

March 11, 2016

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

Dear Mrs.Haley,

As an American born and raised in an ethnic Indian family, I have always seen you as a role model. Not only are you the first woman governor of South Carolina, but also the second Indian-American to represent our nation politically. You are a pride to Indians as well as to the people of South Carolina, after all you won against Larry Kohn, who was the longest serving member in the House of Representatives election at that time.

My name is Dhruvi Contractor, I attend Niceville High School, and I am highly considering a future representing our amazing country through politics. As an AP/honors student, athlete, and person capable of change who has grown up in a mix of two cultures, I want to make a change in our country without having to change myself, my culture, or my religion. Many Indians like Aziz Ansari, Bobby Jindal, and yourself have had to deal with racial slurs during your reigns and paths to success. I was wondering: With such a diverse background behind you, how did you overcome any racial slurs that were hurled your way to become the strong-willed leader you are today?

You're an inspiration to many young American Indians like myself. Powerful women like you let us young Indian women dream, you let us think that we are capable of way more than we believe. Growing up, I always told my parents I wanted to be like Nikki Haley, they would laugh and nod their head thinking I was joking, but you are the one who says "we [have] the opportunity to do anything, to be anything, as long as we were willing to work for it". Your single response could confirm this and make me more confident that, I too, can change the world just like you.

Sincerely,



Dhruvi Contractor

Niceville High School

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