

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, CONDEMNING VIOLENCE AND HATE ~~SPEECH~~, AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH ~~MUSLIMS AND ALL THOSE TARGETED FOR THEIR ETHNICITY, RACE, RELIGION, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION~~ PEOPLE EXPERIENCING DISCRIMINATION.

~~WHEREAS the United States was founded by immigrants, many fleeing religious persecution, who enshrined freedom of religion as one of our nation's fundamental legal and ethical principles; and~~

~~WHEREAS, there are more than 3 million Muslims living in the United States today, and a thriving Muslim community in Culver City, making invaluable contributions to our economy, our social and political life, and our culture; and~~

~~WHEREAS, there has been an unprecedented backlash since 9/11 in the form of hate crimes and employment discrimination toward Arab and Muslim Americans and those perceived as Muslims; and~~

~~WHEREAS, we are saddened and outraged at the recent escalation of hateful rhetoric against Muslims, those perceived to be Muslims, immigrants, and all people of color, and we are particularly concerned to see political figures leading this escalation and using it in order to gain power; and~~

~~WHEREAS, in the face of extreme bigotry and violence, Muslim communities and their leaders are using the language and teachings of Islam to promote peace and justice and service, and their institutions are continuing to play an essential societal role providing charitable and humanitarian services to those in need; and~~

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing escalation of discriminatory practices, ideologies and rhetoric in the United States, disparaging the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and using people's differences to drive wedges between them; and

WHEREAS, such discriminatory ideologies are polarizing the nation, fueling extremism, and creating a climate of fear for marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, following three years of double-digit increases, reported hate crimes in Los Angeles County drastically increased 45% from 930 to 1,350, the largest number in the history of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations annual analysis of hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Culver City recognized Culver City United Against Hate Week during September 21 to September 27, 2024, empowering residents to reject the hate and implicit biases that infringe upon the safety and civility of our City; and

WHEREAS, in working together to reject hate, communities can promote the restoration of respect and civil discourse, embrace the strength of diversity, and build inclusive and equitable communities for all; and

WHEREAS, the City of Culver City, through a combined effort with the Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee, has continued its commitment towards educating our community by providing trainings, events and activities that will help provide it with the tools and resources it needs to safely and effectively reject hate and acts of hate in Culver City and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the City Council condemns bias, intimidation, harassment, and other acts of violent and/or discriminatory behavior ~~based on race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity~~, and we, as elected representatives of the people, have a special responsibility not to stay silent in the face of hate, violence, and discrimination against any of our constituents.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

The City of Culver City ~~C~~condemns all hateful ~~speech~~ and violent action directed at any person or groups of people ~~people who are Muslims, those perceived to be Muslims, or people based on their religious beliefs, their immigration status, their race, their ethnicity, or their sexual orientation~~;

The City ~~c~~ategorically rejects political tactics that use fear to manipulate voters or to gain power or influence;

The City ~~c~~ommits to pursuing a policy agenda that affirms civil and human rights, and ensures that ~~those targeted on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, or immigration status~~ everyone can turn to government without fear of recrimination; and

The City ~~r~~eaffirms the value of a pluralistic society, the beauty of a society composed of multiple ~~culture~~ types of people, and the inalienable right of every person to live ~~and practice their faith~~ without fear.