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# THE COALITION OF UNITED PROGRESSIVES CHARMECK CHRONICLE

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**Greetings!**

We truly appreciate everyone's involvement.  
This War on Oppression will only be won as one mass  
movement.

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## Sections

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## 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

## "Breathe In, Breathe Out"



## *"Under Pressure"*

By  
DonnaMarie Woodson

**I wrote about these stressful times back in 2021 in response to the madness of "that orange thing," here we are again,**



**having to go through this nightmare! In coping today, I believe it's even more critical for us to breathe, support one another, and embrace "Faith Over Fear."**

**We are, without question, living in alarming and fearful**

**times. You can't turn on the TV or log in to Facebook or Twitter/X without asking yourself, what kind of world are we living in?**

**That's why it's more critical now than ever to breathe in, breathe out, and focus on what's important to fight for and cherish in our lives.**

**Whenever I feel stressed or overwhelmed by life and the world events around me, I seek motivational affirmations and positive reinforcements to lift my spirits. It's so easy to get mired down in all the negative energy; however, pressing the pause button allows me to slow down and remind myself that how things turn out is directly proportional to my attitude.**



**David Bowie & Freddie Mercury – Click Photo  
for “Under Pressure” Video**

**Back in 1981, David Bowie and Freddie Mercury's lyrics  
were and remain so powerful and prophetic, summing up  
this life, our lives –**

### **"Under Pressure"**

*"Pressure pushing down on me  
Pressing down on you, no man ask for.  
Under pressure that burns a building down  
Splits a family in two  
Puts people on streets.*

*It's the terror of knowing what this world is about  
Watching some good friends screaming, "Let me  
out!"*

*Pray tomorrow gets me higher  
Pressure on people, people on streets..."*

**According to Jacob Uitti of American Songwriter –  
"The relief for this pressure? Love and togetherness—which  
is the example the song offers, the band creating, singing,  
and recording all together."**

**So, let's all pause, breathe, and hug our loved ones.**

***Breathing Exercise with Jay Shetty – "Calm"***

***Click on photo and...***



***Now Remember That:***

**When We Fight, We Win!**



**Works Cited:**

**<https://americansongwriter.com/the-meaning-behind-the-anxious-classic-rock-song-under-pressure-by-queen-and-david-bowie/>**

**[www.Livinginthemoment2015.com](http://www.Livinginthemoment2015.com)**

## Editorial

# A Nation of Immigrants

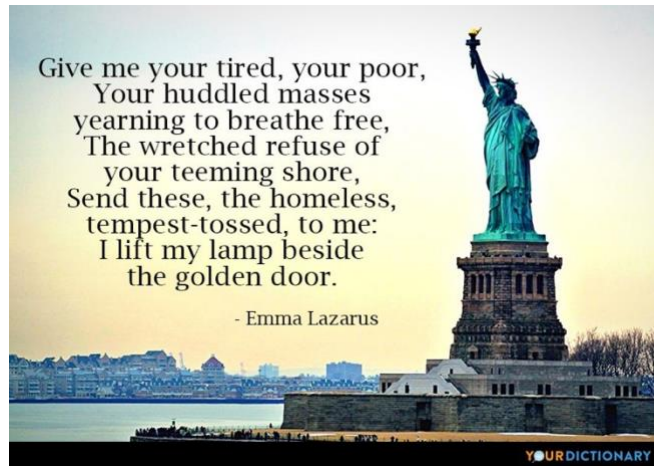
By  
Tarik Kiley  
10/24/2024



The current rhetoric against immigrants from Central and South American countries, as expressed by former

President Donald Trump, is not as unique and novel as it might seem. The idea of ethnic discrimination against immigrants has always lived beside the welcoming "melting pot" that the United States of America has proclaimed to be. The contrasting ideas of welcoming immigrants versus scapegoating and excluding immigrants have a very storied place in American history. The two views can be contrasted.

The idea of embracing immigrants can most easily be summed up in the inscription on the Statue of Liberty. This inscription is from a poem called "The New Colossus," written by Emma Lazarus. According to [britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com), "It remains a most moving and eloquent expression of an



**American ideal: "Give me your tired, your poor," the sonnet concludes, "Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, / The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. / Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost**

**to me, / I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" This particular poem celebrates the idea of E Pluribus Unum, or "Out of Many, One." This has also been exemplified by the idea of saying that the USA is a "melting pot" of cultures. These concepts essentially celebrate our heterogeneity.**

**However, the USA's heterogeneity has been questioned by former President Trump's rhetoric. He has called Haiti, El Salvador, and African countries s\*\*thole countries. It should be noted that these countries are made primarily of poor, brown people.**

**Former President Trump's status as a rich, White man comes into question here because his perspective on the poor is seen through the lens of wealth and White nationalism. His position on non-White immigrants to the USA is undoubtedly a reflection of his values.**



**But we have seen nationalistic sentiment in this country before. In the history books, when applied to foreign**



**policy, it was called "isolationism."**

**According to history.state.gov, "Isolationists advocated non-involvement in European and Asian**

**conflicts and non-entanglement in international politics."**

**This is important to note here because Trump's call to build a wall and have mass deportations of again, poor, brown people show a move away from internationalism and multiculturalism into an insular mentality.**

**Of course, at the time, the isolationists of the 1930s were impacted by the ever-present threat of war and the effects of economic hardship. Also, according to history.state.gov, "The reality of a worldwide economic depression and the need for increased attention to domestic problems only served to bolster the idea that the United States should isolate itself from troubling events in Europe."**

