

National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.®

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For Immediate Release
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The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Respond to President Trump Statement about Countries of Color

To Members and Community Partners,

“If you are silent about your pain, they'll kill you and say you enjoyed it.”

--Zora Neale Hurston

Last Thursday, during a meeting with members of Congress focused on immigration reform, and in reference to the fact that immigrants from places like El Salvador, Haiti, and countries in Africa were being protected in a potential bipartisan deal to preserve the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, the President of the United States referred to particular black and brown countries as “shitholes.” The comments were racist, vile, and hateful. They were also consistent with many of President Trump’s previous actions, including his refusal to denounce hate groups in Charlottesville, VA, his anti-Muslim Ban, and the continuous disparaging remarks made about African Americans and Mexicans during his campaign and since being elected. To make such comments at a time when we are celebrating the life and service of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is beyond insulting. The continuous maligning of Black communities, regardless of immigration status, is unacceptable.

The women of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. (NCBW) are bold, action-oriented, and irrepressible. We take personal offense to President Trump’s vulgar and racially-charged statements, as many of our members in the United States are descendants from Haiti and various African countries.

Please join me in contacting your congressional representatives to express your dismay over President Trump’s latest comments. There is no gray area here. Silence is complicity. We must not sit on the sidelines and allow this President’s words to go unchallenged. When communicating with your elected officials, express outrage with a political system that is silent in the face of hate and falsehoods. Also, I encourage our public policy committees to stay engaged with our elected officials and provide accurate updates on current political and civic issues.

As members of NCBW, we can affect change. Will you join me?

In the spirit of impactful advocacy,

Virginia W. Harris, National President

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