

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

“Dream of a Lifetime!”



By
DonnaMarie Woodson

Growing up in Detroit Michigan I was surrounded by activists in my community. I loved watching the Democratic National Convention and was in awe of the people on the floor of the arena with their



funny hats and signs for their candidate. “Wow, how do you get to do that?” I asked and sixty years later I found out and believe me, the experience did not disappoint!

With a message of Love, Peace and Unity, VP Harris reminded us that we are all Americans, forget blue or red, let’s focus on community and how we can uplift us all! Hate and division has

weighed on us for far too long. It’s a new day and a new way to embrace the best of this country and the best of us!

“With this election, our nation has a precious, fleeting opportunity to move past the bitterness, cynicism, and divisive battles of the past,” she said. “A chance to chart a new way forward. Not as members of any one party or faction, but as Americans.” VP Kamala Harris



This DNC Convention was unlike any other in the history of Democratic politics. The energy and enthusiasm that came through the televisions of millions of people across the country, infused a light of celebration and reclamation of our spirit as a Party of inclusion and servants of the American People!

As I slowly turned to take in the emotions and humanity in the arena, I felt the sense of hope and understanding that it was the dawning of a new day. We laughed and we cried, knowing the power of each and every one of us as citizens of the USA that our Votes Matter! We have the power to create the society that we want to live in. Not just for ourselves, but for our neighbors. Because without that hope and commitment, the promise of America dies.

But, together, with our myriad Voices and our Votes, we can achieve that better life – and, to quote our 44th President Barack Obama –

“Si se Puede!”

YES, WE CAN!!

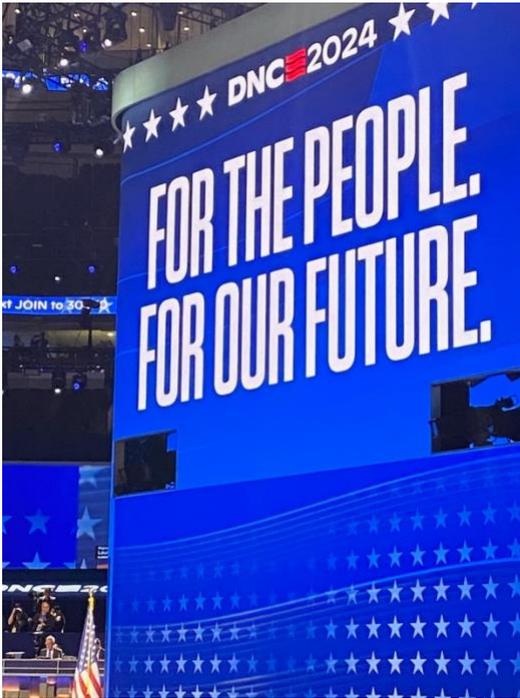
Now let's get to work because “When We Fight, We Win!”

To Volunteer:

**<https://web.kamalaharris.com/forms/take-action-for-kamala-harris>
<https://www.mobilize.us/ncvictory2024/>**

Work Cited:

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/read-kamala-harris-full-speech-at-the-democratic-national-convention-2>



Editorial

Words are Power: Analyzing the DNC 2024 Speech of Former First Lady Michelle Obama

By

Tarik Kiley

8/25/2024



The Democratic National Convention 2024 was a powerful one. From DJ Cassidy playing music to hype up the crowd during roll call, to the diversity, and eloquence of the speakers, this convention hit differently.

And, while many speakers spoke eloquently, one speech stuck out in my memory as particularly powerful. This was the speech of Former First Lady Michelle Obama.

First of all, she spoke of the familiarity of hope!

In her words, she says, “Something, something wonderfully magical is in the air, isn’t it? Yeah. You know, we’re feeling it



here in this arena, but it’s spreading all across this country we love. A familiar feeling that’s been buried too deep for far too long. You know what I’m talking about. It’s the contagious power of hope, the anticipation, the energy, the exhilaration of once again being on the cusp of a brighter day. The

chance to vanquish the demons of fear, division, and hate that have consumed us and continue pursuing the unfinished promise of this great nation. The dream that our parents and grandparents fought and died and sacrificed for. America, hope is making a comeback.”

This is an important distinction to make, because while the USA has had some dark hours, hope and progress have always been a part of the American lexicon. The establishment of the United States of America was within itself, a grand experiment based in hope. At the time of the founding of the federal government, based on representative democracy, the majority of the governments in the world were notably authoritarian.

So, American society has continually been one of progress. For every step backwards, Americans have worked hard to take us many more steps ahead. This is noted by the fact that the USA has always been a place of invention.

Think of all the innovations that have come about in the USA because of our ability to allow people to think for themselves. Whether talking about Benjamin Franklin’s invention of the lightning rod in 1752, that brought about the use of electricity, or the supercomputer invented by Cray Research, Inc., in 1975, which ushered in the Information Age, the USA has always been a place of innovation. And, you cannot have innovation or invention without hope.



Mrs. Obama also speaks on how our history is full of people who have given us examples on how to behave morally.

She says, “The last time I was here in my hometown was to memorialize my mother, the woman who showed me the meaning of hard work and humility and decency. The woman who set my moral compass high and showed me the power of my own voice. Folks, I still feel her loss so profoundly. I wasn’t even sure if I’d be steady enough to stand before you tonight, but my heart compelled me to be here because of the sense of duty that I feel to honor her memory and to remind us all not to squander the sacrifices our elders made to give us a better future.”

