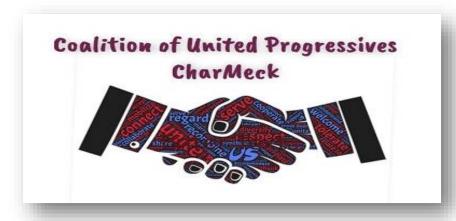
## THE COALITION OF UNITED PROGRESSIVES CHARMECK CHRONICLE



## Greetings!

We truly appreciate everyone's involvement.

This War on Oppression will only be won as one mass movement.

## **Sections**

- Spotlight by DonnaMarie Woodson
  - Editorial by Tarik Kiley
    - Announcements
    - Happenings Gallery!

## **Our Mission Statement**

The continual unification of as many organizations as possible starting at the local level and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation.

## **Spotlight**

## Michael Moore's Documentary - Fahrenheit 11/9



By
DonnaMarie Woodson

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck

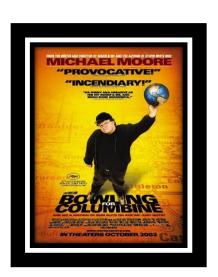
Michael Moore's latest documentary, <u>Fahrenheit 11/9</u>, premiered on September 6, 2018 and is an engaging, blood boiling film about the outrageous 2016 Presidential Election and the subsequent horrifying Presidency of Donald J. Trump.

The film explores two questions: How the US progressed to the Trump presidency and how to "get out" of the era of the Trump administration.

Fahrenheit 11/9 Trailer (click on)



I've been a big fan of Michael Moore since one of his earliest films, <u>Bowling</u> for Columbine. This heartbreaking film examines the causes of the <u>Columbine</u> High School massacre and overall gun culture of the United States. It won the Academy Award forBest Documentary Feature.



After screening Fahrenheit 11/9, (titled for the day Trump's presidential win was announced) I asked my husband how he felt about the film. His response was: "I agree with some critics that

Moore does NOT lay out his solution to the problem." I totally disagreed and laid out my argument.

Comparing Trump to Hitler is controversial but, the similarities are uncanny. For instance, Moore highlights a piece of film footage of Hitler rallying his supporters



with Trump's rhetoric as the voiceover. Frighteningly interchangeable. Same over the top speech and cult of personality crowds.

Trump wants an <u>Autocracy</u>; him ruling with uncontrolled and unlimited authority. <u>He demonstrates this by:</u>

- Delegitimizing the Press, "Fake News". Followers only believe what he says.
- Dehumanizing immigrants to justify separating babies from their mothers and putting them in cages. Convincing his followers to believe these people deserve it; they're a threat to our country. (Caravans of immigrants)

An eye-opening "ah ha" moment in the film is a historical reference to a Jewish Berlin paper as well as the New York Times reporting, "It's just rhetoric; he (Hitler) won't actually do those things." Just campaigning.

## **Sound familiar?**

#### **Moore's Solution?**

<u>Change the paradigm</u> - America has yet to live up to its ideals, so, now is the time for "We the People" to step up and reject the current state of our Democracy by re-engaging in the process.



## **VOTE!!!**

## Film examples:

• West Virginia Teacher's Strike - These courageous and fed up



teachers went out on their own when the Union wasn't onboard. They proved it could be done and encouraged other states to stand up. Most importantly, WON

their demands for higher pay for all West Virginia teachers!

 Parkland Students - These young students created a far-reaching network using social media to organize and register voters. They also went on a road tour speaking with a myriad of people including those they didn't think would agree with them. They

were
pleasantly
surprised
finding
common
ground on
basic gun
control
legislation.





At the film's world premiere in Toronto, Moore appeared onstage with survivors of the February shooting rampage at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Michael Moore

"After seeing this movie, after seeing everything on screen, and seeing the part that we played in this narrative, a lot needs to change, a lot needs to happen, and a lot just needs to get better," said student Ryan Deitsch.

When an audience member called out that Deitsch's generation could be labeled "the generation of hope," Moore replied, "I'm against hope. What we need is the generation of action."

#### **CALL TO ACTION:**

- Talk to people face to face, don't assume you won't agree on anything.
- Reframe what's at stake in terms of our fragile Democracy.
- Engage in the process.

## **VOTE!!!!!**

Fahrenheit 11/9 took inspiration from the students at Marjory Douglas Stone High School, and the power of Determination and Perseverance from the striking teachers in West Virginia.

For me, Moore's message was we can change the direction of our country and put the power back where it belongs - with the people.

To quote Variety Magazine reviewer Owen Gleiberman,

"It's a warning. It says, quite wisely: Take action now, or you may no longer have the opportunity to do so."

