disappointing that people will push others to commit acts like suicide or self-harm because of things like bullying because of race, gender, economic situation, religion, or sexuality. This is a problem that should be addressed.

The main goal of Hate Won't Win is to put an end to hate, negativity, and segregation. All it has done is hurt us and it hasn't fully solved any problems whatsoever. It has only made problems grow bigger than we may be able to handle. We want to be the generation that puts an end to all segregation. We want to make this campaign big and we want everybody to know about it nationwide. We want the country to say 'Hate Won't Win,' and truly mean every word that they say. We want the world to be a kinder place for everyone, no matter their race, gender, sexuality, religion, or economic situation, to live in.

We would love for you to come to our special Hate Won't Win evening event to come speak on February 18th or February 25th at 6:00 PM.

If you are unable to come at either of those times but would love to come speak, please contact the Beta Club sponsor at Dutch Fork Middle School, Mrs. Lori Wenzinger, at 803-476-4800 or lwenzinger@lexrich5.org. If you would like, we also have a Facebook page for Hate Won't Win at <https://www.facebook.com/Hate-Wont-Win-DFMS-1505934303038163/timeline/>.

Thank you,

Chloe & Nya, members of Junior Beta Club at DFMS

Dear Governor Nikki Haley,

The Dutch Fork Middle School Junior Beta Club would gladly invite you to join us on February 18th or 25th at 6:00pm to come enjoy our Hate Won't Win gallery. Our school is leading the Hate Won't Win movement because the Charleston attack at the AME Church showed us that racism, anti-Semitism, bullying, and prejudice WILL NOT WIN! Everyone of those families were strong, so now DFMS wants to make a change! At the gallery there will be art, music, and writing all about what Hate Won't Win means to us! We really hope you can join us!



Gracie R

Dear Governor Haley,

I am a seventh grader at Dutch Fork Middle School in Irmo, SC. This summer a lot of racially charged issues took place with the shooting at a historically black church in Charleston and the protest about the confederate flag.

For a while, I was even afraid to go to my own church, a predominately African American church because the man who did the shooting visited our church a few weeks earlier. Then one Sunday I went to church and a white man sat behind us and I was terrified but greeted and welcomed him anyway. It turns out that he was innocent and didn't bother us. My point is that it take small actions to get a community shaken up but it also takes a small action to get a community together.

That is what the Dutch Fork Middle School's BETA club is trying to do. We are trying to get the community to stop all the hate because no matter how much you hate someone it will not win when love is an option. Our theme is "Hate Won't Win" said by a young lady who lost her grandfather in the shooting at the church in Charleston. Many generations before us tried to fix it with the 13th and 14th amendment but it didn't work. Now it is our turn! So we will be having an evening exhibition to showcase student art work, literary pieces, and musical compositions written to support the theme, "Hate Won't Win." We want to get the community excited about the generation that lives without hate! I know a lot of adults and kids would be encouraged to love more if they see GOVERNOR HALEY at our "Hate Won't Win" February event. I know I would! So please contact the lovely lady who is in charge of all of this, Ms. Wenzinger at 803-476-4800. Her email is lwenzinger@lexrich5.org. You may also contact me at 021870@sd5lrc.org or my mom at vernellandgirls@gmail.com.

Let us be the generation that replaces hate with love!

Sincerely,

Norah Dixon

<https://www.facebook.com/Hate-Wont-Win-DFMS-1505934303038163/timeline/>

Dear Governor Nikki Haley,

I know you get many letters a day for many reasons. But I hope that you read this one specifically. My name is Maya. I am from Dutch Fork Middle School. I am writing this letter to you to inform you about the movement we are starting. It is called Hate Won't Win. I was wondering if you could stop by for two days to talk about it. After the Charleston 9 attack, we have started saying we won't judge, or do anything hurtful to someone who is different than us. This movement will hopefully have a huge impact in the society to end all of the discrimination. Hate Won't Win is especially personal to me because I was judged at a very young age. When I was in elementary school people always told me I was adopted and made fun of me because I didn't look like my parents and my brother. I went to a mainly white school, and I didn't like being different and being made fun of. Until I was about 9 years old I always tried ways to be normal in their point of view, instead of being myself. I was lighter skinned than them, and back then I didn't know how to deal with this. This made a huge impact on me. I convinced myself that I was adopted for a couple of years and that was hard. I hope nobody else has to think that and try to change themselves because people think they know you better than you know yourself. At the moment we are about to start a literary and art contest based off of Hate Won't Win. We are holding a special evening event in February to highlight our "Hate Won't Win" Literary and Art contest winners. I was hoping you would be able to take some time off and come down here and speak as our special guest speaker on one of the following nights. We have two events one on February 18th and one on the 25th at around 6:00 p.m that is based on Hate Won't Win. But if you can't make it on either of those days you could contact the sponsor of this movement Mrs. Wenzinger we could set up a different time for you to come speak. You can contact her at either LWenzinger@lexrich5.org or (803)476-4800.

Thank you,

Maya

Were responses?
sent to these?
mrg

Dear Governor Haley,

My name is Allie, and I am in the 8th grade at Dutch Fork Middle School in Irmo, South Carolina. This year at Dutch Fork we are leading a campaign for the "Hate Won't Win" movement created by Alana Simmons, whose grandfather died in the Charleston Shooting. This movement has really inspired me to show acts of kindness everywhere I go. When people are bullied or put down for things they can't help, like how they look or what they believe in, it makes me want to make a change in this world and show that it's okay to be different. Everyone is different in their own way and this movement will help people to see that. People have to understand that tearing someone down to make them look strong and powerful, just makes them a bully and someone who spreads hate for no reason but self-enjoyment. We hope to beat hate and intolerance by spreading love throughout not just our school, but the whole United States. We are encouraging everyone to take the pledge. We need your help to make this happen. We need to spread the word so we can beat racism, anti-Semitism, bullying, and prejudice. We would like to invite you to our school on February 18th or February 25th at 6:00pm to be a special guest speaker at our event to highlight the winners of a literary and art contest we are holding. If you cannot make it on one of those two days, please contact our leader for this movement, Mrs. Lori Wenzinger, at 803-476-4800 so you can arrange another date and time. Dutch Fork Middle School challenges you to take the pledge. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Allie E