**Because of economic depression, one could see the move towards disconnection from the world stage. Unfortunately, though, isolationism led to the rejection of the USA's membership in the League of Nations. This type of thinking is exemplified in calls from Mr. Trump to withdraw from NATO and to cease foreign aid.**

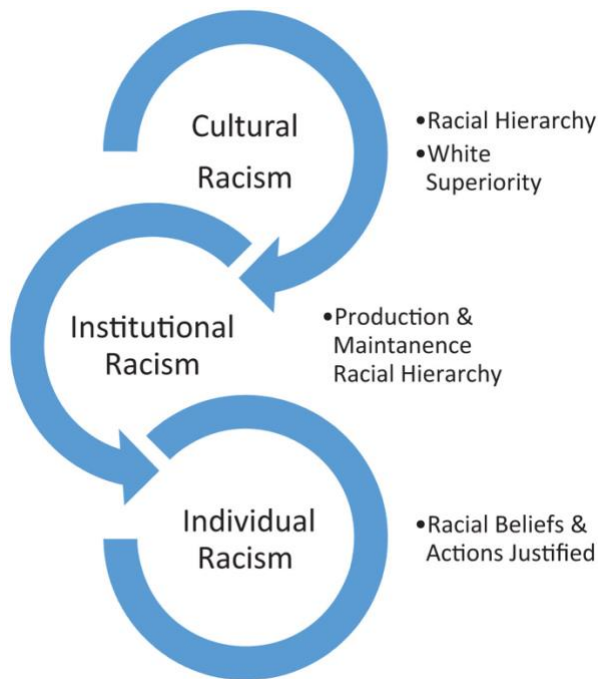


**In the history books, the anti-immigrant sentiment, in the domestic context, was called "nativism." Nativists, historically, sought to alienate new immigrants to the USA, even when they were descendants of immigrants themselves. These nativists**

**were citizens born in America who wanted to keep out immigrants who sought to move to America and become citizens of the USA.**

**According to [globalboston.bc.edu](http://globalboston.bc.edu), "These anti-immigrant", or nativist, sentiments had many sources. They were fueled by economic competition over jobs, housing, and public services, and religious, cultural, and political biases. Those beliefs were often intertwined with racist views of immigrants that saw them as debased, immoral, and criminal."**

**So, former President Donald Trump isn't saying anything new. He has simply found another scapegoat in immigrants from Haiti, and Central and South America.**



**The basis of all of this type of thinking is found in the concept of "racial hierarchy." The National Library of Medicine states that "Throughout the world, extreme nationalism, racism, anti-Semitism, and other forms of ethnic and religious bias are sustained by an antiquated notion that the human family can be divided and ranked**

**based on physical characteristics and ascribed traits.**

**This belief in a hierarchy of human value fuels racism in America, dividing our population and providing platforms for hatred and attacks on our democracy." The thinking behind ideas of racial hierarchy denies the fact that humanity is made of one species and refuses to recognize the idea that physical differences in appearance between various breeds of human beings are cosmetic at best.**

**The National Library of Medicine goes on to say, "We must focus our energy, resources, and discourse on uprooting and eliminating the false ideology of a hierarchy of human value and seed what must be valued most: our common humanity.**



**When our beliefs and understandings shift, our capacity for empathetic relatedness, civility, and progress toward achieving common interests will increase." In other words, as social**

**creatures, we have to work together as a unit, and we are programmed to work together, whereas racism is a form of anti-social thought and practice. To value some human beings less than others is genuinely anti-social.**

**This is all to say that withdrawal from the community is really not a good answer to dealing with the ills that face human beings in society. And, really, there is a need for more compassion and empathy for people who are struggling, rather than condemning them to more suffering. Inflicting hierarchies on people who really need more compassion, is truly counter to the idea of democracy, and a civilized state of being.**

## Works Cited

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Emma-Lazarus#ref137327>

<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/american-isolationism>

<https://globalboston.bc.edu/index.php/nativism-and-racism/#:~:text=These%20anti%20immigrant%2C%20or%20nativist,debased%2C%20immoral%2C%20and%20criminal.>

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9892915/>

# **Announcements**



## **Democrats of North Mecklenburg**

### **Monthly Meeting**

**Thursday, November 7 at 6:30 pm**

**North Regional Rec Center, 18121 Old Statesville  
Road, Cornelius (south of Bailey Road)**

**Light refreshments will be served.**

## **Democrats of North Mecklenburg**

### **Election Results Party**

**Tuesday, Nov 5, 7:30 pm, at Hickory Tavern,  
Huntersville.**

**RSVP by clicking on the link below:**

**[democrats@demsofnorthmeck.org](mailto:democrats@demsofnorthmeck.org)**

# **Announcements**



**Democratic Women of North Carolina**  
**Monthly Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 13th**  
**6:30 PM Reception, 7:00 PM Program**  
**Hope Community Hall**  
**Caldwell Presbyterian Church**  
**1609 E 5th St, Charlotte, NC 28204**



**Please submit your group events to [donnamarie93@gmail.com](mailto:donnamarie93@gmail.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the Announcements.**

# Happenings!

★ ★ ★ ELECTION 2024 ★ ★ ★

# VOTE

★ ★ ★ NOVEMBER 5 ★ ★ ★



<https://vote.mecknc.gov/upcoming-elections>



**The Executive Corner:**

**Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson  
Rev Glencie Rhedrick**

**Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle**

**Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson**

**Contributor: Tarik Kiley**