



July 27, 2010

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Mr. Hilary O. Shelton  
Senior Vice President  
NAACP  
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Dear Mr. Shelton:

I thank you for your statement on the July 17 edition of "Geraldo At Large" that the NAACP will issue a statement condemning the use of racial and other slurs to denigrate me because I am an outspoken black female conservative.

I hope that the NAACP will extend this condemnation to all such slurs directed against black conservatives.

From the family dinner table to the Fox News Channel, any black American faces potential denigration if they hold conservative beliefs. While I have grown a thick skin to the jibes and epithets, we all should declare that these often racist and sexist slurs have no rightful place in our nation's political debate.

That is why I am so pleased that you extended the NAACP's support to help dissuade others from engaging in this grotesque behavior.

As you requested during our exchange on "Geraldo at Large," I will list some of the more offensive comments over the past few years that single out members of Project 21 for abuse based on our race and our beliefs.

Allow me to note that these are not all just the taunts of random troublemakers. Take, for instance, a post from the popular web site of Oliver Willis, who works for Media Matters for America. In a February 10, 2009 attack on me and Project 21, Willis posted that I am "selling out black people while using my own race to do so" and that "black con[servative] punditry is a modern minstrel show."

In the April 8, 2010 edition of the Philadelphia Sunday Sun, a column by Wendell P. Simpson entitled "Project 21 - House Negroes Stand Up for the Tea Partiers" states:

Project 21 wants to be the only Negro on the block. It defines its situation by its associations with the so-called superior class. It is not embarrassed by it's [sic] status as token, and it does not rue its role as quisling. It is a willing concubine of the devil."

While that just about says it all, e-mails sent to me and to Project 21 as well as comments posted on YouTube and elsewhere regularly call me and other Project 21 members "Uncle Tom," "Auntie Tom," "Sambo", "house negro," "treasonous," "black tea-bagging ni\*\*er," "sell out," "retarded," "hypocritical," "coon," "Stepin Fetchit," and a "modern day mammy," "despicable piece of garbage," "black cancer" and "black bitch."

Here is one very personal attack on me that arrived via e-mail last weekend:

Please do something with your hair, every time I see you on TV, you look like a NAPPY HEADED W\_\_RE. You are an embarrassment to all black women. Please do not [let] Don Imus see you.  
(petaud@verizon.net, July 17, 2010)

While something such as this might be laughed off, some e-mails are violent and threatening. For example:

I HOPE THE NEXT NOOSE WILL BE AROUND YOU ARE [sic] ONE OF YOUR COLLEGES [sic] NECK, AND HANGING FROM A TREE IN THE TOWN SQUARE.  
(alexas44@aol.com, November 19, 2007)

You faggot niggas need to be lynched by the Klan. I pray a nightrider strings up every one of you no count good for nothing niggas, it would serve you right for trying to think that these crackers love you. I hate a house nigga worse than I do a Klansman. Rot in hell you scurvy dogs. I would laugh to see your body strung up. It would save us real brothers the time and trouble to do it. (qatazapk@bellsouth.net, November 24, 2007)

As we both seek a more civil debate, I am sure you are as appalled by these statements and the many others like them as I am. And I once again want to thank you for your on-air agreement on July 17 that the NAACP will specifically condemn the slurs made against me because I am an outspoken black conservative woman. We very much appreciate having the weight and prestige of the NAACP behind an effort to stop this unwarranted, unfair and uncivil treatment of people based solely on their political beliefs and skin color.

I look forward to seeing the NAACP's condemnation.

Sincerely,



Deneen Borelli  
Fellow