#### **Works Cited:**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fahrenheit\_11/9

https://www.dw.com/en/fahrenheit-11-9-michael-moores-latest-film-is-a-call-to-action/a-45458833

## **Editorial**

# Is Mr. Trump Encouraging Political Violence? By Tarik Kiley October 25, 2018



Someone has sent bombs to top
Democrats and critics of the Trump
Administration. Now, it may seem that this political violence has come out of nowhere,

but has Mr. Trump been fanning the flames of political violence all along?

According to Andrew Restuccia and Gabby Orr of "Politico", Mr.

Trump has been encouraging political violence for some time now.

"President Donald Trump once suggested that 'Second Amendment people' could take matters into their own hands if Hillary Clinton won the election and stacked the courts with anti-gun judges.

In 2016, he encouraged the roughing-up of protesters at his campaign rallies. Last year, Trump tweeted a video of himself tackling a man with a CNN logo superimposed across his face, adding the hashtag #FraudNewsCNN. And just last week, he made light of a Republican Congressman who was convicted of assault for body-slamming a

reporter." This does not even begin to scratch the surface of his xenophobic rhetoric against brown-skinned immigrants, migrants and asylum seekers. Again, the question is asked, does Mr. Trump's words and actions incite violence?



Well, recently, he sought to speak as if he is a bipartisan leader who denounces political violence. He spoke against the demonization of political opponents—that your political opponents should not be cast as "morally defective." This is

coming from the mouth of the same man who suggested that Hillary Clinton should be locked up in jail, while he was on the campaign trail.

For the last couple of years, Mr. Trump's rhetoric has encouraged political violence against opponents, and now, it seems a little more than coincidental that the very same people who have criticized Mr. Trump, are the same ones who are receiving bombs in the mail.

In fact, Mr. Trump's rhetoric has not served to unite anyone at all. He

is one of the most divisive presidents that the USA has ever known. He divides people along racial, religious, socioeconomic and gender lines. According



to Rebecca Ballhaus and Vivian Salama of the Wall Street Journal, "Top Democrats said Mr. Trump's comments [of bipartisan sentiment]

fell short. In a joint statement, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of California and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer of New York said, "Mr. Trump's words 'ring hollow' unless he reverses his statements that condone acts of violence." In other words, Mr. Trump's sudden bipartisan sentiment, seems to lack sincerity.



Lastly, I
would also
note the lack
of civility and
integrity
which seems
to have
become a
hallmark of
Mr. Trump's

administration. When the free press can be called "fake news", and violent neo-Nazi demonstrators, in Charlottesville, VA and non-violent protestors can be said to be morally equivalent, then I would say that not only does Mr. Trump's sudden bipartisan sentiment lack sincerity, but it also lacks truthfulness.

#### **Works Cited**

https://www.politico.com/story/2018/10/24/trump-political-violence-packages-936274

https://www.wsj.com/articles/democrats-criticize-trumps-past-rhetoric-on-violence-after-bomb-scares-1540419853

https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/25/nyregion/bomb-explosive-device.html

## **Announcements**



## **Democrats of N. Mecklenburg Monthly Meeting**

Thursday, November 1st, 2018 7:00 PM

MAGNOLIA WOODS

12125 STATESVILLE ROAD

HUNTERSVILLE, NC 28078

(SHARED DRIVEWAY WITH CAROLINA VETERINARY SPECIALISTS)

CLICK HERE TO RSVP

## **March to the Polls - BLOCK PARTY**

Hosted by Black Business Owners of Charlotte
Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 – 5:00 PM
Hal Marshall
700 North Tryon
Charlotte, NC 28202
RSVP on Facebook

## **Announcements**



## **Mecklenburg County Dems Election Night Watch Party**

Hosted by Young Democrats of Mecklenburg County
Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 – 11:00 PM
Slate Charlotte
200 E. Bland St.
Charlotte, NC 28203

## **Community Input Forum on the New West Charlotte HS**

Hosted by West Charlotte High School
Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 6 PM – 8 PM
West Charlotte High School
2219 Senior Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28216

## **North Mecklenburg Progressives Monthly Dinner**

Monday, November 12th, 2018 at 6:30 PM Famous Toastery
12715 Conner Dr., Huntersville

(Off Gilead, in front of Earthfare)

RSVP – Email: n.meck.progressives@gmail.com

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck

## **Announcements**



## **School to Prison Pipeline**

Race Matters for Juvenile Justice

Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

McClintock Middle School

1925 Rama Rd, Charlotte, NC 28212

## **Is Education the New Civil Right?**

Hosted by CLT Westside Education Think Tank
Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 – 8:00 PM
Movement School
2701 Freedom Drive
Charlotte, NC 28208



Please submit your group events to <u>donnamarie93@gmail.com</u> by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the Announcements.

## **Happenings Gallery**



## "Break the Majority" Charlotte Office Grand Opening

(DonnaMarie Woodson, Congresswoman Alma Adams, Tarik Kiley, Anita Earls)

## **The Executive Corner:**

**Executive Director - Jade X. Jackson** 

Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson

**Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle** 

**Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson** 

**Contributor: Tarik Kiley** 

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