



# National Federation of Democratic Women

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This week, Americans have witnessed acts of violence, terror, and hate throughout the country. Pipe bombs were sent to prominent members of the Democratic Party, including two former United States Presidents, Democratic members of Congress, former Secretary of State, former CIA director, former Attorney General and members of the media. Quickly thereafter, a racially motivated shooting took place at a grocery in Kentucky, where 2 were killed by a shooter, shouting racial slurs, who had tried to enter a predominantly black church minutes before. The week has concluded with a horrific and saddening massacre at a place of worship in Pittsburgh, killing 11 including 4 members of law enforcement by a man, fully armed with an assault weapon and multiple handguns, screaming anti-Semitic comments. Make no mistake, these acts are driven by hate and intolerance.

No longer, can we as a nation stand idly by while others spread a message of hatred and division. We call upon our leaders – ALL leaders – regardless of political affiliation or persuasion, to lead the way by denouncing acts of violence against those who have different opinions or ways of life and to show the way by engaging in governance and political activism guided by love and concern for others. It is not enough to call for unity with words, when your actions call for hate and division.

Americans should never fear violence, harm or death due to their religious beliefs, color of their skin, or political affiliation. United we stand, divided we fall.

*Susanna L. French*

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