



## Follow up on Tuesday's conversation

Thu, Jun 2, 2016 at 10:53 AM

To: [REDACTED]@aol.com, Scott Wilk <[REDACTED]>, Steve Knight <[REDACTED]>

Vanessa,

After our conversation Tuesday I did a lot of thinking about all of the implications of coming forward with Dante's propositions of me. As a woman and mother, I have nothing but empathy for Carolyn and what she has gone through and don't want to add to her burden. As a single mother attempting to build a career, I don't want any fallout - even though I did nothing wrong - to affect my ability to make a living. And, as a conservative holding on to hope that we can turn this state around, I don't want to do anything to hurt the party. But at the same time, I cannot sit back as someone I believe will eventually embarrass this district and the party and maybe even cost us a legislative seat because of his constant skirt chasing climbs the ladder.

As we discussed on the phone, it is difficult to be a woman working in politics or, really, in the business world at all because of the objectification some men subject us to. Please excuse the language, but it's bullshit that a woman cannot accept an invitation to have a drink with a male potential client while both are out traveling without being propositioned (as Dante did with me). It's bullshit that a woman has to discreetly shoot such a proposition down, being firm but still not "bitchy," or risk being blackballed. It's bullshit that a number of men still discount a woman's intellect and talent if they perceive her as attractive. It is this that we as women must fight against and expose when it happens.

Here is why what he did is so wrong and raises major red flags about his fitness for office. He invited me out for a glass of wine when we were both in DC for Steve's swearing-in under the premise of talking about his political future and how I could work with him on it, knowing that I was just getting started as a political consultant. He knew that as an elected official and then as a Congressman's employee, he could wield some kind of positive influence for me in the community. Then, instead of talking about his political future, he propositioned me.

Even though I said no and laughed it off, he continued his inappropriate comments and text messages all the way until the night before he filed papers for this Assembly seat (he was drunk texting me and calling me from the bar in Sacramento where he was talking to all of the Santa Clarita people about whether he was going to run or not), even saying, "I know you don't like it when I say things like this, but I'm going to anyway...."

If he would use his position to proposition me, what would he do as an Assemblyman in Sacramento where there are Capitol staffers and interns and lobbyists for him to chase after? We could end up with a Gary Condit or a Bill Clinton of our own party. And then the district and the party - and his wife and children - will be hurt even more.

The magnitude of the inappropriateness of the messages he sent to me (where nothing happened and he was rebuffed at every turn) could derail his career, and we know that the Dems have similar information they are waiting to use if he is the candidate who makes it through the primary. And I am sure there are more people who would come forward since these things don't usually happen in a vacuum.

I especially appreciated what you had to say about dealing with this within the party. With that in mind, I have decided to keep it within the party right now. You said this should be brought up within the party and dealt with, so that is what I'm doing with this email. Now the most senior people in the party in this area know what he proposed to me and know that he has done this to other people as well.

[REDACTED] This behavior won't stop, and the party needs to

do something about it before it harms all of us. The only way this will go away is if he goes away. I have faith that the right thing will be done.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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\_\_\_\_@aol.com <\_\_\_\_@aol.com>  
TO: \_\_\_\_\_

Thu, Jun 2, 2016 at 11:10 AM

I really appreciate you not going public on this. I see you cc'd Steve and Scott and I think the appropriate thing to do is to have them talk to him about this.

I agree with you on the battle we face as women. I can only imagine what you go through as a single woman. I'm sorry you had to go through that.

Let's hope lessons can be learned and behaviors can be changed before our dwindling party becomes obsolete.

Vanessa

-----Original Message-----

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sent: Thu, Jun 2, 2016 10:53 am  
Subject: Follow up on Tuesday's conversation

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