

# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Statement From Cassandra's Children Executive Director, Tracey Ferraro**

Last week, Democrats around the country watched in horror at the collective hysteria of a right wing so broken by the assassination of conservative activist and influencer Charlie Kirk, that Republican politicians, pundits, and citizens screamed for Civil War and the annihilation of the Democratic Party – all before a gunman was even identified. These same people – denied their bloodshed – have instead chosen to violate nonviolent free speech of people who merely expressed distaste for the for the life and works of a man who should not have been murdered, but also should not have been whitewashed to become someone he wasn't. In his name, Kirk's supporters have targeted people in marginalized communities on social media to remove their right to speak truth to power, going so far as to stop them from earning a living.

These people "called out by MAGA" are not bigots who got caught on a hot mic saying something racist or otherwise bigoted. They are people who were simply not sad someone who harmed or threatened to harm them died. Even quoting Kirk's own words has become considered terms for dismissal from places as lofty as the Washington Post, among others. And now, someone I have known for years on social media, a good human being and elegant instructor of how fight White Supremacy, has been placed on Administrative Leave from his position as Director of Race and Equity at UCLA until an investigation is completed of the myriad lies reported to his superiors.

This is not right. Mr. Johnathan Perkins does not deserve the vitriol, lies, and death threats he has endured now and for years in his battle to display the evil inherent in bigotry and racism, and teaching the willing how to overcome these cultural sins.

The MAGA faithful conspiring against Mr. Perkins, and perhaps, eventually, even every other person who did not shed a tear the night Charlie Kirk died, believe their actions are proper, and that they are righteously cloaked in the Armor of God. But doxxing and reporting those with whom we disagree is not just a grotesque misrepresentation of the First Amendment, but of whom they claim to love and follow – Jesus Christ, who was known for flipping tables and befriending the poor, sick, and foreign-born, and is far more liberal than anyone who worships the man, but not his words, dare imagine.

As the actions of America's Next “Good Germans” throw yet another match on the flames of the encroaching threat of Fascism, we must fight back with our wit, words, and bodies to defend those who have been silenced. As Edmund Burke has been (mis)attributed as saying, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men should do nothing."

It may have taken me a long while to stand loudly and proudly in my Liberal beliefs, and for that, I am truly sorry. But the terror of last week--seeing loved ones thirst for vengeance while labeling all Democrats evil, as strangers called for your blood--shook me to my core. But as the dust settled, a stronger, more resolute and vocal Tracey emerged. I am now ready to say this wholeheartedly--Fascism in the United States will NOT win, and I will do everything I can to join the fight against the rising tide of far-right extremism in our Country.

In Solidarity,  
Tracey Ferraro  
Executive Director  
Cassandra's Children

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