When examining the history of the USA, there are examples of movements towards a greater morality, and a trend to fight against evil. While evil has shown its ugly head in many societies, the USA has had examples of great morality that has shaped the views and actions of younger generations.



Some of these actions include the Emancipation Proclamation, which abolished slavery, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibited

discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, and Women's Suffrage, which gave women the right to vote through the passage of the 19th amendment to the US Constitution. These and other actions have kept younger generations looking towards a better future and expecting more from their government and their society.

Also, Mrs. Obama noted the promise of America when it comes to immigrants. She noted that America is made of many cultures and many people. In so many words, she explains the idea of “e pluribus unum, the motto which means “one out of many.” Mrs. Obama explains, “Kamala Harris and I built our lives on those same foundational values. Even though our mothers grew up an ocean apart, they shared the same belief in the promise of this country.”

To give this quote context, Mrs. Obama had been elaborating on the values that her mother instilled in her, including the Golden Rule, loving your neighbor, and the work ethic. Mrs. Obama here quite brilliantly paints the picture that some values are universal, and that the USA is indeed a place of values. This is evident in its embrace of all humanity. This statement here humanizes immigrants and shows the decency we need to display towards all people.

Mrs. Obama then emphasizes the point that Kamala Harris’s mother also had values, simply as a human being would. She says, “She [Kamala Harris’s mother would] often tell her daughter: “Don’t sit around and complain about things. Do something.” This is important. As Americans, it is not enough to complain. The people of America have to act to bring about the progress and hope that so many of us believe in. For example, gun violence in schools has to be tackled through action, as thoughts and prayers are just not enough.



Additionally, this speech talks about the American Dream. It speaks about the meritocracy that we were all taught about in k-12 education. Mrs. Obama continues, “She [Kamala Harris] is one of the most qualified people ever to seek the office of

the presidency. And she is one of the most dignified—a tribute to her mother, to my mother, and to your mother too. The embodiment of the stories we tell ourselves about this country.

Her story is your story. It’s my story. It’s the story of the vast majority of Americans trying to build a better life.” The American Dream is one of building a better life for oneself and one’s family. It also includes leaving behind a greater country than the one you were born into.

So many people have fought to build a just, progressive, hopeful and decent society in the USA. No one has any claim to being more American than others. Mrs. Obama notes that no one has “a monopoly on what it means to be an American.” This is interesting, because many Americans are told that we don’t belong by some.



For example, White Nationalists try to claim that America is a White, Christian Country. This is so off putting because people of all ethnicities

have worked hard to build this country. Whether you talk about the free labor of Black people for hundreds of years, or people of Chinese descent building the railroads, no one group can claim to be more American than the others. The opportunity that America promises, is one based in meritocracy, as all ethnicities have contributed to this country.

The idea here is that all Americans need to work towards preserving our meritocracy. This is significant because the wealthy have had an advantage that many people do not have. Mrs. Obama speaks of the “affirmative action of generational wealth.” So many people who are wealthy, tend to claim that they are self-made. They don’t consider the privileges that they have had, where many Americans don’t have the same privileges.



Some of the wealthy also blame the poor for poverty. But the wealthy also need to act too. The wealthy need to “do something” too. They need to have a moral compass and act in recognition of the Golden Rule, loving their neighbor, and also the work ethic.

It is not enough for the poor to work towards a hopeful future, but for the wealthy to do so, too.

As Mrs. Obama says, “Going small is never the answer.” If anything, Kamala Harris’s presidential campaign is an example of how big we can become, in terms of us having big hearts and understanding the merit that we can find in those who continue to work to build the USA into what it was truly envisioned to be.

Works Cited

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<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/list-of-american-inventions/>

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/telephone-technology-timeline/>

Announcements



Democrats of North Mecklenburg **Campaign Rally and Cookout--Sept. 7, 4 - 7 pm**

Free hotdogs and all the fixings
Live music and games.
Chance to meet the candidates and mingle
with your fellow Democrats in the Lake
Norman area!

Save the date and come and join us!
(RSVP below and tell us that you plan to attend
and if you are planning to bring any friends and
family.)

[RSVP democrats@demsofnorthmeck.org](mailto:democrats@demsofnorthmeck.org)
(We also need volunteers to help with this event, so
also let us know if you want to volunteer.)

Let's celebrate our great candidates as we
work for a Democratic victory in 2024!

Announcements



Democratic Women of North Carolina
DWNC 64th Annual Convention
Defend Democracy. Secure Our Rights:
Vote to Protect Our Future
September 13th-15th
Durham, NC

Full Convention Information on
Democraticwomenofnc.com



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

Happenings!



The D9 Gets It Done Everytime!

Canvass · Hosted by Mecklenburg County Democratic Party



Time
Saturday, September 7
10am – 12pm EDT

Location
8442 Kilmartin Ln
Charlotte, NC 28269

https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/673904/?referring_vol=51987&rname=DonnaMarie&share_context=event_details&share_medium=copy_link

The Executive Corner:

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Rev Glencie Rhedrick**

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