

Governor Nikki Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

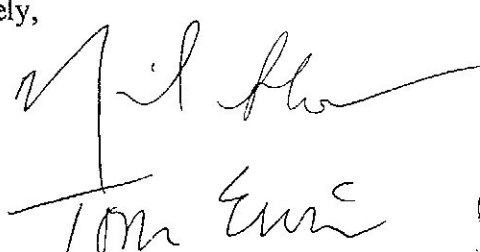
At South Carolina's second gubernatorial debate each candidate was asked a simple question about domestic violence: "Should the state make it easier for police to keep firearms out of the hands of convicted domestic violence offenders?" In response to the question, you said that perpetrators of domestic violence should be armed, stating you supported restrictions only for the mentally ill but not "for everybody else."

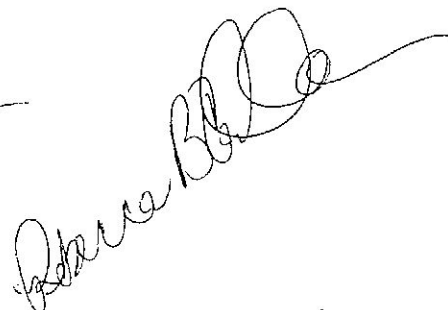
You said that domestic violence in South Carolina is a "cultural and generational issue," leaving all to wonder what you meant; your response demands clarification.

There are 36,000 incidents of domestic violence each year in South Carolina. We are ranked second in the nation for deaths of women at the hands of men with a large majority of those deaths stemming from criminal domestic violence. Governor Haley, you have abandoned our state's women. A recent poll shows that more than 80% of South Carolinians support removing firearms from those convicted of criminal domestic violence.

Despite attempts by your paid political consultants to walk back your statement, we know your position and it is irresponsible. We are calling for you to explain your "cultural" reference and publicly acknowledge that you are changing your position to support removing firearms from criminal domestic violence offenders

Sincerely,

  
Tom Emmer

  
Sarah Moore

Sarah Moore

  
Stacy Fisher

  
Julie Merrett

  
Anita Young