
From: Julie Castaneda
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 12:03 PM
To: COB_mail
Subject: FW: Record of Public Comment

From: Bryna Koch [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 9:01 AM
To: District3 <District.3@pima.gov>; DIST2 <DIST.2@pima.gov>; District1 <District1@pima.gov>; District4 <District4@pima.gov>; District5 <District5@pima.gov>
Subject: Record of Public Comment

Good morning,

I made a public comment at the 9/5/2017 and wanted to provide the written comment on which I based my verbal comment in writing to the Board.

I would like to directly address Supervisor Millers reaction to the white supremacist and racist actions and violence that occurred in Charlottesville. In the light of neo-nazis and the KKK marching in broad daylight, beating people, and murdering a young woman by driving a car into her, the idea that Supervisor Miller thinks the appropriate response is that she was "sick and tired of being hit for being white... It is all about making us feel like we need to apologize. I am WHITE—and proud of it! No apologies necessary" is more than shocking and has no place in our community.

Her statement shows a lack of empathy and moral compass regarding the appropriate response to white-supremacist violence...which is to condemn white supremacist beliefs and violence wherever it occurs.

Her statement also demonstrates she lacks the understanding of how structural racism continues to shape our social and political institutions. It shows she does not understand how structural racism at its core reflects the central belief of white supremacy, that some humans are worth less than other because of the way they look. It shows she does not understand how colonial and white supremacist violence are part of the very founding of the state where she lives and continue to shape the reality for communities in our state. She is not qualified to serve in her current capacity if she does not understand these facts.

As a white person I am here to tell you what you said is unacceptable, it is an insult to the principles of equality, justice and fairness.

The movement for equality and justice is about building a society where all people regardless of skin color, national origin, religion, sexual preference or gender identity are treated equally under the law, by our community and social institutions. The fact that Supervisor Miller thinks equality for everyone is a threat to her whiteness tells me all I need to know, that she only serves one part of our community, and I will not stand for that.

Supervisor Miller, you don't need to apologize for being white. In fact, no one, anywhere, has asked you to do that.

You need to condemn white supremacist beliefs and violence. You need to commit as an elected official to equality and justice by addressing structural racism. You need to commit to serving all the constituents of Pima County in an equal and just manner. If you can't do that then you should step down.

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Bryna Koch
